

**SUBTITLE J      PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND REPAIR (P)  
ZONES**

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## **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION TO PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND REPAIR (PDR) ZONES**

### **100 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

100.1 The PDR zones provide for the following:

- (a) Heavy commercial and light manufacturing activities employing large numbers of people and requiring some heavy machinery under controls that minimize any adverse effect on other nearby, more restrictive districts; and
- (b) Areas suitable for development as heavy industrial sites, but at the same time protect those industrial developments from the intrusion of non-industrial uses that impede the full utilization of properly located industrial sites.

100.2 The provisions of the PDR zones are intended to:

- (a) Regulate the use of land and structures and the erection and modification of structures in areas characterized by production, distribution, and repair (PDR) uses, typically with heavy truck traffic and loading and unloading operations;
- (b) Encourage the retention of viable land to accommodate production, warehousing, distribution, light and heavy industrial, and research and development activities;
- (c) Allow compatible office and retail uses and development;
- (d) Minimize encroachment by uses that are incompatible with PDR uses, including residential uses, which could impair existing PDR activities;
- (e) Manage transitions between PDR-zoned areas and surrounding neighborhoods; and
- (f) Ensure the environmental performance of development.

### **101 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS**

101.1 The bulk of structures in the PDR zones shall be controlled through the combined requirements of the Development Standards Tables, the zone-specific Development Standards, and the General Development Standards of this subtitle.

101.2 The development standards are intended to:

- (a) Control the bulk or volume of structures, including height, floor-area ratio, and lot occupancy;

- (b) Control the location of building bulk in relation to adjacent lots and streets, by regulating rear setbacks, side setbacks, and the relationship of buildings to street lot lines;
- (c) Regulate the mix of uses;
- (d) Manage transitions between PDR-zoned areas and surrounding neighborhoods; and
- (e) Ensure the environmental performance of development.

101.3 The Board of Zoning Adjustment may grant special exception relief from the development standards requirements , except for green area ratio. Additional use or zone specific special exception criteria, if applicable, shall be considered in determining any relief request.

**102 USE PERMISSIONS**

102.1 Use permissions for the PDR zones are as specified in Subtitle U.

**103 PARKING**

103.1 Parking and bicycle parking requirements for the PDR zones are as specified in Subtitle C.

**104 LOADING**

104.1 Loading requirements for the PDR zones are as specified in Subtitle C

**105 PUBLIC EDUCATION BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, PUBLIC RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTERS, OR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

105.1 Public education buildings and structures, public recreation and community centers, or public libraries in the PDR zones shall be permitted subject to the conditions of Subtitle C chapter 16.

105.2 Development standards not otherwise addressed by C chapter 16 shall be those development standards for the zone in which the building or structure is proposed.

## CHAPTER 2 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

### 200 PURPOSE AND INTENT

- 200.1 The PDR-1 (CM-1, CM-1/LO) zone is intended to permit moderate density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts.
- 200.2 The PDR-2 (CM-2) zone is intended to permit medium density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts.
- 200.3 The PDR-3 (CM-3) zone is intended to permit high density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts.
- 200.4 The PDR-4 (M) zone is intended to permit high density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts and minimize non-industrial uses.
- 200.5 The PDR-5 (CM-1/CAP) zone is intended to:
- (a) Permit moderate density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive zones;
  - (b) Promote and protect the public health, safety, and general welfare of the U.S. Capitol precinct and the area adjacent to this jurisdiction, in a manner consistent with the goals and mandates of the United States Congress in Title V of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1976 (Master Plan for Future Development of the Capitol Grounds and Related Areas), approved July 25, 1975 (Pub. L. No. 94-59, 89 Stat. 288), and in accordance with the plan submitted to the Congress pursuant to the Act;
  - (c) Reflect the importance of and provide sufficient controls for the area adjacent to the U.S. Capitol;
  - (d) Provide particular controls adjacent to properties having a well-recognized general public interest; and
  - (e) Restrict some of the permitted uses to reduce the possibility of harming the site, building, or district to be protected.

