

***Town of Bellingham  
Massachusetts***

***CODE OF BY-LAWS***

***DIVISION II***

***ZONING***



***Amended through Fall Special Town Meeting of October 14, 1998***

***A true copy.***

***ATTEST:***

***Kathleen M. Harvey  
Bellingham Town Clerk***

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE I.	ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE.....	1
1100.	Purpose.....	1
1200.	Administration.....	1
1300.	Board of Appeals.....	1
1400.	Planning Board.....	3
1500.	Special Permits.....	6
1600.	Amendments.....	7
1700.	Applicability.....	7
1800.	Effective Date.....	7
1900.	Separability.....	7
ARTICLE II.	USE AND INTENSITY REGULATIONS.....	8
2100.	Establishment of Districts.....	8
2200.	Use Regulations.....	9
2300.	Nonconforming Uses and Structures.....	9
2400.	Use Regulations Schedule.....	10
2500.	Intensity of Use Regulations.....	13
2600.	Intensity of Use Schedule.....	16
ARTICLE III.	GENERAL REGULATIONS.....	18
3100.	Sign Regulations.....	18
3200.	Environmental Controls.....	19
3300.	Parking and Loading Requirements.....	23
3400.	Major Proposals.....	26
3500.	Landscaping Requirements .....	28
ARTICLE IV.	SPECIAL REGULATIONS.....	30
4100.	Accessory Uses.....	30
4200.	Mobile Homes, Trailers, and Campers.....	32
4300.	Cluster Development.....	32
4400.	Multifamily Dwellings.....	33
4500.	Flood Plain Requirements.....	35
4600.	Earth Removal Regulations .....	36
4700.	Major Commercial Complex.....	38
4800.	Motor Vehicle Service Stations.....	39
4900.	Water Resource Districts.....	39
ARTICLE V.	DEFINITIONS.....	44
Zoning Map.....	Following	51
Water Resource District Map.....	Following	51

## **ARTICLE 1. ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE**

### **1100. Purpose**

The purpose of this Bylaw is to lessen congestion in the streets; to conserve health; to secure safety from fire, flood, panic, and other dangers; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to encourage housing for persons of all income levels; to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water supply, drainage, schools, parks, open space, and other public requirements; to conserve the value of land and buildings, including the conservation of natural resources and the prevention of blight and pollution of the environment; to encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the Town, including consideration of the recommendations of the master plan, if any, adopted by the Bellingham Planning Board and the comprehensive plan, if any, of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council; and to preserve and increase amenities, pursuant to Chapters 40A, 40B, and 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, and Article 89 of the Amendments to the Constitution.

### **1200. Administration**

**1210. Responsibility.** This Bylaw shall be enforced by the Inspector of Buildings, who shall take such action as may be necessary to enforce full compliance with the provisions of this Bylaw and of permits and variances issued hereunder, including notification of noncompliance and request for legal action through the Board of Selectmen to the Town Counsel.

**1220. Compliance Certification.** No "development" shall be undertaken without certification by the Inspector of Buildings that such action is in compliance with then applicable zoning or without review by him regarding whether all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by federal, state, or local law. Issuance of a Building Permit or Certificate of Use and Occupancy, where required under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Building Code, may serve as such certification. "Development" for these purposes shall mean erecting, moving, substantially altering or changing the use of a building, sign, or other structure, or changing the principal use of land.

**1230. Submittals.** In addition to any information which may be required under the Massachusetts State Building Code, the Inspector of Buildings shall require of applicants such information as he deems necessary to determine compliance with this Zoning Bylaw. This may include such things as a Site Plan indicating land and building uses and provisions for vehicular parking and egress, location of flood plain control elevations, and evidence of performance compliance under Section 3200 Environmental Controls.

**1240. Expiration.** Construction or operations under a Building or Special Permit shall conform to any subsequent amendment of this Bylaw unless the use or construction is commenced within a period of six months after the issuance of the permit and in cases involving construction, unless such construction is continued through to completion as continuously and expeditiously as is reasonable.

**1250. Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this Bylaw, any of the conditions under which a permit is issued, or any decision rendered by the Board of Appeals shall be fined not more than \$100 for each offense. Each day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

### **1300. Board of Appeals**

**1310. Establishment.** The Board of Appeals shall consist of five members and three associate members, who shall be appointed by the Selectmen and shall act in all matters under this Bylaw in the manner prescribed by Chapters 40A, 40B, and 41 of the General Laws.

**1320. Powers.** The Board of Appeals shall have and exercise all the powers granted to it by Chapters 40A, 40B, and 41 of the General Laws and by this Bylaw. The Board's powers are as follows:

**1321.** To hear and decide applications for Special Permits upon which the Board is empowered to act under this Bylaw, in accordance with Section 1500 Special Permits.

**1322.** To hear and decide appeals or petitions for variances from the terms of this Bylaw, including variances for use, with respect to particular land or structures. Such variance shall be granted only in cases where the Board of Appeals finds all of the following:

- (a) A literal enforcement of the provisions of this Bylaw would involve a substantial hardship, financial or otherwise, to the petitioner or appellant.
- (b) The hardship is owing to circumstances relating to the soil conditions, shape or topography of such land or structures and especially affecting such land or structures but not affecting generally the zoning district in which it is located.
- (c) Desirable relief may be granted without either:
  - (1) substantial detriment to the public good; or
  - (2) nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of this Bylaw.

**1323.** To hear and decide other appeals. Other appeals will also be heard and decided by the Board of Appeals when taken by:

- (a) Any person aggrieved by reason of his inability to obtain a permit or enforcement action from any administrative officer under the provisions of Ch.40A, G.L.; or by
- (b) The Metropolitan Area Planning Council; or by
- (c) Any person including any officer or Board of the Town of Bellingham or of any abutting town, if aggrieved by any order or decision of the Inspector of Buildings or other administrative official, in violation of any provision of Ch.40A, G.L.; or this Bylaw.

**1324.** To issue Comprehensive Permits. Comprehensive Permits for construction may be issued by the Board of Appeals for construction of low- or moderate-income housing by a public agency or limited dividend or non-profit corporation, upon the Board's determination that such construction would be consistent with local needs, whether or not consistent with local zoning, building, health or subdivision requirements, as authorized by Sec. 20-23, Ch.40B, G.L.

**1325.** To issue Withheld Building Permits. Building Permits withheld by the Inspector of Buildings acting under Sec.81Y, Ch.41, G.L., as a means of enforcing the Subdivision Control Law may be issued by the Board of Appeals where the Board finds practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, and if the circumstances of the case do not require that the building be related to a way shown on the subdivision plan in question.

**1330. Public Hearings.** The Board of Appeals shall hold public hearings in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws on all appeals and petitions brought before it.

**1340. Repetitive Petitions.** Repetitive petitions for exceptions, appeals and petitions for variances, and applications to the Board of Appeals shall be limited as provided in Sec. 16, Ch.40A, G.L.

## **1400. Planning Board**

**1410. Special Permits.** In instances where this Bylaw provides for Special Permits to be acted upon by the Planning Board, those actions shall be based upon the considerations of Section 1500 Special Permits, unless specifically designated otherwise.

### **1420. Development Plan Approval**

**1421. Applicability.** Unless proposed for single-family or two-family use, all development proposals are subject to Development Plan approval by the Planning Board if proposing any of the following:

- a new building containing 1,000 or more square feet gross floor area;
- an addition increasing ground coverage of any building by more than 1,000 square feet or, for buildings having ground coverage exceeding 10,000 square feet, an addition increasing that coverage by more than 10%;
- substantial alteration to a parking facility having ten or more spaces if that change either results in fewer parking spaces than required by Section 3320 or requires four (4) or more additional parking spaces; or
- removal of existing vegetative ground cover from more than 20,000 square feet of site area, unless done incidental to earth removal authorized by a special permit under Section 4630.

No building permit for such development shall be granted prior to Planning Board approval, except as provided at Section 1423 c).

### **1422. Procedure.**

- (a) Applicants are urged to confer with the Town Inspector regarding the materials necessary for submittal for Development Plan Review, if applicable. Following such conference, the applicant will receive a Project Scoping Letter outlining the scope and format of materials appropriate to prepare and submit in applying.
- (b) Development Plan materials shall be submitted to the Town Inspector or other party designated by the Planning Board, who shall forthwith make a determination of whether those materials are complete, and if they are not, shall so notify the applicant and the Building Inspector. The applicant shall distribute (and document to the Planning Board having done so) two copies of complete submittals to the Planning Board, and one review copy each to the Inspector of Buildings, Town Inspector, Town Executive Secretary/Administrator, the Police Safety Officer, the Board of Health, the Sewer and Water Commission, and the Conservation Commission for their review and comment, together with notice of the date of the meeting at which the Planning Board will make its review.

Those agencies and officials provided with copies shall report their comments on compliance to the Planning Board not later than the time of the Planning Board's review meeting. Notice of the proposals to be reviewed shall be published in a local newspaper at least seven days prior to the date of review, and shall be posted conspicuously on the premises.

- (c) The Planning Board shall determine whether or not the Development Plan complies with the requirements of Sections 3200 Environmental Controls and 3300 Parking and Loading Requirements, approving the Plan only if it does, and shall notify the applicant and the Building Inspector of its decision within 45 days of the time that complete materials have been received by the Town Inspector. The Building Inspector shall not approve any building permit application subject to these provisions without receipt of Planning Board approval. Failure of the Planning Board to act within 45 days shall be construed as approval and it shall forthwith make such endorsement on the submitted plans or, on its failure to do so, the Building Inspector shall issue a certificate to the same effect.
- (d) A copy of the submitted plans, endorsed with the Planning Board action, shall be forwarded to the Building Inspector within five days of final action.
- (e) No occupancy permit shall be issued by the Building Inspector until he has been notified in writing by the Planning Board that it has either received certification from a registered architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other design professional that all construction has been completed in accordance with the approved development plan, or has received surety for completion within a reasonable time for specified incomplete elements, such as landscaping or roadway top course, whose delayed completion has been determined by the Board not to impair safety or convenience for users of the site.

**1423. Submittals.** The following materials shall be submitted for Development Plan approval, except any not germane to the specific case, as determined by the Planning Board and communicated to the applicant in writing prior to submittal. The applicant shall furnish a sufficient number of copies for all reviewing agencies, as determined by the Town Inspector or other party designated by the Planning Board.

- (a) A site plan prepared by a registered architect, landscape architect, professional engineer, or other design professional, showing the following:
  - location and boundaries of the site and of any lots proposed, and indication of each zoning district involved;
  - use and ownership of adjacent premises, approximate location of buildings within 50 feet of the site, and if the proposal entails on-site sewage disposal, the approximate location of any wells on or off the premises within 300 feet of the leaching field or other discharge location;
  - existing and proposed buildings, streets, ways, drives, walks, service areas, parking spaces, loading areas, fences and screening, utilities, waste storage and disposal facilities, wells, and drainage facilities;
  - existing and proposed topography and vegetation, indicating areas of retained vegetation and identifying the location of any trees exceeding 8" trunk diameter 4 1/2 feet above grade if proposed for removal, and identifying size and species of trees and shrubs to be planted;
  - indication of wetlands and other areas subject to control under the Wetlands Protection Act, and the 100 foot zone surrounding such areas, identified through field survey acceptable to the Conservation Commission; Flood Plain and Floodway boundaries; and erosion control measures;
  - location of signs and exterior lighting, and accompanying materials to describe those elements.

- (b) Building floor plans and architectural elevations. These plans must be prepared by a registered architect or engineer unless there is no building involved exceeding 35,000 cubic feet.
- (c) Documentation that all required submittals have been made to other agencies, such as the Conservation Commission under the Wetlands Act, the Sewer and Water Commission for utility connections, the Massachusetts Department of Public Works for curb cut permits, the Board of Health or DEQE for on-site disposal facilities, and EOEPA for MEPA review, and that any necessary special permits or variances have been granted.
- (d) Any additional studies or other materials required under Section 3200 Environmental Controls and elsewhere in this Bylaw.
- (e) A Development Plan review fee, as required under a schedule of fees to be established and from time to time amended by the Planning Board, based on the actual cost of review for applications.<sup>1</sup>

**1424. Proposals in Two Municipalities.** Where a proposal is located in part in the Town of Bellingham and in part in an adjacent municipality, the provisions of Development Plan Review shall apply as follows.

- (a) Applicability of Development Plan Review shall be determined by testing the entire proposal in both communities against the thresholds of Section 1421.
- (b) Submittals for the portion lying in the Town of Bellingham shall be as specified at Section 1423. For portions lying outside the Town, only those items necessary for the determinations of paragraph (c) need be submitted.
- (c) The proposal shall be approved provided that the portion lying within the Town of Bellingham complies with the requirements of the Zoning Bylaw and provided that outcomes from the entire development for impacts limited by the terms of this Bylaw, such as light overspill (Section 3232), comply as measured in Bellingham.

#### **1430. Site Plan Review.**

**1431. Applicability.** The following development proposals, unless required to receive Development Plan Approval under Section 1420, require Site Plan Review by the Planning Board prior to approval for a building or occupancy permit by the Inspector of Buildings.

- (a) Any non-residential development increasing total floor area.
- (b) Any alteration to a parking facility serving a non-residential use and containing ten or more spaces.

**1432. Procedure.** Materials required for Site Plan Review shall be submitted to the Inspector of Buildings with or prior to application for a building or occupancy permit requiring Site Plan Review. The Inspector of Buildings shall forthwith transmit such materials to the Planning Board, along with notification of the date by which action on the permit application is required. The Planning Board shall consider the materials at a meeting, and shall report its findings in writing to the Inspector of Buildings prior to the date on which he must act on the permit application. Failure to do so shall be construed as lack of objection.

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<sup>1</sup> At this printing, that fee is \$50.00 plus \$3.00 per space in excess of ten.

The inspector of Buildings shall approve applications subject to Site Plan Review only consistent with Planning Board findings timefully received.

**1433. Submittals.** The applicant shall provide as much of the materials specified at Section 1423 for Development Plan Approval as is reasonably necessary for the Planning Board to determine compliance with Sections 2600 Intensity of Use Schedule, 3200 Environmental Controls, 3300 Parking and Loading Requirements, and 3500 Landscaping Requirements, and a review fee as required under a schedule of fees to be established and from time to time amended by the Planning Board, based upon the actual cost of review.

**1440. Planning Board Associate Member.** As authorized in Section 9 of Chapter 40A, there shall be one Associate Member of the Planning Board. Such associate shall act on special permit applications when designated to do so by the Planning Board Chairman, in case of absence, inability to act, or conflict of interest on the part of any member of the board, or in the event of a vacancy on the board. The associate member shall be appointed for a three year term by majority vote of the Selectmen and members of the Planning Board, in the same manner as for filling a vacancy.

### **1500. Special Permits**

**1510. Special Permit Granting Authority.** Unless specifically designated otherwise, the Board of Appeals shall act as the Special Permit Granting Authority.

**1520. Public Hearings.** Special Permits shall only be issued following public hearings held within 65 days after filing with the Special Permit Granting Authority an application, a copy of which shall forthwith be given to the Town Clerk by the applicant.

**1530. Criteria.** Special Permits shall be granted by the Special Permit Granting Authority only upon its written determination that the proposed use will not have adverse effects which over-balance its beneficial effects on either the neighborhood or the Town, in view of the particular characteristics of the site and of the proposal in relation to that site. The determination shall indicate consideration of each of the following:

- (a) social, economic or community needs which are served by the proposal;
- (b) traffic flow and safety;
- (c) adequacy of utilities and other public services;
- (d) neighborhood character and social structures;
- (e) qualities of the natural environment;
- (f) potential fiscal impact

**1540. Permit Recording.** Special permits shall not take effect until the Board which acted on the permit has received documentation from the applicant that a copy of the decision, certified by the Town Clerk, has been recorded in the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, as required at Section 11 of Chapter 40A, MGL.



**1550. Expiration.** Special Permits shall lapse within 12 months of Special Permit approval (plus such time required to pursue or await the determination of an appeal referred to in Sec. 17, Ch.40A, G.L., from the grant thereof) if a substantial use thereof or construction has not begun, except for good cause.

**1600. Amendments**

This Bylaw may from time to time be changed by amendment, addition or repeal by the Town Meeting in the manner provided in Sec. 5, Ch.40A, G.L., and any amendments therein.

**1700. Applicability**

Where the application of this Bylaw imposes greater restrictions than those imposed by any other regulations, permits, restrictions, easements, covenants or agreements, the provisions of this Bylaw shall control.

**1800. Effective Date**

The effective date of any amendment of this Zoning Bylaw shall be the date on which such amendment was voted upon by a Town Meeting, as provided by Sec.5, Ch.40a, G.L.

**1900. Separability**

The invalidity of any Section or provision of this Bylaw shall not invalidate any other Section or provision hereof.

File name: (ART-1-98-FTM)  
Revised by:  
Kathleen M. Harvey, Town Clerk  
1/28/1999

## **ARTICLE II. USE AND INTENSITY REGULATIONS**

### **2100. Establishment of Districts**

2110. For purposes of this Bylaw, the Town of Bellingham is hereby divided into the following types of districts

Agricultural District.....	A
Suburban District.....	S
Residential District.....	R
Multifamily Dwelling District.....	M
Business District.....	B-1, B-2
Industrial District.....	I

The boundaries of these districts are defined and bounded on the map entitled "Zoning Map, Bellingham, Massachusetts," on file with the Town Clerk. That map and all explanatory matter thereon is hereby made a part of this Bylaw.

In addition, there are two overlay districts: Flood Plain District as established at Section 4510, and Water Resource District as established at Section 4920.

2120. Except when labeled to the contrary, boundary or dimension lines shown approximately following or terminating at street, railroad, or utility easement center or layout lines, boundary or lot lines, or the channel of a stream, shall be construed to be actually at those lines; when shown approximately parallel, perpendicular, or radial to such lines shall be construed to be actually parallel, perpendicular, or radial thereto; when appearing to follow shoreline shall coincide with the mean low-water line. When not locatable in any other way, boundaries shall be determined by scale from the map.

2130. Where a district boundary line divides any lot existing at the time such boundary line is adopted, the Zoning regulations shall apply as follows.

- (a) In the case of a use allowed in both districts, the lot shall be considered as a whole, and the dimensional regulations of the district in which the majority of the lot frontage lies shall apply to the entire lot.
- (b) In the case of a use not allowed in one of the districts in which the lot lies, but allowed in another, the lot shall be considered as if divided into separate portions by either the district boundary line or a line parallel to that line and not more than 30 feet within the less restricted district, with development of each resulting portion of the lot to meet all requirements of the district in which the majority of that portion's frontage is located (including use, lot area, frontage, and yards).

2140. When a lot in one ownership is situated in part in the Town of Bellingham and in part in an adjacent municipality, the provisions of this Bylaw shall be applied to that portion of the lot lying in the Town of Bellingham in the same manner as if the entire lot were situated therein.

## **2200. Use Regulations**

**2210.** No building or structure shall be erected or used and no premises shall be used except as set forth in the "Use Regulations Schedule," or as exempted by Section 2300 or by statute. Symbols employed shall mean the following:

- Yes - A permitted use
- No - An excluded or prohibited use

Use authorized under Special Permit as provided for in Section 1500:

- BA - Acted on by the Board of Appeals
- PB - Acted on by the Planning Board
- BS - Acted on by the Board of Selectmen

**2220.** Where an activity might be classified under more than one of the following uses, the more specific classification shall determine permissibility; if equally specific the more restrictive shall govern.

Uses listed nowhere in Section 2400 are prohibited, except that such a use may be allowed on Special Permit if the Board of Appeals determines that it closely resembles in its neighborhood impacts a use allowed or allowed on Special Permit in that district.

## **2300. Nonconforming Uses and Structures**

Legally preexisting nonconforming structures and uses may be continued, subject to the following:

**2310. Change, Extension or Alteration.** As provided in Section 6, Ch.40A, G.L., a nonconforming single or two-family dwelling may be altered or extended provided that doing so does not increase the nonconforming nature of said structure. Other preexisting nonconforming structures or uses may be extended, altered, or changed in use on Special Permit from the Board of Appeals if the Board of Appeals finds that such extension, alteration, or change will not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing nonconforming use. Once changed to a conforming use, no structure or land shall be permitted to revert to a nonconforming use.

**2320. Restoration.** Any legally nonconforming building or structure may be reconstructed if destroyed by fire or other accidental or natural cause if reconstructed within a period of two years from the date of the catastrophe, or else such reconstruction must comply with this Bylaw.

**2330. Abandonment.** A nonconforming use which has been abandoned, or discontinued for a period of two years, shall not be reestablished. Any future use of the premises shall conform with this Bylaw.

**2340. Replacement.** Replacement of mobile homes or commercial vehicles parked in nonconformity with Section 2400 is not permitted, even where such replacement does not increase the extent of nonconformity.

**2400. Use Regulations Schedule**

<b><u>ACTIVITY OR USE</u></b>	<b><u>D I S T R I C T</u></b>				
	<b>A</b>	<b>S,R</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>B-1 B-2</b>	<b>I</b>
<b><u>AGRICULTURAL USES</u></b>					
Livestock raising on parcel under five acres <sup>1</sup>	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Other farm <sup>1</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Greenhouse					
with retail sales <sup>2</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
wholesale only	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Roadside stand <sup>2</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b><u>COMMERCIAL USES</u></b>					
Animal kennel or hospital	NO	NO	NO	BA	BA
Business or professional offices	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Medical clinic	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Funeral home	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Auto, boat, or farm equip. sales, rental, service	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Printing shop	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Bank, financial office	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Restaurant	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Retail sales or service	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Retail sale of gasoline <sup>5</sup>	NO	NO	NO	BS	BS
Wholesaling without storage	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Major commercial complex <sup>3</sup>	NO	NO	NO	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB
<b><u>INDUSTRIAL USES</u></b>					
Manufacturing for on-site sales <sup>6</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Other manufacturing, research	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Bulk storage	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Contractor's yard	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Earth removal <sup>7</sup>	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Waste processing or disposal:					
Junk yard, second-hand auto parts	NO	NO	NO	NO	BS
Hazardous or radioactive	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Other municipal	NO	NO	NO	NO	BS
Other private	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Transportation terminal	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Warehouse	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Commercial radio transmission	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Laundry or dry cleaning plant	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Electrical generating Facility (Power Plant)	NO	NO	NO	NO	Not to exceed 3

**2400. Use Regulations Schedule (Continued)**

<b><u>ACTIVITY OR USE</u></b>	<b><u>DISTRICT</u></b>				
	<b>A</b>	<b>S,R</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>B-1 B-2</b>	<b>I</b>
<b><u>INSTITUTIONAL USES</u></b>					
Municipal use	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Religious use	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Educational use exempted from zoning prohibition by Sec 3, Ch40A,G.L.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Other educational use	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Cemetery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hospital	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Nursing, convalescent, or rest home	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Philanthropic or charitable institutions	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Public utility with service area	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Public utility without service area	BA	BA	BA	BA	YES
Club or lodge	BA <sup>8</sup>	BA <sup>8</sup>	BA <sup>8</sup>	YES	YES
<b><u>RECREATIONAL USES</u></b>					
Camping, supervised	YES	BA	BA	YES	YES
Camping, commercial	BA	NO	NO	NO	NO
Golf course, standard or par three	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Indoor commercial recreation	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Outdoor commercial recreation	NO	NO	NO	BA	BA
Sportsman's club, game preserve	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
Public stables	BA	NO	NO	BA	BA
Bath houses, commercial beaches	BA	BA	BA	YES	YES
Commercial picnic, outing areas	BA	BA	BA	YES	YES
<b><u>RESIDENTIAL USES</u></b>					
Dwelling					
Single-family	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO <sup>9</sup>
Two-family	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Townhouse <sup>12</sup>	PB	PB	PB	PB	NO
Other multifamily	NO <sup>10</sup>	NO <sup>10</sup>	PB <sup>11,12</sup>	NO <sup>10</sup>	NO <sup>10</sup>
Boarding or rooming	NO <sup>10</sup>	NO <sup>10</sup>	BA	NO <sup>10</sup>	NO <sup>10</sup>
Motel, hotel	NO	NO	NO	BA	YES
Mobile home	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Public housing	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO

**2400. Use Regulations Schedule (Continued)**

<u>ACTIVITY OR USE</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>				
	A	S,R	M	B-1 B-2	I
<b><u>OTHER PRINCIPAL USES</u></b>					
Temporary structures	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
Airport, heliport	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
<b><u>ACCESSORY USES</u></b>					
Parking provisions for:					
* Private autos of residents on premises	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
* One light commercial vehicle	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
* Two or three light commercial vehicles, or one heavy commercial vehicle					
- Accessory to residential use	BA	NO	NO	YES	YES
- Accessory to non residential use	YES <sup>13</sup>	YES <sup>13</sup>	YES <sup>13</sup>	YES	YES
* Farm vehicles and equipment on active farms	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
* Other parking	NO	NO	NO	BA	BA
* Home occupation	*	*	*	*	*
* Signs (See Sec. 3100)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
* Private stable <sup>14</sup>	YES	BA	NO	YES	YES
* Animal kennel <sup>14</sup>	BA	BA	NO	BA	BA
* Livestock raising <sup>14</sup>	YES	BA	NO	NO	NO
* Swimming pool	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
* Accessory scientific use in accordance with Sec. 4120	BA	BA	BA	BA	BA
* Family Apartment (see Sec. 4310)	BA	BA	BA	BA	NO
* Other customary accessory uses	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

**FOOTNOTES FOR SECTION 2400**

1. Cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, goats, or similar livestock shall be maintained only on premises having an area of not less than 40,000 square feet plus 15,000 sq. ft. per large animal (25 pounds or heavier at maturity) in excess of one or per ten smaller animals in excess of the first ten. Such animals and their wastes shall be contained at least 50 feet from any abutting lot line of a residentially used lot, and at least 50 feet from any year-round surface water body.
2. At least 3/4 of the retail sales must be of produce raised on land within the Town of Bellingham in the same ownership as the stand or greenhouse.
3. See Section 4700.

4. No in B-1 Districts.
5. See Section 4800.
6. More than half the volume sold as retail on the premises.
7. See Section 4600.
8. Except those whose chief activity is one customarily carried on as a business.
9. Except single-family dwelling for personnel required to reside on the premises for the safe operation of a permitted use.
10. Except that an existing dwelling may, on Special Permit from the Board of Appeals, be altered to house up to four families or for boarding or lodging, provided that the Board of Appeals shall find that the structure could not reasonably be used or altered and used for any permitted purpose.
11. Except that multifamily shall not include public housing.
12. See Sections 3400 and 4420.
13. But none in excess of the number legally parked on the effective date of this amendment.
14. Cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, goats, or similar livestock shall be maintained accessory to a dwelling only on a lot having an area of not less than 40,000 square feet plus 15,000 sq. ft. per large animal (25 pounds or heavier at maturity) in excess of one or per ten smaller animals in excess of the first ten. Such animals and their wastes shall be contained at least 50 feet from any abutting lot line of a residentially used lot, and at least 50 feet from any year-round surface water body.
- \* See Section 4110.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **2500. Intensity of Use Regulations**

**2510.** All buildings hereafter erected in any district shall be located on a lot such that all of the minimum requirements set forth in the following Table are conformed with except where specifically exempted by this Bylaw or by General Law.

**2520.** No existing lot shall be changed in size or shape except through a public taking so as to result in violation of the requirements set forth below.

Recording a plan in violation of these requirements, even if endorsed by the Planning Board to the effect that approval under the Subdivision Control Law is not required, constitutes a violation of this Bylaw, subject to enforcement actions under Sections 1220 and 1250. The Planning Board shall inform both the submitter of such a plan and the Inspector of Buildings of any such potential violations of which the Board becomes aware.