- 200.6 The PDR-6 and PDR-7 zones apply to the area that is immediately north and south of Fort Circle Park, also known as Fort Drive Park.
- 200.7 The PDR-6 and PDR-7 zones are intended to:
- (a) Encourage a scale of development and a mixture of building and land uses consistent with the Comprehensive Plan that enables existing industries that provide jobs, tax revenues, and critical support functions for development of the District of Columbia to remain in the District; and
  - (b) Protect surrounding residential areas from the adverse impacts of existing industrial support uses by means of the buffering standards provided in these zones.
- 200.8 The PDR-6 zone (CM-1/FT) is intended to permit moderate density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts.
- 200.9 The PDR-7 (M/FT) zone is intended to:
- (a) Permit high density commercial and PDR activities employing a large workforce and requiring some heavy machinery, under controls that minimize any adverse impacts on adjacent, more restrictive districts and minimize non-industrial uses; and
  - (b) Ensure that the views and vistas from the historic fortification of Fort Totten are not degraded or obstructed.

## 201 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

201.1 The Development Standards Table for the PDR zones is as follows:

Zone	Max. Height	Max. Stories	Max. Occupancy	Max. FAR Restricted Uses	Max. FAR Permitted
PDR-1 (CM-1, CM-1/LO)	50 ft.	n/a	n/a	2.0	3.5
PDR-2 (CM-2)	60 ft.	n/a	n/a	3.0	4.5
PDR-3 (CM-3)	90 ft.	n/a	n/a	4.0	6.0
PDR-4 (M)	90 ft.	n/a	n/a	1.0	6.0
PDR-5 (CM-1/CAP)	40 ft.	3	n/a	2.0	3.5
PDR-6 (CM-1/FT)	40 ft.	n/a	n/a	2.0	3.5
PDR-7 (M/FT)	65 ft.	n/a	n/a	1.0	6.0

## **202 HEIGHT**

- 202.1 Rooftop Structures requirements are as specified in Subtitle C.
- 202.2 An antenna may be erected to a height in excess of that authorized in the zone in which it is located as permitted by C, Chapter 13.
- 202.3 A building or other structure may be erected to a height not exceeding ninety feet (90 ft.) provided that the building or structure shall be removed from all lot lines of its lot for a distance equal to the height of the building or structure above the natural grade.
- 202.4 An institutional building or structure may be erected to a height not exceeding ninety feet (90 ft.), provided that the building or structure shall be removed from all lot lines of its lot a distance of not less than one foot (1 ft.) for each foot of height in excess of that authorized in the zone in which it is located.
- 202.5 In the P-6 or P-7 zone, any building proposed to exceed sixty-five feet (65 ft.) in height shall be approved by the Board of Zoning Adjustment pursuant to the special exception criteria of Y Chapter 8. The applicant for a special exception under this subsection shall demonstrate that the building will not degrade or obstruct views and vistas from the historic fortification of Fort Totten.

## **203 TRANSITION HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS**

- 203.1 Development on a lot that directly abuts a residentially zoned property with a lower height limit, shall not project above a plane drawn at a one-to-one (1:1) angle subject to the following:
- (a) The plane shall be measured ten feet (10 ft.) above the by right height of the abutting residential property line; and
  - (b) The measuring point shall be established at the middle of the abutting residential property line.

## **204 ROOF STRUCTURES**

- 204.1
- 204.2 Housing for mechanical equipment, stairway and elevator penthouses, may be erected to a height in excess of the maximum height authorized in a PDR zone subject to conditions specified in this section.
- 204.3 The maximum permitted height for housing for mechanical equipment, stairway and elevator penthouses is set forth in the following table:

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Max. Permitted Height For Mechanical Equipment, Stairway And Elevator Penthouses</b>
PDR-1 PDR-2 PDR-3 PDR-4 PDR-6	Eighteen feet-six inches (18 ft. 6 in.)
PDR-5	Ten feet (10 ft.)