**2530. Isolated Lots and Subdivisions.** Any increase in lot area or frontage requirements of this Bylaw shall not apply to erection, extension, alteration, or moving of a structure on a legally created lot not meeting current requirements provided that either the lot is protected against such increase under the provisions of Section 6, Chapter 40A, G.L., or the applicant documents that:

- (a) at the time such increased requirement became applicable to it, the lot:
- (1) had at least 5,000 sq.ft. of lot area and 50 feet of frontage on a street; and
  - (2) was held in ownership separate from all other lots having frontage within 1,000 feet on that same street; and
  - (3) conformed to then-existing dimensional requirements; and
- (b) the lot is to be used for a single-family dwelling; and
- (c) yards shall be not less than the following:

Actual Frontage	Required Yard		
	Front	Side	Rear
Less than 125'	20'	8'	16'
125-150'	20'	10'	20'
More than 150'	30'	15'	20'

Such nonconforming lots may be changed in size or shape or their land area recombined without losing this exemption, so long as the change does not increase the actual or potential number of buildable lots.

**2540.** Where no street line has been established or can be readily determined, such line shall be assumed to be 25 feet from the center of the traveled roadway for the purposes of applying these regulations.

**2550.** Public Housing shall be exempt from the minimum requirements of Intensity of Use as set forth in Sec. 2600.

**2560.** Not more than one single-family or two-family dwelling shall be erected on a lot.

**2570.** More than one principal building or use other than a single-family or two-family dwelling may be erected or maintained on a lot provided that access, drainage, and utilities serving each structure are functionally equivalent to that required for separate lots by the Planning Board Rules and Regulations, as determined by the Zoning Agent following consultation with the Highway Department regarding access and drainage and with the Water Department and Fire Department regarding water; and further provided that lot area and yard requirements are met for each building and use without counting any lot area or yard twice. No increase in lot frontage is required for multiple principal buildings or uses on the same lot. For multifamily construction, the Zoning Agent must also ensure compliance with applicable portions of Section 4400 and all other pertinent sections of the Bylaws.

**2580. Back Lot Division.** A parcel with no other contiguous land in common ownership may be divided into two or three lots, one of which has less than the normally required frontage, and a single-family dwelling may be built on the reduced frontage lot, provided that such division is authorized on a Special Permit granted by the Planning Board. Such divisions shall be authorized if meeting each of the following, but not otherwise.

**2581.** The lot having reduced frontage must have frontage of at least 50 feet.



**2582.** The lot having reduced frontage must contain at least twice the lot area otherwise required, without counting any portion of the lot between the street and the point where lot width equals 100 feet or more.

**2583.** The lot having reduced frontage must be capable of containing a square with sides equal to the normally required lot frontage.

**2584.** All other requirements specified in Section 2600, Intensity of Use Schedule, must be met.

**2585.** Egress from the created lots must create no greater hazard owing to grade and visibility limitations than would be expected for standard land division at that location.

**2586.** Reduction of privacy, damage to the natural environment, and difficulties of utility provision must be no greater than would be expected for standard land division at that location.

**2587.** The proposal must be determined by the Planning Board to not circumvent the intent of the Subdivision Control Law.

Any reduced frontage lot created under these provisions shall be shown and identified on a plan endorsed by the Planning Board "Lot\_\_\_\_\_ approved for reduced lot frontage".

**2590. Lot Shape Factor.** No lot shall be created so as to be so irregularly shaped or extended that it has a "Shape Factor" in excess of twenty-two (22). Shape Factor equals the square of the lot perimeter divided by the lot area (before deduction for wetlands, etc.). That portion of the lot in excess of the required lot area may be excluded from the computation of Shape Factor using an imaginary lot line, provided that the entire required frontage is included in the portion used for the calculation.

## **2600. Intensity of Use Schedule**

	<b><u>D I S T R I C T</u></b>						
	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>B-1</b>	<b>B-2</b>	<b>I</b>
Min. Lot Area (sq.ft.)							
Two-family dwelling	160,000	80,000	40,000	80,000	40,000	80,000	----
Other uses <sup>f</sup>	80,000	40,000	20,000	40,000 <sup>e</sup>	20,000	40,000	20,000
Min. lot frontage (ft.)	200	150	125	150	125	150	125
Min. front yard <sup>a,d</sup> (ft.)	30	30	20	30	20	30	20 <sup>c</sup>
Min. side yard (ft.)	15	15	10	15	10 <sup>b</sup>	15 <sup>g</sup>	10 <sup>g</sup>
Min. rear yard (ft.)	20	20	20	20	20	20 <sup>g</sup>	20 <sup>c</sup>
Min. landscaped open space (sq.ft./dwelling unit)	-	-	-	2,000	-	-	-
Maximum building height (ft.)	35	35	35	35	35	45	45

- (a) No building other than a multifamily dwelling need provide a front yard greater than the average of adjoining front yards. For multifamily dwellings, the front yard is to be not less than twice building height, and to contain no parking. Corner and through lots shall maintain front yard requirements for both frontages.
- (b) Side yard may be reduced to zero, except where abutting a residential use or a Residential, Suburban, or Agricultural District, provided that access to rear areas via drives not less than 15 feet wide is assured.
- (c) Increase to 100 feet for industrial buildings facing or adjoining a Residential, Suburban, or Agricultural District.
- (d) No obstruction to vision between three and eight feet above the plane through the curb grades shall be permitted within the area formed by the lines of intersecting streets and a line joining points 20 feet from the point of intersection of street lines or street lines extended.
- (e) For multifamily dwellings other than townhouse dwellings, 40,000 sq.ft. for up to four dwelling units, and 3,000 sq. ft. additional lot area for each additional family accommodated.
- (f) For townhouse dwellings, minimum lot area shall be 10,000 square feet per bedroom but in no case less than 20 acres.
- (g) for industrial or commercial uses, increase to 30 ft. where adjoining an Agricultural, Suburban, Residential, or Multifamily District or residential use.

**2610. Height Limitations.** No building or portion thereof or other structure of any kind shall exceed the heights permitted buildings under Section 2600 Intensity of Use Schedule, except the following:

- (a) chimneys, towers, spires, cupolas, antennae or other projections of or attachments to a building but not potentially used for human habitation, provided that they do not exceed the height of the building by more than ten (10) feet or twenty (20) percent of building height, whichever is the greater, or

- (b) a structure or projection not used for human habitation and not permitted by the above, provided that it is authorized for that height by special permit from the Board of Appeals, upon determination by the Board that the proposed height is functionally important for the use, and that the structure or projection and its use will not result in threats to health, safety or visual compatibility with the surroundings and, in the case of antennae for use by a federally licensed amateur radio operator, that any restriction so imposed complies with the provisions of Section 3 of Chapter 40A dealing with such antennae.

*[n.b. Sections 2620-2680 not used]*

**2690. Targeted Housing.** On special permit from the Planning Board, dwelling units may be designated as "Targeted", provided that:

- (a) the development qualifies for a Comprehensive Permit under Chapter 40B, G.L.
- (b) the Planning Board finds that the housing is consistent with policy guidelines it has approved for Town-wide housing development.
- (c) the Planning Board finds that the location and design of the housing will not result in hazard, overburdening of public services, or neighborhood or environmental degradation.

The lot area requirements for such targeted units shall equal one-half those provided in Section 2600, Intensity of Use Schedule, and frontage requirements shall equal two-thirds of those requirements. All other intensity of use requirements shall be met.

File name: (ART-2-98-FTM)  
Revised by:  
Kathleen M. Harvey, Town Clerk  
1/28/99

## **ARTICLE III. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **3100. Sign Regulations**

#### **3110. General Sign Prohibitions**

**3111.** Signs, any part of which moves or flashes, or signs of the traveling light or animated type, and all beacons and flashing devices whether a part of, attached to, or apart from a sign, are prohibited.

**3112.** No signs shall be placed within or projecting over a public way or on public property except with a permit from the Board of Selectmen. Signs placed on shade trees are subject to approval by the Tree Warden. (Sec.9, Ch.87, G.L.).

**3113.** No non-accessory sign or billboard shall be erected except as allowed under Section 3133.

**3114.** No illumination shall be permitted which casts glare onto any residential premises, or onto any portion of a way so as to create a traffic hazard.

**3115.** No signs shall be located so as to create an obstruction to vision between three and eight feet above the plane through the curb grades within the area formed by the curb lines of intersecting streets (or by street curb lines and the sidelines of driveways) and by a line joining points 20 feet from the point of intersecting of those lines or those lines extended.

**3116.** No sign shall be located within ten feet of the street line unless allowing essentially clear vision to at least six (6) feet above grade, or unless authorized upon special permit from the Board of Appeals, upon the Board finding that safety of vehicular and pedestrian movement would not be significantly reduced by such sign, despite its obstruction of vision.

#### **3120. Permitted Temporary Signs in all Districts.**

**3121.** Any sign if in accordance with limitations set for permanent signs.

**3122.** An unlighted sign of up to 20 sq. ft. indicating parties involved in construction on the premises.

**3123.** An unlighted sign of up to six square feet pertaining to lease or sale of the premises.

**3124.** A sign of up to ten square feet pertaining to a subdivision while under development, only with permission of the Planning Board.

**3125.** Signs inside display windows covering not more than 30% of window area, illuminated by building illumination only.

**3126.** Political signs may be located subject to the consent of property owners. They may be displayed for Annual or Special Town Elections, State, County and Federal Elections to include Primary Elections, for a period of four weeks prior to election day and shall be removed within seven days after election day. In the case of a Primary election the winning candidate may leave signs on display until seven days following the

final election. The property owner shall be responsible for removal of all signs within the prescribed seven days after an election. No political sign may be placed on utility poles or other utility devices. No signs may be displayed within 150 feet from the entrance of the polling place on primary or election day.

No political sign may have a total area greater than 16 square feet. No sign lot may have more than three signs total. No sign may be placed so as to obstruct any intersecting roads or driveways.

3127. Except as elsewhere more specifically provided, temporary signs shall be erected no earlier than fourteen (14) days prior to the event to which they pertain (e.g. the commencement of construction), and shall be removed within seven (7) days after the conclusion of that event, but in any event not to remain in place in excess of six (6) months.

**3130. Permitted Permanent Signs in Agriculture, Suburban and Residential Districts.**

3131. One sign for each family residing on the premises indicating the owner or occupant or pertaining to a permitted accessory use, provided that no sign shall exceed one square feet in area.

3132. One sign not over nine sq. ft. in area pertaining to permitted buildings and uses of the premises other than dwellings and their accessory uses.

3133. A non-accessory directional sign, designating the route to an establishment not on a State Highway, may be erected and maintained in any district on Special Permit from the Board of Appeals, subject to their finding that such sign will promote the public interest, will not endanger the public safety, and will be of such size, location and design as will not be detrimental to the neighborhood.

**3140. Permitted Permanent Signs in Other Districts.**

3141. Any signs permitted in Agriculture, Suburban and Residential Districts.

3142. Accessory signs attached to a building, provided that they aggregate not more than 20% of the wall area they are viewed with.

3143. Freestanding accessory signs, provided that they aggregate not more than 100 square feet in area.

3144. The total area of all signs, either attached to a building or free standing, shall aggregate not more than three square feet per foot of lot frontage on the street towards which they are oriented.

**3200. Environmental Controls.**

3210. **Permitted Activity.** No activity shall be permitted in any district unless the following requirements are met. Applicants may be required to provide evidence of probable compliance, whether by example of similar facilities or be engineering analysis. Issuance of a permit on the basis of that evidence shall certify the Town's acceptance of the conformity of the basic structure and equipment, but future equipment changes and operating procedures must be such as to also comply with these requirements.

**3220. Noise**

**3221.** Facilities generating noise shall be regulated based upon the noise zone in which they are located, as follows:

- NOISE ZONE A: Business and Industrial districts.
- NOISE ZONE B: Locations in any other district, but within 200 feet of a Business or Industrial district, or within 200 feet of an arterial street.
- NOISE ZONE C: All other locations.

**3222.** The following noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all noise generators, based upon the noise zone in which they are located. No development shall be allowed which would result in the following standards being exceeded by more than 20 dB(A) at any time, or by more than 10 dB(A) for more than ten minutes in an hour, or at all for more than 30 minutes in an hour, measured at any point off-site, except for warning devices, agricultural activity, temporary construction or maintenance work, public events, or other special circumstances, unless departure from these standards is authorized for such development on special permit under Section 3290.

**ALLOWABLE EXTERIOR NOISE LEVEL**

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NOISE ZONE	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM	9:00 PM - 7:00 AM
A	65 dB(A)	65dB(A)
B	55 dB(A)	50 dB(A)
C	50 dB(A)	45 dB(A)

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In measuring compliance, measured differences of 3 dB(A) or less resulting from facility operation shall not be construed as violations.

**3230. Light and Glare**

**3231.** Lighting fixture types are defined as follows:

Type 1. No light cutoff.

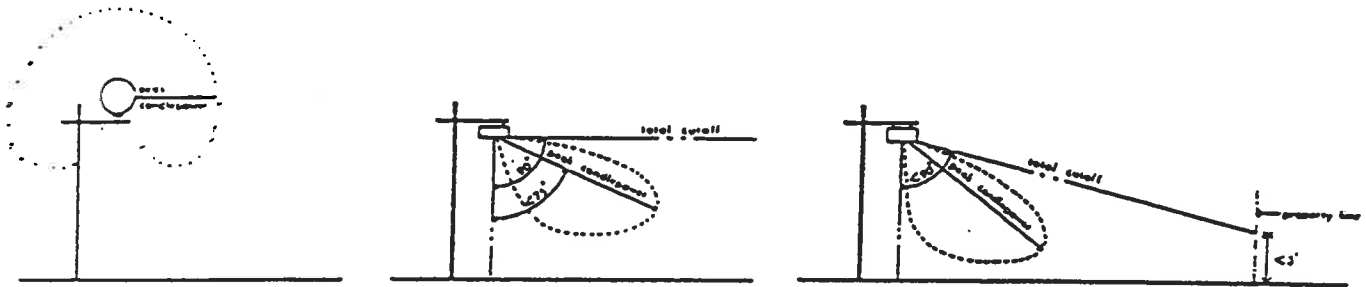
Type 2. Luminaire shielded such that peak candlepower is at an angle of 75 degrees or less from vertical, and essentially no light is emitted above the horizontal.

Type 3. Luminaire shielded such that total cutoff is at less than 90 degrees from vertical, and no light source is in direct view of an observer 5 feet above the ground at any point off the premises.

**3232. Lighting Limitations.** The following limitations shall be observed by all uses, unless granted a special permit under Section 3290, upon determination by the SPGA that it is inherently infeasible for that use (e.g. public outdoor recreation) to meet these standards, and that all reasonable efforts have been made to avoid glare or light over spill onto residential premises.

## LIGHTING LIMITATIONS

	<u>DISTRICTS</u>	
	B - 1, B - 2, I	Other
Maximum luminaire mounting height (feet)		
Fixture Type 1	20	10
Fixture Type 2	30	15
Fixture Type 3	40	20
Maximum off-site over spill (foot-candles)		
Fixture Type 1	0.3	0.2
Fixture Type 2	1.0	0.3
Fixture Type 3	3.0	0.5



Type 1: No Cutoff Luminaire

Type 2: 90 degrees Cutoff Luminaire

Type 3: Luminaire with less than 90 degree cutoff

**3233.** No flickering or flashing lights shall be permitted. Processes, such as arc welding, which create light flashes shall be confined within buildings or shielded to prevent either direct glare or flashing reflected from the sky.

**3234.** An exterior lighting plan may be required where compliance with these requirements is not apparent, to include indication of location, mounting height, and orientation of luminaires, and sufficient technical information on the fixtures to determine their type and resulting illumination levels.

### **3240. Air Quality**

**3241.** Any use whose emissions are such as to cause it to be classified as a major new stationary source of air pollution, as defined by the EPA under the Clean Air Act, and any use required to apply to DEQE under 310 CMR 7.00 or to EPA under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act for permission to emit asbestos, benzene, beryllium, mercury, vinyl chloride or radio nuclides shall be permitted only if granted a special permit under Section 3290.

**3242.** No emission of odorous gases or odoriferous matter in such quantities as to be offensive shall be permitted. Any process which involves the creation and/or emission of any odors shall be provided with a secondary safeguard system.

### **3250. Hazardous Materials**

Use of premises involving one or more of the following may be permitted only if granted a special permit under Section 3290.

- (a) manufacturing as the principal use of the premises, if the products manufactured are either:
  - (i) when wastes, regulated as hazardous under Ch. 21C., G.L.; or
  - (ii) substances listed on the Massachusetts Substance List contained in 105 CMR 670.000, Appendix A;
- (b) keeping of flammable fluids, solids or gasses in quantities exceeding four times that requiring licensure under 527 CMR 14.00, except for storage of fuel for consumption on the premises or by vehicles operated incidental to the principal use of the premises;
- (c) any use for which licensure is required under 310 CMR 30.800 to transport, use, treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste (but not those excluded under 310 CMR 30.801).

### **3260. Vibration**

No use shall be allowed which produces vibration which is discernible to the human sense of feeling (except as sound) at or beyond the boundaries of the premises for three (3) minutes or more in any hour between 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM or for thirty (30) seconds or more in any one hour between 9:00 PM and 7:00 AM. Vibrations exceeding two-thirds the frequency/amplitude limitations established by the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations at 527 CMR 13.11(18) shall, except for activities exclusively within the jurisdiction of that Board, be deemed to be discernible without instruments.

### **3270. Electrical Disturbances**

No electrical disturbance shall be permitted which adversely affects the operation of any equipment other than that of the creator of such disturbance.



### **3280. Stormwater Management**

**3281. Foundation Grade.** Finished grade shall slope continuously downward for at least 10 feet in all directions from the foundation of any dwelling having a basement or cellar, at a slope of 1% or more on paved surfaces and 2% or more on other surfaces.

**3282. Stormwater Detention.** Any development creating 40,000 square feet or more of impervious surface shall employ stormwater detention techniques as necessary to assure that peak flows into existing drainage structures, watercourses and water bodies in any storm of 20-year frequency or less is not increased. Drainage calculations by a registered Professional Engineer shall be submitted in each such case.

Drainage facilities, including detention basins, shall be designed consistent with the standards of the "Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land" of the Bellingham Planning Board, as most recently amended April 25, 1996. Basin fencing materials shall be subject to approval by the Planning Board in conducting Development Plan Review, and shall be selected to prevent accidental entry into the detention area, but still allowing visibility into it.

### **3290. Special Permits**

**3291. Special Permit Granting Authority.** The Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) for applications authorized under Section 3200 shall be the Board of Appeals, except that if another agency is designated under other provisions of this Bylaw as SPGA for the use being applied for, that agency shall also act as SPGA under this Section.

**3292. Submittals.** Applicants shall submit such material, including technical analyses, as is reasonably necessary for the SPGA to make the determinations under 3293 below. That may include, as germane, an acoustic analysis, a lighting plan, documentation of air quality modeling, identification of any toxic or hazardous materials involved and substances to be emitted, a description of precautions, handling practices, monitoring, and recovery systems proposed, and if appropriate, a hazard prevention and contingency response plan.

**3293. Decision Criteria.** Special Permits shall be granted if the SPGA finds that the proposed use will not cause harm or adverse disturbance to the environment or to other premises, will not jeopardize health or safety either on or off-premises, and that either any control or safety systems being relied upon are fail-safe or redundant, or it has been demonstrated that there would be no adverse health or safety consequences beyond the boundaries of the premises in the event of system failure, in light of on-site decay, dilution or dispersion.

### **3300. Parking and Loading Requirements.**

#### **3310. Number of Spaces**

**3311. Basic requirements.** Off-street parking must be provided to service all increases in parking demand resulting from new construction, additions or change of use to one requiring more parking, without counting any existing spaces needed to meet requirements for any retained building or use. The number of spaces indicated in Section 3320 shall be the basis for determining adequacy of provisions. Any existing spaces removed shall be replaced in kind unless they are either in excess of the number required

or removed at the request of the Town. Parking spaces also serving as loading areas shall not be credited.

**3312. Allowed reduction.** The number of spaces may be reduced to less than that stipulated below if, in acting on the Plan under Section 1420, the Planning Board determines that a smaller number would be adequate for all parking needs because of such special circumstances as shared parking for uses having peak parking demands at different times, unusual age or other characteristics of site users or user-sponsored demand reduction devices such as carpooling.

**3320. Schedule of Requirements**

- (a) **Dwellings:**  
Two and one-half parking spaces per dwelling unit, except two spaces for detached single-family dwelling.
- (b) **Places of Public Assembly:**  
One parking space for each three persons capacity based on the Massachusetts State Building Code.
- (c) **Hotels, Motels, Room and Board, Other Commercial Accommodations:**  
One parking space for each guest unit, plus one parking space for each eight units or fraction thereof.
- (d) **Restaurant:**  
One parking space per 2 persons seating capacity.
- (e) **Commercial Recreation:**  
One parking space per two persons participant capacity, plus one space per three persons spectator capacity.
- (f) **Auto Service Station:**  
Three parking spaces plus three parking spaces per service bay.
- (g) **Other Service Establishments, Retail Businesses, and Offices:**  
One parking space per 250 square feet of gross floor area on the ground floor plus one space per 400 square feet gross floor area on other floors, but not fewer than three spaces per separate enterprise.
- (h) **Wholesale and Industrial Establishments:**  
One parking space per 250 square feet of office area plus one space per 500 square feet of production area plus one space per 2,000 square feet of storage area, but capable of expansion to not less than one space per 500 square feet gross floor area.
- (i) **Other Uses:**  
A number of spaces to be determined by the Building Inspector (or the Planning Board in cases referred to it under Section 1420) based upon evidence from similar uses under similar circumstances.
- (j) **Mixed Uses:**  
Requirements for each use are added, unless it is determined that a smaller number is adequate because of staggered hours.

### **3330. Parking Area Design and Location**

**3331. Surfacing.** All required parking areas and their access driveways except those facilities serving single-family residences shall be paved, unless exempted by the Planning Board in acting under Section 1420, for cases such as seasonal or periodic use where unpaved surfaces will not cause dust, erosion, hazard or unsightly conditions.

**3332. Setback.** No off-street parking area for five or more cars shall be located within 20 feet of a street right-of-way.

**3333. Backing.** Parking areas for five or more cars shall not require backing into a public way.

**3334. Proximity.** Parking spaces more than 300 feet from the building entrance they serve may not be counted towards fulfillment of parking requirements unless in acting under Section 1420 the Planning Board determines that circumstances justify a greater separation of parking from use.

**3335. Egress spacing.** The following shall apply to entrances or exits to all parking areas having 20 or more spaces, except those located in the B-1 District, which are exempted.

- (a) Entrance or exit centerlines shall not fall within 50 feet of an intersection of street sidelines or within 250 feet of the centerline of any other parking area entrance or exit on the same side of the street, whether on the same parcel or not, if serving 20 or more parking spaces. Users shall arrange for shared egress if necessary to meet the requirements.
- (b) Egressing vehicles shall have not less than 400 feet sight distance in each travel direction on an arterial street, 250 feet in other cases.

**3336. Regulations.** The Planning Board shall adopt and from time to time may amend dimensional and other regulations for the administration of these design and location requirements.

**3337. Driveways.** All required parking spaces shall be provided with unobstructed access to and from a street and shall be properly maintained so as to permit them to be used at all times.

- (a) A shared driveway shall be considered to provide adequate access to more than two lots or more than four dwelling units only if the Planning board, in acting on a definitive subdivision plan or Development Plan, or if the Board of Appeals or other Special Permit Granting Authority, in acting on a special permit, determines that such shared access provides some community benefit, such as environmental protection or improvement of egress safety, and does not circumvent the intent of the Subdivision Regulations, as well as meeting the requirements of paragraph (b).
- (b) Driveways, whether shared or not, must meet the following standards if more than 200 feet in length or serving five (5) or more parking spaces.
  - (1) The traveled way shall be paved (unless paving is waived by the Planning Board as provided at Section 3331) at least ten (10) feet wide, and tree and shrub branches less than 13 feet above driveway grade

must be cleared or trimmed to provide 12 feet wide for unobstructed travel.

- (2) Centerline radius shall be at least 80 feet, and grade shall not exceed 12%.
- (c) Driveways serving corner lots shall gain access from that street designated by the Planning Board in performing Development Plan Review, if applicable. In cases where Development Plan Review is not required, corner lot driveways shall gain access from that street determined by the Building Inspector to have the lower daily traffic volume, unless, following consultation with the Planning Board and the Police Safety Officer, the Building Inspector determines that allowing egress onto the busier street would be no less safe.

#### **3340. Loading Requirements**

Adequate off-street loading facilities and space must be provided to service all needs created by new construction, whether through new structures or additions to old ones, and by change of use of existing structures. Facilities shall be so sized and arranged that no trucks need back onto or off of a public way, or be parked on a public way while loading, unloading or waiting to do so.

#### **3400. Major Proposals.**

**3410. Applicability.** Any use which elsewhere in this Bylaw is made subject to this Article requires Concept Plan approval by town meeting prior to being acted upon for special permit approval. Approval shall be by two-thirds vote of the town meeting, and may be made with conditions or limitations. Special permits shall then be required, and shall be approved by the Planning Board only upon determination by that Authority that the proposal is consistent with the approved Concept Plan, or in the event of an inconsistency, that the departure is necessitated by changed conditions or earlier error, and that the inconsistency does not result in less beneficial development, based on the considerations of Section 3420.

**3420. Considerations.** Compliance of the proposals with the following considerations shall be reported to the town meeting by the Planning board, and shall be the basis for subsequent special permit approval.

##### **3421. Location**

- (a) The proposal should be located near uses which are similar to the proposed use or, if not, the nearby uses should be permanently buffered from the use or be ones likely to benefit from rather than be damaged by having the proposal nearby.
- (b) Providing adequate water and sewerage to this location for this use should pose no special public problems.
- (c) The site should be able to accommodate the proposal without substantial environmental damage due to wetland loss, habitat disturbance or damage to valuable trees or other natural assets.

**3422. Activity Type and Mix**

- (a) Non-residential proposals should contribute to the diversity of services available locally.
- (b) Residential proposals should add to the range of housing choice available locally.

**3423. Visual Consequences**

- (a) Scenic views from public ways and developed properties should be considerately treated in the site arrangement and building design.
- (b) Visibility of parking and service areas from public streets should be minimized through site arrangement, and such areas should be screened from abutting premises by such method of screening as approved by the Planning Board.
- (c) Domestic scale should be maintained in the building's design through massing devices, such as breaks in wall and roof planes and through the design of architectural features.

**3424. Access**

- (a) Access to the location, considering any special access provisions committed (ride-sharing, etc.) should increase existing traffic by no more than 10% at any point for residential developments, 25% for non-residential ones.
- (b) Pedestrian and vehicular movement to, from and within the site should be safe and convenient and arranged so as not to disturb abutting properties.

**3425. Development Rate**

- (a) Town-wide, development should not outpace the ability of the Town to provide necessary off-site services, including schools, water and road capacity.
- (b) Development making unusually large demands on service capacities should not be allowed to preempt smaller developments from gaining a fair share of that capacity.

**3430. Procedures**

**3431. Concept Plan Contents.** A Concept Plan shall consist of the following:

- (a) A schematic development plan, indicating boundaries of the lot, buildings, roads, drives, parking, reserved open space, existing topography and proposed grading, areas of retained vegetation and proposed planting areas.
- (b) Floor plans and elevations of all existing and proposed structures.
- (c) Materials indicating the proposed ultimate floor area in each use; the number of dwelling units distinguishing by number of bedrooms and any special occupancies (e.g. elderly or handicapped); form of tenure; any subsidies or sales price or rent ceilings anticipated; time schedule for development; service

improvements proposed at the developer's and those anticipated at the Town's expense.

- (d) Analysis indicating degree of consistency with each of the considerations of Section 3420.
- 3432. Pre-Town Meeting Hearing. Prior to town meeting action, the Planning Board shall hold a public hearing on the Concept Plan with timing, notice, and procedures the same as those required for a hearing on a zoning bylaw amendment. The Planning Board shall report its recommendation to the town meeting, with a copy of the recommendation to be filed with the Town Clerk not less than 14 days prior to the town meeting vote on the Concept Plan.
- 3433. Special Permit. Application for an initial special permit must be made not more than 12 months after the town meeting approval of the Concept Plan.