204.4 Housing for mechanical equipment or a stairway or elevator penthouse shall be set back as follows:

- (a) A distance equal to its height from the front building façade;
- (b) A distance equal to half of its height from any side building wall that is not adjoining another building wall; and
- (c) No setback is required from any side building wall that is adjoining another building wall.
- (d) All penthouses and mechanical equipment shall be placed in one (1) enclosure, and shall harmonize with the main structure in architectural character, material, and color.
- (e) When roof levels vary by one (1) floor or more or when separate elevator cores are required, there may be one (1) enclosure for each elevator core at each roof level.
- (f) Enclosing walls from roof level shall be of equal height, and shall rise vertically to a roof, except as provided in J § 203.4 (g).
- (g) When consisting solely of mechanical equipment, the equipment shall be enclosed fully as prescribed in J §§ 203.4 (d) and 203.4 (f) except that louvers may be provided. A roof over a cooling tower need not be provided when the tower is located at or totally below the top of enclosing walls.
- (h) Roof structures shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total roof area where there is a limitation on the number of stories.

204.5 Mechanical equipment owned and operated as a roof structure by a fixed right-of-way public mass transit system shall be permitted in addition to roof structures permitted in this section.

204.6 For purposes of this section, mechanical equipment shall not include telephone equipment, radio, television, or electronic equipment of a type not necessary to the operation of the building or structure.

- 204.7 For purposes of this section, skylights, gooseneck exhaust ducts serving kitchen and toilet ventilating systems, and plumbing vent stacks shall not be considered as roof structures.
- 204.8 For purposes of applying roof structure setbacks, walls of buildings that border any courtyard other than closed courtyards shall be deemed to be exterior walls.
- 204.9 Roof structures less than four feet (4 ft.) in height above a roof or parapet wall shall not be subject to the requirements of this section.
- 204.10 Relief to the requirements of this section may be granted by special exception subject to Y, Chapter 8.

## **205 FLOOR AREA RATIO (FAR)**

- 205.1 The following use categories may achieve the maximum FAR as indicated in the development standards table:
- (a) Basic Utilities;
  - (b) Large Scale Government;
  - (c) Production, Distribution & Repair; and
  - (d) Waste-related Services.
- 205.2 All other permitted, conditional, or special exception use categories are subject to the maximum FAR indicated in the Restricted Uses row in the development standards table.

## **206 GREEN AREA RATIO (GAR)**

- 206.1 A lot in any PDR zone shall have a Green Area Ratio of at least 0.3, except that:
- (a) A lot with a principal building that is one story in height shall have a Green Area Ratio of at least 0.1; and
  - (b) A lot with a principal building that is two stories in height shall have a Green Area Ratio of at least 0.2.
- 206.2 For lots that have more than one building, the GAR requirement shall be that applicable to the tallest building; unless the tallest building has a footprint less than four hundred and fifty square feet (450 sq. ft.). In such case the building with the largest footprint shall constitute the principal building for the purposes of determining the GAR requirement.

## **207 REAR SETBACK**

- 207.1 A rear setback shall be provided for each structure located in a PDR zone.

207.2 The minimum depth of the rear setback shall be two and one-half inches per foot (2.5 in./ft.) of vertical distance from the mean finished grade at the middle of the rear of the structure to the highest point of the main roof or parapet wall, but not less than twelve feet (12 ft.).

207.3 Where the rear lot line of a lot abuts or is separated only by an alley from an residential zone or residential use of a property, a rear setback shall be provided from the ground up subject to the transitional setback requirements of § 209.

207.4 Except as required in § 207.3, the rear setback need not be provided below a horizontal plane twenty feet (20 ft.) above the mean finished grade at the middle of the rear of the structure.

207.5 For that portion of the structure above the horizontal plane, the depth of rear setback may be measured as follows:

- (a) When the lot abuts an alley, from the center line of the alley to the rear wall of the portion immediately above the plane; or
- (b) When the lot does not abut an alley, from the rear lot line to the rear wall of the portion immediately above the plane.

207.6 In the case of a through lot or a corner lot abutting three (3) or more streets, the depth of rear setback may be measured from the center line of the street abutting the lot at the rear of the structure.

## **208 SIDE SETBACKS**

208.1 No side setback shall be required on a lot in a PDR zone, except where a side lot line of the lot abuts a residential zone or lot developed with a residential use. Where a side lot line abuts a residential zone, the transitional setback requirements shall be provided pursuant to J §209.