### **3500. Landscaping Requirements**

**3510. Applicability.** Street, sideline, parking area and district boundary plantings shall be provided as specified below when any new building, addition or change of use requires a parking increase of ten or more spaces. The Planning Board in acting under Section 1420 may authorize alternatives to the following specifications, taking into consideration existing vegetation, topography, soils and other site conditions, provided that equivalent screening, shading and articulation are achieved.

#### **3520. Plantings**

**3521. Plant Materials.** Required plantings shall include both trees and shrubs, and may include ones existing on the site. To be credited towards meeting these requirements, trees must be at least 2 1/2" caliper four feet above grade, be of a species common in the area, and be ones which reach an ultimate height of at least 30 feet. To be credited towards meeting these requirements, shrubs must be at least 24" in height at the time of building occupancy, reach an ultimate height of at least 36", and be of a species common in the area.

**3522. Number of Plants.** The number of trees in the planting areas must equal not less than the planting area length in feet divided by 30, and the number of shrubs must equal not less than the planting area length in feet divided by three. Plantings preferably will be grouped, not evenly spaced, and shall be located or trimmed to avoid blocking egress visibility. The planting area shall be unpaved except for access drives and walks essentially perpendicular in the area.

#### **3530. Planting Areas**

**3531. Street Planting Area.** Street planting is required for premises abutting any street. Required street planting shall be provided within 15 feet of the street property line along the entire street frontage except at drives.

**3532. Sideline Planting Area.** Sideline planting is required for premises abutting any arterial street. Required sideline planting shall be provided within five feet of the side lot line between the front lot line and the building setback (as built, not as required).

**3533. Parking Area Plantings.** A minimum of 5% of the interior area of parking lots containing 30 or more spaces must be planted, to contain a minimum of one tree and four shrubs exclusive of perimeter plantings must be planted for every 1,500 square feet of parking lot. Planting areas must each contain not less than 40 square feet of unpaved soil area. Trees and soil plots shall be so located as to provide visual relief and wind interruption within the parking area, and to assure safe patterns of internal circulation.

**3534. District Boundary Planting Area.** District Boundary planting is required on any premises along the full length of any boundary abutting or extending into a Residential, Suburban or Agricultural District and being developed for a use not allowed in that District, unless abutting property is determined by the Building Inspector to be un-buildable or visually separated by topographic features. Required planting shall be located within ten feet of the boundary.

**3540. Additional Screening.** Any outdoor service or storage areas not effectively screened by the above requirements shall be separated from any abutting street or residentially used or zoned premises by a planting area meeting the requirements for a sideline planting area.

**3550. Existing Vegetation.** Wherever possible, the above requirements shall be met by retention of existing plants. If located within 25 feet of a street, no existing tree of 6" trunk diameter or greater (measured four feet about grade), dense hedgerow of four or more feet in both depth and height, or existing earth berm providing similar visual screening shall be removed or have grade changed more than one foot unless dictated by plant health, access safety or identification of the premises.

**3560. Exceptions.** Where plant materials as required would harmfully obstruct a scenic view, substitution of additional low level plantings which will visually define the street edge or property line may be authorized by the Planning Board in acting under Section 1420, provided that proposed buildings are also designed and located to preserve that scenic view.

**3570. Maintenance.** All plant materials required by this bylaw shall be maintained in a healthful condition. Dead limbs shall be promptly removed, and dead plants shall be replaced at the earliest appropriated season.

File name: (ART-3-98-FMT)  
Revised by:  
Kathleen M. Harvey, Town Clerk  
1/28/1999

## **ARTICLE IV. SPECIAL REGULATIONS**

### **4100. Accessory Uses**

#### **4110. Home Occupations**

**4111.** Home occupations are permitted without need for a special permit only if conforming to each of the following conditions:

- (a) No more than 25% of the habitable floor area of the residence (exclusive of accessory structures) shall be used for the purpose of the home occupation. Accessory structures shall be used only for parking or incidental storage.
- (b) Not more than one person not a member of the household shall be employed on the premises in the home occupation.
- (c) There shall be no exterior display, no exterior storage of materials, no outside parking of commercial vehicles, and no other exterior indication of the home occupation or other variation from the residential character of the principal building other than an unlighted sign not to exceed one square foot in area.
- (d) The environmental requirements of Section 3200 shall be complied with.
- (e) Traffic generated shall not be more disruptive to the neighborhood than traffic normally resulting from residential use, considering volume, hours, vehicle types and other traffic characteristics.
- (f) The parking generated shall be accommodated off-street, other than in a required yard, and shall not occupy more than 35% of lot area.
- (g) There shall be no retail sale of articles not produced on the premises or incidental to the occupation.

**4112.** A special permit from the Board of Appeals may authorize any of the following provided that the Board determines that the activities will not create hazard, disturbance to any abutter or the neighborhood, and will not create unsightliness visible from any public way or abutting property.

- (a) Use of more than 25% of the habitable floor area of the residence, or use of any accessory building for other than parking or incidental storage.
- (b) On-premises employment of a second or third person not a member of the household.
- (c) Exterior parking of a commercial vehicle.
- (d) Traffic determined by the Building Inspector to exceed the limits of item 4111(e).
- (e) Parking within a required yard, provided that it is effectively screened from the street and abutting premises.



**4120. Scientific Uses.** The Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for a use accessory to a scientific research, scientific development, or related production activity, whether or not on the same parcel as such activity. A Special Permit shall be granted where the Board of Appeals finds that the proposed accessory use does not substantially derogate from the public good.

**4130. Family Apartment.** A special permit authorizing a Family Apartment may be granted only if consistent with the following.

**4131. Development Requirements.**

- a) Unit must be a single family dwelling to which the Family Apartment is being added, and must have been in existence and occupied under a legal Occupancy Permit at least two (2) years at the time of application.
- b) Any increase in floor area shall meet the requirements of Section 2600 without variance or Special Permit.
- c) The Applicant must acquire Board of Health approval that the sewerage disposal will be within the legal requirements.
- d) Parking shall be as required in Section 3300 for a two Family Dwelling unit.

**4132. Occupancy Requirements.**

- a) Either the principal or the accessory unit must be owner-occupied.
- b) The remaining unit must be occupied by a family member of the owner(s).

**4133. Procedural Requirements.**

- a) To approve a special permit for a Family Apartment, the Board of Appeals must make a determination that all of the above requirements have been met, and also that the particular circumstances of the case make such use appropriate, including consideration of:
  - i) whether lot area or other site characteristics assure mitigation of any impacts on the neighborhood;
  - ii) whether there is enforceable assurance that occupancy of the unit will serve significant community purposes, such as facilitating care for the elderly or handicapped;
  - iii) whether there is a financial hardship to the family;
  - iv) whether site and building design are within the character of the neighborhood.
- b) The Special Permit and a Certificate of Occupancy for a Family Apartment shall be issued for a period no greater than five years from the date of issuance and must be filed at the Norfolk Registry of Deeds prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.

- c) A Special Permit for a Family Apartment may be extended for additional five year periods upon application to the Zoning Board of Appeals at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the Special Permit. An extension shall be given only after inspection and a written report by the Town Inspector that the conditions of the renewal have not changed since the initial application and the Zoning Board's determination that the applicant is in full compliance with Section 4130. Any extension given must be filed at the Norfolk Registry of Deeds within 30 days of issuance. Failure to file within the time period given shall nullify the permit given.
- d) Sale of the lot or dwelling that is the subject of the Special Permit shall nullify the Permit on the date of sale.
- e) Permanent Removal from the premises of the individual or individuals for whom the permit has been obtained shall nullify the Permit on the date of such removal.

#### **4200. Mobile Homes, Trailers, and Campers**

4210. No mobile home, trailer, or camper shall be used for permanent residence.

4220. A mobile home may be stored, and following issuance of a zoning permit by the Zoning Agent a mobile home, trailer or camper may be occupied for not more than 30 days in any 12 month period, provided it is so placed on the lot as to meet minimum yard requirements.

4230. A trailer or camper may be regularly stored accessory to a permitted use, provided that it is so located on the lot as to meet minimum yard requirements.

4240. Replacement of mobile homes parking in non-conformity with Section 2400 is not permitted, even where such replacement does not increase the extent of non-conformity.

#### **4300. Cluster Development**

Parcels in excess of ten acres may be subdivided and developed with clustered lots, if approved by the Planning Board for a Special Permit for Cluster Development. Such approval shall be granted only subject to the following conditions:

4310. The proposed development shall be, in the judgment of the Planning Board superior to a conventional plan in preserving open space for conservation or recreation, utilizing natural features of the land, and allowing more efficient provision of public services; and at least equal to a conventional plan in other respects.

4320. The total number of lots shall not exceed the number of lots into which the land could legally be subdivided were it not for the provision of Section 4300, to be estimated in the absence of an alternative conventional plan as being equal to 85% of the overall parcel area, divided by the normal lot area requirement for the District in which the parcel lies, as provided in Section 2600. However, at least 80% of the lot area employed for zoning compliance shall be exclusive of certain protected wetlands as provided in the definition of "lot area"; land having slopes in excess of 25% or land otherwise precluded from development because of local, state, or federal law, regulation, or statute. The number of lots proposed shall be supported by calculations submitted by a Registered Land Surveyor.

4330. The Intensity of Use Requirements of Section 2600 for the Residential (R) District shall be conformed to for each cluster lot created, provided that either the lot is to be served with public sewerage, or the applicant documents to the satisfaction of the Planning Board that the requirements of Title 5 of the Massachusetts Environmental Code (310 CMR 15) can be satisfied at that location with dwellings and lots of the sizes proposed. Otherwise the Intensity of Use Requirements for the Suburban District shall be conformed to for each cluster lot created.

4340. The lots for building purposes shall be grouped in a cluster or in clusters, and within each cluster the lots shall be contiguous.

4350. All remaining land in the tract, not contained in building lots or within road rights-of-way, shall be contiguous, or if not contiguous, in parcels of not less than two acres in each area, having not less than 40 feet of frontage on a street, and of such shape and condition as to be usable for recreation.

4360. All such remaining land reserved in compliance with Section 4350 shall be designated "Common Open Land", and either be conveyed to the Town and accepted by it for park or open space use, or be conveyed to a nonprofit organization the principal purpose of which is the conservation of open space, or be conveyed to a corporation or trust owned or to be owned by the owners of lots or residential units within the plan. If such a corporation or trust is utilized, ownership thereof shall pass with conveyances of the lots or residential units. Building coverage shall not exceed 5% in such dedicated areas. Maintenance shall be permanently assured through an incorporated homes association, operating under a recorded land agreement through which each lot owner in the development is subject to a charge for a share of the homes association expenses; or through comparable arrangement satisfactory to the Planning Board.

4370. In any case where such Common Open Land is not conveyed to the Town, a restriction enforceable by the Town shall be recorded providing that such land shall be kept in an open or natural state and not be built for residential use or developed for accessory uses such as parking or roadway.

4380. Application for a Special Permit for Cluster Development shall be accompanied by a Preliminary Subdivision Plan designating streets, lots, and common open land.

4390. Subsequent to approval of such Cluster Development, no land therein shall be sold and no lot line shall be changed in such way as to increase the number of lots or the extent of non-conformity with the provisions of Section 2600 of this Bylaw.

#### **4400. Multifamily Dwellings**

4410. **New Multifamily Districts (M)** Shall each be created only by vote of the Town Meeting amending the Zoning Map, each such district shall not be less than 20 acres in extent, shall front for at least 500 feet on an arterial street, and shall contain not less than 70% vacant or agricultural land.

4420. **Special Permits for Multifamily dwellings** (including townhouse dwellings) shall be granted only in accordance with the following, and if resulting in 50 or more dwelling units on that and abutting parcels which have been in common ownership at any time subsequent to January 1, 1989, only following concept plan approval as provided in Section 3400.

4421. Not more than 10% of the cumulative number of dwelling units on the premises having been granted occupancy permits at any point in time may have three bedrooms and none may

have more than that number, unless the Special Permit originally allowing the development explicitly authorizes occupancy permits for more or larger units. Said authorization shall be granted only where:

- (a) Lot area will equal at least 10,000 square feet per bedroom;
- (b) Full compliance has been met as per Section 1321 of these Bylaws.

**4422.** The application for a Special Permit shall be accompanied by six copies of a Proposed Site Plan prepared by a registered Engineer or Architect, showing location and boundaries of the site; use and zoning of adjacent parcels; existing and proposed topography, major trees, and retained vegetation; existing and proposed structures; dimensions of yards at their minimum point; drives, parking, required landscaping and screening; water service, sanitary disposal system, and storm drainage; and proposed staging plan, if building permits are not to be immediately sought for all units; and by six copies of a ground floor plan and architectural elevations of all proposed buildings, prepared by a registered Architect.

Within two working days of their receipt, one copy of each of the required plans shall be transmitted by the Planning Board to the Highway Department, Water Department, and Fire Department. No permit shall be decided upon within 35 days of such referral without receipt of advisory reports from each of those agencies regarding compliance of the proposal to local rules, regulations, and Bylaws as well as good practice within their area of concern.

**4423.** The Special Permit shall lapse upon transfer of ownership or within 12 months of Special Permit approval (plus such time required to pursue or await the determination of an appeal referred to in Sec. 17, Ch.40A, G.L., from the grant thereof) if a substantial use thereof or construction has not begun, except for good cause.

**4424. Decision.** In deciding on a Special Permit for Multifamily or Townhouse dwellings, the following more detailed criteria shall be used rather than those of Section 1530. Such Special Permit shall be granted only if the Planning Board determines that the proposal would serve Town interests better than would single-family development of the same area, considering the following:

- (a) Municipal costs and revenues.
- (b) Effect on the range of available housing choice.
- (c) Service to identified housing needs.
- (d) Service to current Bellingham residents.
- (e) Support for local business activity and jobs.
- (f) Impact on the natural environment, especially on ground and surface water quality and level.
- (g) Impacts on traffic safety and congestion, adequacy of water service, and need for school facilities.

- (h) Impacts on the visual environment through preservation or displacement of visual assets, and consistency with existing development in area.

**4425. Development Rate.** In authorizing townhouses and other multifamily developments, the Planning Board shall establish an annual limit for the number of dwelling units to be authorized, taking into consideration the townwide building rate experienced over the previous two years and anticipated over the next half-dozen years, the needs which the housing will serve, the ability of the Town to provide services in a timely manner, the housing cost and feasibility consequences of the limitation, and the considerations of Section 3420. Such development rate may be less than but not more than that contained in the Concept Plan approved by Town Meeting.

#### **4500. Flood Plain Requirements**

##### **4510. District Establishment.**

The Flood Plain District is herein established as an overlay district. The uses in underlying districts are allowed provided that they meet the following additional requirements as well as those of the Massachusetts State Building Code dealing with construction in flood plains. The Flood Plain District includes all special flood hazard areas designated as Zone A, A1-30 on the Bellingham Flood Insurance Rate Maps, (FIRM), and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map, Community-Panels Numbers 250232 00001-0007, effective Dec. 15, 1982 on file with the Town Clerk and Building Inspector. Those maps as well as the accompanying Bellingham Flood Insurance Study are incorporated herein by reference.

##### **4520. Development Regulations.**

The following requirements apply in the Flood Plain District:

**4521.** Within Zone A, where the base flood elevation is not provided on the FIRM, the applicant shall obtain any existing base flood elevation data and it shall be reviewed by the Building Inspector for its reasonable utilization toward meeting the elevation or flood proofing requirements, as appropriate, of the State Building Code.

**4522.** In the floodway designated on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) All encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements to existing structures, and other development, are prohibited unless certification by a registered Professional Engineer is provided by the applicant demonstrating that such encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the 100-year flood.
- (b) Any encroachment meeting the above standard shall comply with the floodplain requirements of the State Building Code.

## **4600. Earth Removal Regulations**

### **4610. General.**

The removal from any premises of topsoil, borrow, rock, sod, loam, peat, humus, clay, sand or gravel shall be done only in accordance with Section 4620 through 4670.

### **4620. Permitted Activities.**

The following activities do not require a Special Permit and are not subject to subsections 4630 through 4670. However, a permit (for which no fee will be charged), specifying proposed time and estimated volume, must be obtained from the Inspector of Buildings prior to initiation of removal.

Such No-Fee Permit may specify conditions regarding trucking hours, routes, and methods; hours of operation; drainage and erosion control; and exposed face height and slope limits. Unbuilt-on areas shall be restored consistent with the standards of Section 4650 Restoration within a period to be specified in the Permit. Performance security as specified at Subsection 4622 shall be required by the Inspector of Buildings where other means of assuring timeful restoration are not available.

- (a) Removal of less than 50 cubic yards of materials within any 12 month period.
- (b) Removal of less than 2,500 cubic yards incidental to construction on the premises under a currently valid building permit, as indicated on a site plan approved by the Inspector of Buildings under Subsection 1423, or as required for cellar excavation, driveways, and parking to grades indicated on a plot plan approved by the Inspector of Buildings. However, topsoil stripped and stockpiled or removed from the premises shall be restored to its original location within 24 months of such stripping unless the construction has been completed or is authorized under a currently valid building permit.
- (c) Removal of less than 2,500 cubic yards incidental to road construction within a public right-of-way or a way shown on an approved Definitive Subdivision Plan.
- (d) Removal on a parcel for which removal was authorized under a legal permit issued prior to adoption of these provisions until the expiration date of said permit, provided that all Bylaws, permits, and conditions applicable prior to the adoption of this Section shall be complied with. From that expiration date, full compliance with all the requirements of Section 4600 must be met.

### **4630. Permit from the Board of Appeals.**

Removal shall be allowed only under Special Permit for an exception issued by the Board of Appeals following written application. The following shall be conditions for such issuance:

**4631.** The Application shall be accompanied by a plan showing all man-made features, property lines, names and addresses of all abutters (from the Assessors), including those across any street or way, and shall be accompanied by topographic information, such as that available on the Town's 1"=100' topographic maps. Plans for Major Removal, which are those involving

more than two thousand five hundred (2,500) cubic yards or more than two (2) acres, shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor, and in addition to the above, shall show the following:

- \* existing topography in the area for which material is to be removed and for one hundred (100) feet beyond that;
- \* estimates of the evaluation of historical high groundwater as determined from monitoring wells and historical water table fluctuation data compiled by the USGS;
- \* grades below which excavation will not take place;
- \* proposed finish grades upon completion of removal and restoration activities;
- \* proposed cover vegetation and trees.

Two additional copies of materials submitted in applying for Major Removal shall be provided by the applicant for forwarding to the Planning Board for its review and recommendation to the Board of Appeals.

**4632.** A performance bond in the amount determined by the Board of Appeals may be posted in the name of the Town assuring satisfactory performance in the fulfillment of the requirements of the Bylaw and such other conditions to the issuance of its permit. Such bond shall have an expiration date not less than six months later than the permit termination date.

**4633.** Before granting a permit, the Board of Appeals shall give due consideration to the location of the proposed earth removal, to the general character of the neighborhood surrounding such location, to the protection of water supply, and to the general safety of the public on the public ways in the vicinity.

#### **4640. Removal**

**4641.** Finish grade shall not lie below a level that would reasonably be considered a desirable grade for the later development of the area, or below the grades specified on the plan accompanying the permit application. The Board of Appeals may specify a base grade below which excavation shall in no event take place.

**4642.** Provision shall be made for safe drainage of water, and for prevention of wind or water erosion carrying material onto adjoining properties.

**4643.** A 100 foot buffer strip shall be maintained at all boundaries, and not excavated below boundary grades except at a slope of not greater than three feet horizontal to one foot vertical if such will enhance overall grading.

**4644.** The visibility, sound, and airborne particulates from processing equipment may be screened from adjacent premises through the design and location of such equipment, and through use of natural vegetation planting, overburden piles, and surge piles as screening.

**4645.** Dust shall be controlled through oiling or chemical treatment of roads except within Water Resource Districts. Within Water Resource Districts, dust control measures shall employ alternative methods that do not involve the use of hazardous materials as defined in this bylaw.

**4650. Restoration.**

Forthwith following the expiration or withdrawal of a permit, or upon voluntary cessation of operations, or upon completion of removal to the extent covered by the performance bond (Sec. 4632), that entire area shall be restored as follows:

- 4651. All land shall be so graded that no slope exceeds one foot vertical rise in three feet horizontal distance and shall be so graded as to safely provide for drainage without erosion.
- 4652. All boulders larger than 1/2 cubic yard and stumps shall be removed or buried.
- 4653. The entire area excepting exposed ledge rock shall be covered with not less than four inches of topsoil, which shall be planted with cover vegetation adequate to prevent soil erosion.
- 4654. Bond shall not be released until sufficient time has lapsed to ascertain that the vegetation planted has successfully been established and that drainage is satisfactory.

**4660. Additional Conditions.**

The Board of Appeals may set conditions in addition to the above, including but not limited to: duration of the permit, hours of the day during which removal may take place, hours during which vehicles may leave the premises, and trees to be planted.

**4670. Renewal or Renovation of Permit.**

No permit shall be issued under the provisions of Section 4600 for a period of more than two years, but a permit may be renewed upon application without a public hearing; provided that such renewal is approved prior to expiration of the permit being renewed. Prior to renewal, inspection of the premises shall be made by the Zoning Agent to determine that the provisions of this Bylaw are being complied with. The Board of Appeals, after hearing any proof of violation of this Bylaw shall withdraw the permit, after which the operation shall be discontinued and the area restored in accordance with Section 4650.

**4700. Major Commercial Complex**

**4710. Applicability.** Major Commercial Complexes shall be granted special permits only in districts where allowed under Section 2400 Use Regulation Schedule, and only in accordance with the following. The applicant shall submit adequate documentation, including plans, calculations, and narrative, to allow determination of compliance by the Planning Board without need for extensive further analysis.

**4720. Eligible Locations.** Major Commercial Complexes shall be so located and sized that projected peak hour traffic will not be increased on any servicing road by 25% or more above levels otherwise anticipated at the time of occupancy, provided, however, that a complex increasing traffic by more than that amount may be granted a special permit, provided that the Planning Board determines that traffic mitigation measures assured under the special permit adequately provide for capacity and safety improvements.



**4730. Site Design.** Major Commercial Complexes shall be so designed that all banks exceeding 15 degrees in slope resulting from site grading shall be retained with vegetative cover reasonably sufficient to prevent erosion.

**4740. Traffic Mitigations.** Special permits for Major Commercial Complexes may be granted subject to conditions requiring the applicant to provide off-site traffic mitigation, including measures to assure safety and adequacy of capacity at points of ingress and egress, and to participate in improvements at other locations in proportion to the development's pro-rated share of the municipal costs for those improvements.

#### **4800. Motor Vehicle Service Stations**

Motor vehicle service stations shall be granted a Special Permit only in conformity with the following:

**4810. Entrances, Exits.** No location shall be approved if a vehicular entrance or exit will be so located as to create an unusual hazard. Lanes of entry shall be separated from lanes of egress by not less than 40 feet, shall be clearly distinguished by directional signs or markers, and shall be clearly channeled through use of curbed planting areas or similar devices. Entrances and exits together shall occupy not more than 40% of the lot frontage.

**4820. Relation to Pedestrian Flow.** No location shall be approved if a vehicular entrance or exit will be so located as to cross a major pedestrian flow, such as on sidewalks servicing churches, schools, recreation areas, or compact retail districts.

**4830. Visibility.** No entrance or exit shall be located within 20 feet of a side lot line, or within 50 feet of the intersection of sidelines of intersecting streets. Egressing vehicles shall have at least 400 feet visibility in each travel direction.

**4840. Off-Street Spaces.** There shall be at least two additional waiting spaces per filling position.

**4850. Service Building.** No service building shall be located within 40 feet of a street line, and no pump or other dispensing device, moveable sign or display, nor temporary or permanent storage of merchandise, shall be located within 20 feet of a street line.

**4860. Fuel Storage Tank.** No fuel storage tank shall be located within 20 feet of any lot line.

**4870. Service Safety.** Self-service gasoline stations shall be allowed by grant of a Special Permit from the Bellingham Board of Selectmen.

#### **4900. Water Resource Districts**

**4910. Purpose.** The purpose of the Water Resource District is to protect the public health by preventing contamination of the ground and surface water resources providing water supply for the Town of Bellingham.

**4920. Establishment of District.** The Water Resource District is hereby established as an overlay district. The District is bounded on the map entitled "Water Resource District" dated November 22, 1995, appended to these Zoning By-laws and on file with the Town Clerk and Building Inspector.

**4930. Use Regulations.** The Water Resource District shall be considered to be superimposed over any other district established in this By-Law. Land in the Water Resource District may be used for any use otherwise permitted in the underlying district, subject to the following limitations.

**4931. Prohibitions.** The following are prohibited on any lot or portion of a lot within the Water Resource District.

- (a) All uses required to be prohibited in wellhead protection zones by 310 CMR 22.21 (2)a. Generally, those are the following (see 310 CMR 22.21 (2)a, on file with the Building Inspector, for exact provisions):
  - (1) Landfills, open dumps and landfilling of sludge or septage;
  - (2) Auto graveyards or junkyards;
  - (3) Stockpiling and disposal of snow from outside of the District, if containing ice control chemicals;
  - (4) Individual sewage disposal systems designed to receive more than 110 gallons per day per 1/4 acre or 440 gallons per day on any one acre;
  - (5) Treatment or disposal works for non-sanitary wastewaters subject to 314 CMR 5.00, except for replacement or repair of existing systems without expansion, or treatment works approved by DEP designed for the treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters;
  - (6) Facilities that generate, treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste subject to MGL. C.21C and 310 CMR 30.00, except:
    - (i) very small quantity generators as defined under 310 CMR 30.00;
    - (ii) household hazardous waste centers and events under 310 CMR 30.390;
    - (iii) waste oil retention facilities required by MGL. C.21, 52A;
    - (iv) remediation treatment works approved under 314 CMR 5.00.
- (b) All uses required to be prohibited in wellhead protection zones by 310 CMR 22.21 (2)b, unless designed in accordance with specified performance standards. Generally, those are the following (see the 310 CMR 22.21 (2)b, on file with the Building Inspector, for the exact provisions):
  - (1) Storage of sludge and septage unless in accordance with 310 CMR 32.30 and 310 CMR 32.31;
  - (2) Storage of commercial fertilizers and soil conditioners unless within a structure designed to prevent generation and escape of contaminated runoff or leachate;
  - (3) Storage of animal manure unless covered or contained;

- (4) Storage of liquid hazardous materials as defined in MGL C.21E unless in a free standing container within a building or above ground with adequate secondary containment.
- (5) Earth removal to within 4 feet of historical high groundwater unless regraded to a higher level within 45 days, except for excavations for building foundations or utility works;
- (6) Storage of liquid petroleum products, except:
  - (i) normal household use, outdoor maintenance, and heating of a structure;
  - (ii) waste oil retention facilities required by MGL. C.21. 52A;
  - (iii) emergency generators required by statute, rule or regulation;
  - (iv) treatment works approved under 314 CMR 5.00 for treatment of contaminated ground or surface waters;provided that such storage is in a free standing container within a building or above ground with adequate secondary containment;
- (c) As a principal use, manufacturing, processing, mixing, storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials in excess of quantities which, as wastes, are allowed small quantity generators as defined in DEP Regulations 310 CMR 30.
- (d) Motor vehicle service, washing or repair.
- (e) Storage of ice removal chemicals.

**4932. Uses Requiring Special Permits.** Within the Water Resource District, the following shall be allowed only if granted a Special Permit from the Special Permit Granting Authority (See Section 4940) and if the use is not otherwise prohibited.

- (a) Covering with impervious surface more than 30% of the portion of lot area within the Water Resource District.
- (b) Removal of existing ground cover vegetation from more than 70% of lot area.
- (c) Having an estimated on-site disposal of wastewater exceeding 10,000 gpd, regardless of lot size.

**4933. Change of Use.** Change in activity resulting in exceeding any limitations established in a special permit, or crossing the thresholds of paragraphs 4931 or 4932, shall constitute change of use and is allowed but only on approval of a special permit, regardless of whether classified under Section 4931 or Section 4932.