## **209 TRANSITION SETBACK REGULATIONS**

209.1 Transition setback regulations apply along any and all lot lines of a lot in a PDR zone when the lot or portion of the lot directly abuts a residential zone, a lot developed with a residential use, or an alley that abuts a residential zone, unless the PDR zoned lot is only used for residential purposes.

209.2 The following required setbacks shall be provided on a lot in a PDR zone subject to the following conditions:

- (a) A twenty five feet (25 ft.) setback shall be provided from each lot line that is directly abutting a lot in a residential zone or developed with a residential use;

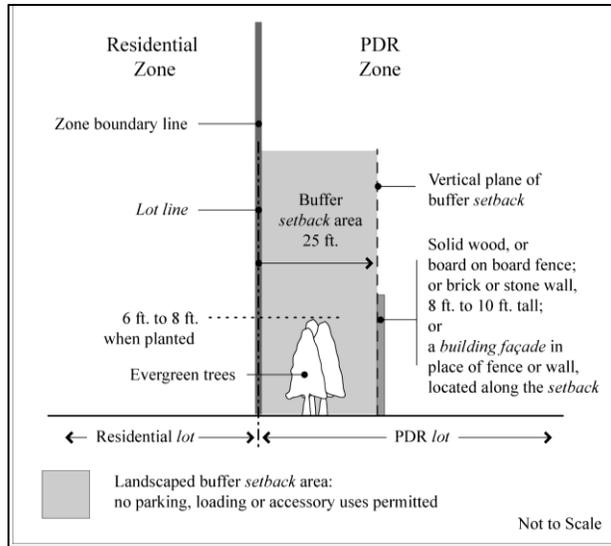


Illustration of 209.2 (a)

- (b) A twenty-five foot (25 ft.) setback shall be provided from each lot line that is abutting an alley that serves as the zone boundary line between a P zone and a residential zone. The depth of setback shall be measured from property line of the PDR zoned lot.

Illustration to be provided

- (c) A fifteen feet (15 ft.) setback shall be provided from each lot line, except a front lot line, that is abutting a street less than 70 feet in right-of-way width that serves as the zone boundary line between a PDR zone and a residential zone.

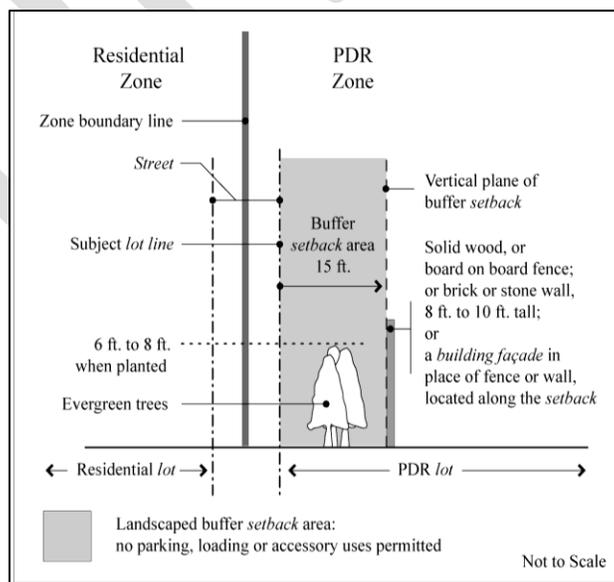


Illustration of 209.2 (c)

- 209.3 Any setback required by this section shall be located on the PDR zoned lot and shall be extend as a vertical plane, parallel to the PDR zoned lot line;
- 209.4 Any setback area required by this section shall not be used for storage, parking, loading, or accessory uses.
- 209.5 Any setback area required by this section shall be landscaped with evergreen trees, subject to the following conditions:
- (a) The trees shall be maintained in a healthy growing condition;
  - (b) The trees shall be a minimum of eight feet (8 ft.) high when planted; and
  - (c) Planting locations and soil preparation techniques shall be shown on a landscape plan submitted with the building permit application to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs for review and approval according to standards maintained by the Department’s Soil Erosion and Storm Management Branch, which may require replacement of heavy or compacted soils with top and drainage mechanisms as necessary.
- 209.6 A form of screening shall be erected between the residential and PDR lots, and shall be located along the required setback identified in paragraph (a) above. The screening shall be either:
- (a) A solid wood or board-on-board fence, no less than eight feet (8 ft.) and no more than ten feet (10 ft.) in height; or
  - (b) A brick or stone wall, no less than eight feet (8 ft.) and no more than ten feet (10 ft.) in height.