**4940. Special Permit Granting Authority.** The Special Permit Granting Authority for applications under Section 4900 shall be the Planning Board. Such Special Permit shall be granted if the SPGA determines that:

- (a) the intent of this by-law as well as its specific criteria are met;
- (b) the application materials are sufficiently detailed, definite and credible to support positive findings relative to the standards of the by-law;
- (c) the proposed use meets the standards of Section 4900;
- (d) neither during construction nor after will the use adversely affect the existing or potential quality of groundwater available within the District.
- (e) that proposed control and response measures adequately and reliably mitigate risks to groundwater quality resulting from accident or system failure.

In making such determination, the SPGA shall give consideration to the simplicity, reliability and feasibility of the control measures proposed and the degree of threat to groundwater quality which would result if the control measures failed.

Upon receipt of the Special Permit application, the SPGA shall transmit one copy each to the Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Water Department, and the Building Inspector for their written recommendations. The SPGA shall explain any departures from the recommendations of other Town agencies in its decision. Failure to respond within 30 days shall indicate approval of said agencies. The copies necessary to fulfill this requirement shall be furnished by the applicant.

**4950. Submittals.** In applying for a Special Permit under this Section, the information listed below shall be submitted as specified in Section 4940, unless the Planning Board, prior to formal application, determines that certain of these items are not germane:

- (a) a complete list of all chemicals, pesticides, fuels or other potentially hazardous materials to be used or stored on the premises in quantities greater than associated with normal household use, accompanied by a description of the measures proposed to protect all storage containers or facilities from vandalism, corrosion and leakage, and to provide for control of spills.
- (b) a description of potentially hazardous wastes to be generated, including storage and disposal methods as in (a) above.
- (c) for above ground storage of hazardous materials or wastes, evidence of qualified professional supervision of design and installation of such storage facilities or containers.
- (d) for runoff from impervious surfaces greater than 30% of total lot area, evidence that such runoff will be recharged on-site and diverted towards areas covered with vegetation for surface infiltration to the maximum extent possible. Dry wells shall be used only where other methods are infeasible and shall be preceded by oil, grease and sediment traps to facilitate removal of contaminants.

(e) for disposal on-site of domestic wastewater, with an estimated sewage flow greater than 15,000 gpd, evidence of qualified professional supervision of design and installation, including an assessment of nitrate or coliform bacteria impact on ground water quality.

**4960. Change of Use.** Change in activity resulting in exceeding any limitations established in a special permit, or crossing the thresholds of Section 4930, shall constitute change of use and is allowed but only on approval of a special permit.

**4970. Design and Operation Guidelines.** Within Water Resource Districts, the following design and operations guidelines shall be observed in all new construction.

**4971. Safeguards.** Provisions shall be made to protect against hazardous materials discharge or loss through corrosion, accidental damage, spillage or vandalism through such measures as provision for spill control in the vicinity of chemical or fuel delivery points, secure storage areas of hazardous materials, and indoor storage provisions for corrodible or dissolvable materials.

**4972. Location.** Where the premises are partially outside of the Water Resource District, such potential pollution sources as on-site waste disposal systems shall, to be degree feasible, be located outside the District.

**4973. Disposal.** Provisions shall be made to assure that any waste disposed on the site shall contain no hazardous materials in quantities substantially greater than associated with normal household use.

**4974. Drainage.** Provisions shall be made for on-site recharge of all stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces unless, in cases where such surfaces are no more than 15% of lot area or 2,500 square feet, whichever is larger, the Planning Board in conducting Development Plan Review and following consultation with the Conservation Commission, determines that either recharge is infeasible because of site conditions or is undesirable because of uncontrollable risks to water quality from such recharge.

Recharge shall be by surface infiltration through vegetative surfaces unless otherwise approved by the Planning Board following consultation with the Conservation Commission. Dry wells shall be used only where other methods are technically infeasible and shall employ oil, grease and sediment traps. Drainage from transfer areas for hazardous materials shall be separately collected for safe disposal.

**4975. Sewerage.** Sewers within the Water Resource District shall be designed and constructed in a manner such that ground water levels, flows and/or recharge will not be significantly lowered, diverted or otherwise altered by such construction, and that risk of leakage is minimized.

**4980. Nonconforming Uses.** Legally pre-existing nonconforming structures and uses in the Water Resource District shall be governed by Sections 2310, 2320, 2330 and 2340 of this By-law.

File name: (ART-4-98 -FTM)  
Revised by:  
Kathleen M. Harvey, Town Clerk  
1/28/99

## **ARTICLE V. DEFINITIONS**

In this Bylaw the following terms unless a contrary meaning is required by the context or is specifically prescribed, shall have the following meanings. Words used in the present tense include the future, and the plural includes the singular; the word "shall" is intended to be mandatory; "occupied" or "used" shall be considered as though followed by the words "or intended, arranged or designed to be used or occupied." The word "person" includes a corporation as well as an individual.

### **Accessory Building**

A building detached from, incidental to, located on the same premises as, and functionally dependent on the principal use of the premises.

### **Accessory Use**

An activity incidental to and located on the same premises as a principal use conducted by the same person or his agent. No use shall be considered "accessory" unless functionally dependent on and occupying less land area than the principal use to which it is related and occupying less than one quarter as much habitable floor area as that principal use.

### **Animal Kennel or Hospital**

Premises used for the harboring and/or care of more than three dogs or other domestic non-farm animals three months old or over. Use shall be so classified regardless of the purpose for which the animals are maintained or whether fees are charged or not.

### **Arterial Street**

Any state-numbered highway, any street having a right-of-way width of 60 feet or more, plus the following named streets:

Blackstone Street  
Elm Street  
Maple Street  
Wrentham Road

Center Street  
Hartford Avenue  
Paine Street

Cross Street  
High Street  
Pulaski Blvd.

Depot Street  
Lake Street  
S Maple Street

### **Bedroom**

In a dwelling, any habitable room having more than 70 square feet floor area, if not a living room, dining room, kitchen, or

### **Bathroom**

Any dwelling unit in which no such room exists shall be construed to contain one bedroom.

### **Building**

A structure enclosing useful space.

### **Building Height**

The vertical distance from the mean finished grade of the ground adjoining the building to the highest point of the roof for flat or shed roofs, to the deck line for mansard roofs, and to the mean height between eaves and ridge for gable, hip, and gambrel roofs.

### **Bulk Storage**

Exposed outside storage of sand, lumber, coal, or other bulk materials, and bulk storage of liquids in tanks except under ground as an accessory use.

### **Camper**

A vehicle used as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreational and vacation uses.

**Camping, Commercial**

Premises used for campers, tenting, or temporary overnight facilities of any kind, operated seasonally, where a fee is charged.

**Camping, Supervised**

Facilities operated on a seasonal basis for a continuing supervised recreational, health, educational, religious, and/or athletic program, with persons enrolled for periods of not less than one week.

**Club or Lodge**

Premises or buildings of a non-profit organization exclusively servicing members and their guests for recreational, athletic, or civic purposes, but not including any vending stands, merchandising, or commercial activities except as required generally for the membership and purposes of such club. Does not include golf clubs or sportsmen's clubs as elsewhere defined, or clubs or organizations whose chief activity is a service customarily carried on as a business.

**Contractor's Yard**

Premises used by a building contractor or subcontractor for storage of equipment and supplies, fabrication of sub- assemblies, and parking of wheeled equipment.

**Detached Structure**

One having no common or party walls.

**Dwelling Unit**

Living quarters for a single family.

**Dwelling, Multifamily**

A structure containing three or more dwelling units, whether for rental, condominium ownership, or other form of tenure, but not including public housing.

**Dwelling, Single-Family**

A detached residential building containing a single dwelling unit, or a single dwelling unit plus a family apartment as authorized by Section 4130.

**Dwelling, Townhouse**

A multifamily dwelling containing at least three but not more than eight dwelling units, each unit having a separate exterior entrance and being held in separate and distinct ownership (such as in a condominium) or being owned by a Massachusetts cooperative and held by separate and distinct shares.

**Dwelling, Two-Family**

A detached residential building intended and designed to be occupied exclusively by two families.

**Erected**

The word "erected" shall include the words "built", "constructed", "reconstructed", "altered", "enlarged" and "moved".

**Family**

Any number of individuals living and cooking together in a single housekeeping unit.

**Family Apartment**

An accessory apartment or principal unit utilized by grandparents, parents, children, grandchildren, brothers or sisters or their spouses and children or the property owner or spouse.

**Farm**

Premises containing at least five acres used for gain in raising of agricultural products, livestock, poultry, and/or dairy products. 'Farm' includes necessary farm structures and the storage of equipment used, but excludes public stables, and animal kennels or hospitals.

**Floor Area, Leasable**

The sum of the area on the several floors of a building which is or could be leased, including leasable basements.

**Golf Course, Standard or Par Three**

Course, including customary accessory buildings, where tee-to-hole distance averages not less than 80 yards.

**Hazardous materials**

Any substance or combination of substances which, because of quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, pose a significant present or potential hazard to water supplies or to human health if disposed into or on any land or water in this town. Any substance deemed a "hazardous waste" under Mass. General Laws Ch. 21C shall also be deemed a hazardous material for purposes of this bylaw.

**Home Occupation**

A business or profession engaged in within a dwelling by a resident thereof as a use accessory thereto.

**Hotel or Motel**

A structure providing sleeping rooms for resident or transient guests, and where public eating facilities are provided; but not including buildings or charitable, educational or philanthropic institutions.

**Impervious**

Impenetrable by surface water.

**Junk Yard**

The use of any premises, whether licensed or not, where waste or scrap articles or materials are abandoned, stored, sorted, parked, bought, or sold, as a principal use, except where such activities are carried out entirely within an enclosed building and except where more specifically categorized in this Bylaw, such as "second-hand auto parts.

**Landscaped Open Space**

Space not covered by any structure, and not used for drives, parking, utilities or storage; comprising landscaped areas and outdoor recreational facilities, including those on balconies or over structures if so developed.

**Livestock Raising**

The raising or harboring of ten or more poultry or of more than two cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, goats, minks, rabbits, or similar farm animals six months old or older.

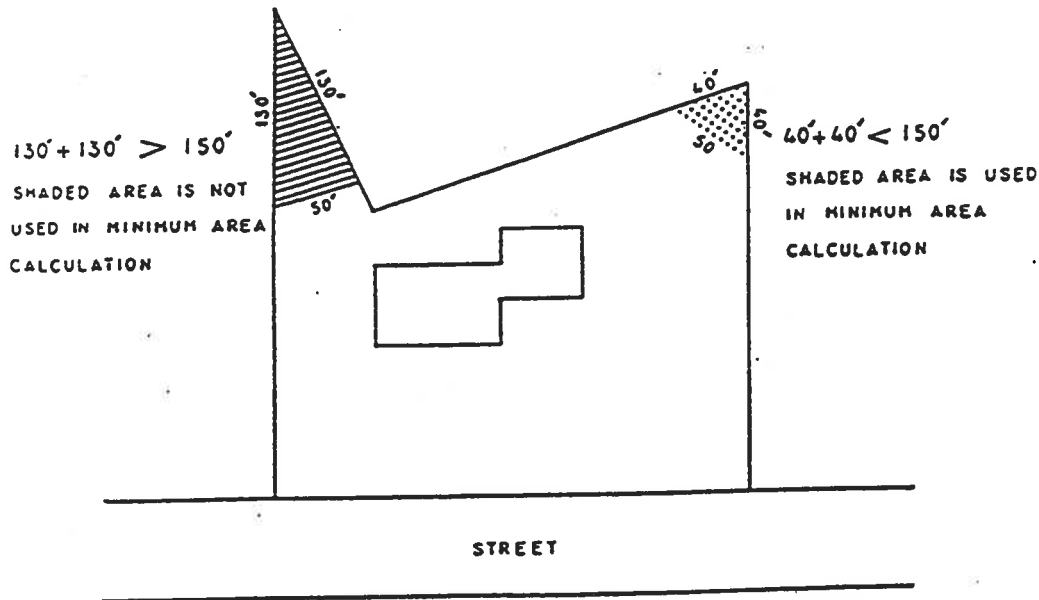
**Lot**

An area of land in one ownership with definite boundaries ascertainable by recorded deed or plan and used or set aside and available for use as the site of one or more buildings or for any other definite purpose.



### **Lot Area**

The horizontal area of the lot exclusive of any area in a street or way open to public use. At least 90% of the lot area necessary for compliance with minimum lot area requirements shall also be exclusive of areas subject to protection under the Wetlands Protection Act, Section 40, Chapter 131, G.L. for reasons other than being subject to flooding. If the distance between any two points on lot lines is less than 50 feet, as measured in a straight line, the smaller portion of the lot as divided by that line shall not be included in lot area unless the two points are separated by less than 150 feet measured along lot lines.



### **Lot, Corner**

A lot which has an interior angle of less than 135 degrees at the intersection of two street lines. A lot abutting a curved street shall be considered a corner lot if the tangents to the curve at the point of intersection of the side lot lines intersect with an interior angle of less than 135 degrees.

### **Lot Coverage**

Percentage of total lot area covered by structures or roofed.

### **Lot Frontage**

The boundary of a lot on land coinciding with a street line if there are both rights of access and potential vehicular access across that boundary to a potential building site. Measured continuously along one street line between side lot lines. In the case of corner lots, measured between the side lot line and the mid-point of the corner radius on the street designated as the frontage street by the owner or, failing that, by the Building Inspector.

### **Major Commercial Complex**

Retail business, entertainment, or consumer service establishment or an aggregation of such establishments on the same premises, having more than 50,000 square feet of gross floor area and providing more than 200 off-street parking spaces.

<b><u>Manufacturing</u></b>	Fabrication, processing, assembly, finishing, or packaging.
<b><u>Medical Clinic</u></b>	An institution or place providing medical, surgical, dental, restorative or mental hygiene services to persons not residing therein, under license as a clinic under Section 51, Ch.111, G.L.
<b><u>Mobile Home</u></b>	A dwelling built on a chassis, containing complete electrical, plumbing and sanitary facilities, and designed without necessity of a permanent foundation for year-round living, irrespective of whether actually attached to a foundation, or otherwise permanently located.
<b><u>Motor Vehicle Service Station</u></b>	Premises devoted primarily to retail sale of fuels and lubricants and/or washing of motor vehicles, with any repair services or other sales or services of secondary importance.
<b><u>Municipal Use</u></b>	Premises used for any operation by the Town Government except as elsewhere more specifically defined.
<b><u>Nonconforming Use or Building</u></b>	A lawfully existing use or building which does not conform to the regulations for the district in which such use or building exists.
<b><u>Nursing, Convalescent, or Rest Home</u></b>	Premises for the care of three or more persons, as licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
<b><u>Parking Space</u></b>	Space adequate to park an automobile, plus means of access. Where spaces are not marked, each space shall be assumed to require 350 sq.ft.
<b><u>Party Wall</u></b>	A building wall erected on a lot sideline for shared use of adjoining properties.
<b><u>Philanthropic Institution</u></b>	An endowed or charitably supported non- profit religious or non-sectarian activity maintained for a public or semi-public use.
<b><u>Public Housing</u></b>	Housing operated by a public body created pursuant to Section 26K of Ch. 121, or corresponding provisions of earlier laws.
<b><u>Public Stable</u></b>	Premises where two or more horses are kept for remuneration, hire or sale.
<b><u>Roadside Stand</u></b>	Premises for the sale of agricultural products, the major portion of which were raised on the premises.

**Sign**

Any device designed to inform or attract the attention of persons not on the premises on which the sign is located, provided however that the following shall not be included in the application of the regulations herein:

- (a) Signs not exceeding one square foot in area and bearing only property numbers, names of occupants of premises, or other Identification of premises not having commercial connotations;
- (b) Flags and insignia of any government except when displayed in connection with commercial promotion;
- (c) Legal notices, identification, informational, or directional signs erected or required by governmental bodies;
- (d) Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property, but bearing no advertising matter;
- (e) Temporary signs erected for any charitable or religious cause.

**Sign, Area of**

The entire area within a regular geometric form or combinations of regular geometric forms comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. One side only of signs with faces at 180° to each other shall be counted. Frames and structural members not bearing advertising matter shall not be included in computation of sign area.

**Sign, Accessory**

A sign whose subject matter relates to the premises on which it is located, or to products, accommodations, services, or activities on the premises.

**Signs, Political**

A sign whose subject matter relates to a candidate or candidates for elective office or to a question to appear on an election ballot.

**Sign, Temporary**

Any sign which, by its inherent nature, can be expected to remain in place and be altered for less than six months, such as those made of nondurable materials (e.g. cardboard), those with content of transient usefulness (e.g. announcements) or portable signs.

**Street**

Either:

- (a) a public way or a way which the Town Clerk certifies is maintained and used as a public way, or
- (b) a way shown on a plan approved in accordance with the subdivision control law, or
- (c) a way in existence when the subdivision control became effective in Bellingham, having in the opinion of the Planning Board, sufficient width, suitable grades and adequate construction to provide for the needs of vehicular traffic in relation to the proposed use of the land abutting thereon or served thereby, and for the installation of municipal services to serve such land and the building erected or to be erected thereon.

<b><u>Street Line</u></b>	The property line defining the outside of the street right-of-way.
<b><u>Structure</u></b>	Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on the ground, including buildings, mobile homes, bill boards, swimming pools, tanks, or the like, or part thereof.
<b><u>Swimming Pool</u></b>	Any constructed pool, located above or below the ground, whether portable or fixed, used or capable of being used for swimming, wading, or bathing purposes. Pools having a depth of two feet or more and having a capacity of 200 cubic feet or more in volume shall be considered structures.
<b><u>Temporary Structure</u></b>	Tent, construction shanty, or similarly portable or demountable structure intended for continuous use for not longer than one year.
<b><u>Trailer</u></b>	A towed vehicle for transportation of goods or animals, but not intended for human occupancy.
<b><u>Transportation Terminal</u></b>	Premises principally used for the parking, storage, and servicing of trucks or busses, and/or loading or unloading of cargo or passengers into vehicles or storage, but not including such activities if accessory to a principal use.
<b><u>Vehicle, Heavy Commercial</u></b>	A bus or truck having capacity in excess of the limits for a light commercial vehicle, or motorized construction equipment other than trucks.
<b><u>Vehicle, Light Commercial</u></b>	A taxi; a bus with capacity not exceeding 10 passengers; or a truck with GVW rating not exceeding 14,000 lbs. and enclosed cargo area not exceeding 400 cubic feet.
<b><u>Waste Processing or disposal, hazardous or radioactive.</u></b>	The collection, treatment, storage, burial, incineration or disposal of hazardous waste as defined by the Division of Hazardous Waste under Ch.21(c), G.L., or of radioactive waste including low-level radioactive waste as defined in Section 11e(2) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.
<b><u>Yard</u></b>	<p>An area open to the sky and free of any storage of materials or manufactured products, located between a street or other property line and any structure or element thereof other than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a fence, wall, other customary yard accessory, or steps or other projections allowed to encroach on building lines by the State Building Code, or</li> <li>(b) in side an rear yards only, a tool shed or similar accessory structure having not more than eighty (80) square feet ground coverage.</li> </ul>

**Yard, Front**

A yard extending between side lot lines across the front of a lot on each street it adjoins, measured perpendicular to a line connecting the foremost points of the side lot lines.

**Yard, Rear**

A yard abutting a rear property line, that is, typically a line or set of lines approximately parallel to the frontage street, and separating lots whose frontage is established on different streets. Yards on irregularly shaped lots where "side" versus "rear" is indeterminate shall be construed as rear yards.

**Yard, Side**

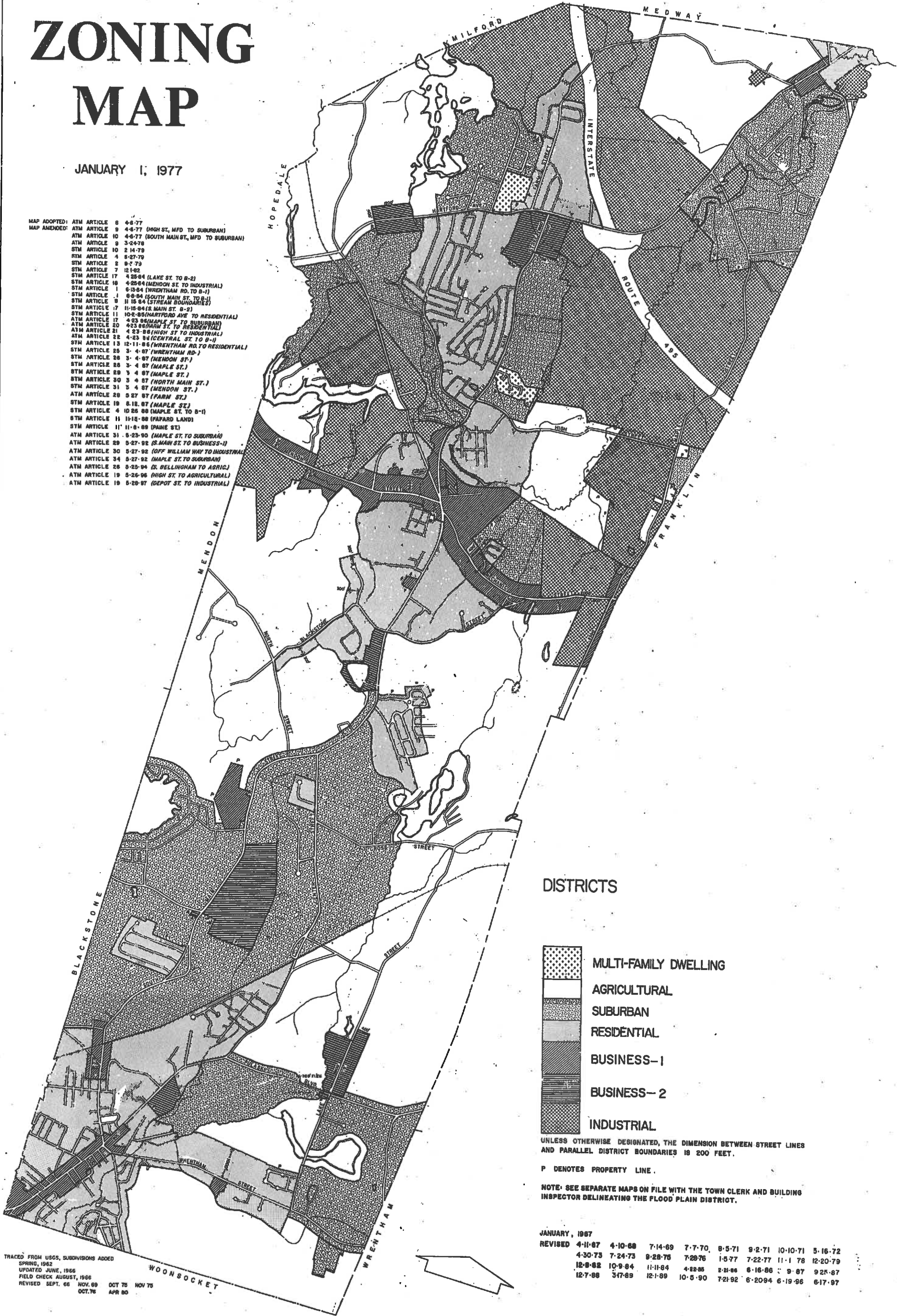
A yard abutting a side property line, typically a line or set of lines which intersect a street line, separating lots whose frontage is established on the same street, extending between side and rear yards. Corner lots commonly have two side yards and no rear yard.

File name: (Art-5-98-FTM)  
Revised by:  
Kathleen M. Harvey, Town Clerk  
1/28/99

# ZONING MAP

JANUARY 1, 1977

- MAP ADOPTED: ATM ARTICLE 8 4-6-77  
MAP AMENDED: ATM ARTICLE 9 4-6-77 (HIGH ST. MFD TO SUBURBAN)  
ATM ARTICLE 10 4-6-77 (SOUTH MAIN ST. MFD TO SUBURBAN)  
ATM ARTICLE 9 3-24-78  
STM ARTICLE 10 2-14-79  
STM ARTICLE 4 5-27-79  
STM ARTICLE 2 9-7-79  
STM ARTICLE 7 12-1-82  
STM ARTICLE 17 4-25-84 (LAKE ST. TO B-2)  
STM ARTICLE 18 4-25-84 (MENDON ST. TO INDUSTRIAL)  
STM ARTICLE 1 6-15-84 (WRENTHAM RD. TO B-1)  
STM ARTICLE 1 9-9-84 (SOUTH MAIN ST. TO B-1)  
STM ARTICLE 9 11-15-84 (STREAM BOUNDARIES)  
STM ARTICLE 17 11-15-84 (S. MAIN ST. B-2)  
STM ARTICLE 11 10-2-85 (HARTFORD AVE. TO RESIDENTIAL)  
ATM ARTICLE 17 4-23-86 (MAPLE ST. TO SUBURBAN)  
ATM ARTICLE 20 4-23-86 (MAIN ST. TO RESIDENTIAL)  
ATM ARTICLE 21 4-23-86 (HIGH ST. TO INDUSTRIAL)  
ATM ARTICLE 22 4-23-86 (CENTRAL ST. TO B-1)  
STM ARTICLE 13 12-11-86 (WRENTHAM RD. TO RESIDENTIAL)  
STM ARTICLE 25 3-4-87 (WRENTHAM RD.)  
STM ARTICLE 26 3-4-87 (MENDON ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 28 3-4-87 (MAPLE ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 29 3-4-87 (MAPLE ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 30 3-4-87 (NORTH MAIN ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 31 3-4-87 (MENDON ST.)  
ATM ARTICLE 28 5-27-87 (FARM ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 19 8-18-87 (MAPLE ST.)  
STM ARTICLE 4 10-26-88 (MAPLE ST. TO B-1)  
STM ARTICLE 11 11-15-88 (PAPARD LAND)  
STM ARTICLE 11 11-8-89 (PAME ST.)  
ATM ARTICLE 31 5-23-90 (MAPLE ST. TO SUBURBAN)  
ATM ARTICLE 29 5-27-92 (S. MAIN ST. TO BUSINESS-1)  
ATM ARTICLE 30 5-27-92 (OFF WILLIAM WAY TO INDUSTRIAL)  
ATM ARTICLE 34 5-27-92 (MAPLE ST. TO SUBURBAN)  
ATM ARTICLE 26 5-25-94 (S. BELLINGHAM TO AGRIC.)  
ATM ARTICLE 19 5-25-96 (HIGH ST. TO AGRICULTURAL)  
ATM ARTICLE 19 5-28-97 (DEPOT ST. TO INDUSTRIAL)



## DISTRICTS

- MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING
- AGRICULTURAL
- SUBURBAN
- RESIDENTIAL
- BUSINESS-1
- BUSINESS-2
- INDUSTRIAL

UNLESS OTHERWISE DESIGNATED, THE DIMENSION BETWEEN STREET LINES AND PARALLEL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES IS 200 FEET.

P DENOTES PROPERTY LINE.

NOTE: SEE SEPARATE MAPS ON FILE WITH THE TOWN CLERK AND BUILDING INSPECTOR DELINEATING THE FLOOD PLAIN DISTRICT.

JANUARY, 1967									
REVISED 4-11-87	4-10-88	7-14-89	7-7-90	9-5-91	9-2-91	10-10-91	5-16-92		
4-30-93	7-24-93	9-28-93	7-28-96	1-5-97	7-22-97	11-1-98	12-20-99		
12-9-02	10-9-04	11-11-04	4-22-05	2-21-06	6-16-06	9-8-07	9-25-07		
12-7-08	3-17-09	12-1-09	10-5-10	7-21-12	6-20-14	6-19-16	6-17-17		

TRACED FROM USGS, SUBDIVISIONS ADDED  
SPRING, 1962  
UPDATED JUNE, 1966  
FIELD CHECK AUGUST, 1966  
REVISED SEPT. 66 NOV. 69 OCT. 75 NOV. 75  
OCT. 76 APR. 80

PHILIP B. HERR & ASSOCIATES, PLANNING CONSULTANTS

# PLANNING BOARD BELLINGHAM MASSACHUSETTS

800 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 FT.