**210 COURTYARDS**

210.1 A courtyard is not required, but if provided, it shall have the following minimum dimensions:

<b>Open Courtyard Width:</b>	<b>Closed Courtyard Width</b>	<b>Closed Courtyard Area:</b>
Two and one-half inches per foot (2 1/2 in./ft.) of height of courtyard; Six feet (6 ft.) minimum.	Two and one-half inches per foot (2 1/2 in./ft.) of height of courtyard; Twelve feet (12 ft.) min.	Twice the square of the required width of courtyard dimension; Two hundred and fifty square feet (250 sq. ft.) minimum.

## CHAPTER 3 ALLEY LOT REGULATIONS

### 300 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 300.1 All alley lots must be recorded in the records of the Office of the Surveyor, District of Columbia, as a record lot.
- 300.2 An alley lot that is only recorded in the records of the D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue as an assessment and taxation lot (tax lot) may be recorded by the Surveyor, District of Columbia as a record lot if the tax lot was created on or before May 12, 1958.
- 300.3 New alley lots may be created as provided in C § 403.

### 301 DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR BUILDINGS ON ALLEY LOTS

- 301.1 The bulk of buildings on alley lots in a PDR zone shall be controlled through the specified development standards of this chapter.
- 301.2 The following development standards shall apply to buildings on alley lots in PDR zones:

Lot Occupancy Max.	GAR	Rear Setback Min.	Side Setback Min.	Alley Centerline Setback Min.
100%	As required by applicable zone	5 ft. from any lot line of all abutting non-alley lots		12 ft. from the centerline of all alleys to which the alley lot abuts

- 301.3 The maximum height of a building on an alley lot shall be determined as follows:
- If the alley lot is located in a square that contains Residential House (R) or Residential Flats (RF) zoned properties, the height shall be limited to twenty feet (20 ft.).
  - If the alley lot is located in a square that does not contain Residential House (R) or Residential Flats (RF) zoned properties, the height shall be limited to thirty feet (30 ft.).

## CHAPTER 4 SPECIAL EXCEPTION

### 400 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS – GENERAL PROVISIONS

400.1 The Board of Zoning Adjustment may grant special exceptions relating to the development standards provided in this subtitle, except for green area ratio, where, in the judgment of the Board, the special exceptions will be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Zoning Maps and will not tend to affect adversely, the use of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Zoning Maps and subject in each case to the following special conditions:

- (a) The Board may proscribe or require specific operating hours for the facility and the use of any street or highway for trucks entering or leaving the facility to lessen traffic congestion and otherwise assure the quiet enjoyment of residential uses adjacent to a facility.
- (b) Nothing in this subtitle shall preclude the Board from imposing additional or more strict conditions pertaining to design, screening, buffering, lighting, soundproofing, signs, or any matter necessary to protect adjacent property, and special consideration will be given to protecting residential property from excessive noise and traffic.

### 401 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS – PDR-5

401.1 In the PDR-5 zone, any special exception application shall be subject to the following additional conditions in addition to any conditions relative to the specific special exception.

- (a) Compatible with the present and proposed development of the neighborhood;
- (b) Consistent with the goals and mandates of the United States Congress in title V of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1976 (Master Plan for Future Development of the Capitol Grounds and Related Areas), approved July 25, 1975 (Pub. L. No. 94-59, 89 Stat. 288); and
- (c) In accordance with the plan promulgated under the Act.

401.2 Upon receipt of the application, the Board shall submit the application to the D.C. Office of Planning for coordination, review, report, and impact assessment along with reviews in writing of all relevant District departments and agencies including the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Community Development, and, if a historic district or historic landmark is involved, the State Historic Preservation Officer.

- 401.3 Upon receipt of the application, the Board shall submit the application to the Architect of the Capitol for review and report.
- 401.4 The Board may require special treatment and impose reasonable conditions as it deems necessary to mitigate any adverse impacts identified in the consideration of the application.

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