

Chapter 17.14

BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS

- Sections: 17.14.010 Purpose Statements  
17.14.020 Permitted and Special Uses; Downtown Overlay Exemptions  
17.14.030 Bulk Regulations

**17.14.010 Purpose Statements**

**A. BL Local Business District**

The purpose of the BL Local Business District is to provide locations for small-scale service and retail uses that primarily serve the convenience needs of St. Charles neighborhoods. The BL District permits a mix of uses, but care must be taken to ensure that adequate access, parking and screening is provided so as not to negatively impact adjoining residential neighborhoods.

**B. BC Community Business District**

The purpose of the BC Community Business District is to accommodate mid-size retail and service development along Strategic Regional Arterial corridors such as Route 64 and Randall Road. Uses in the BC District have the potential to generate significant automobile traffic, and therefore care must be taken to properly design access and parking facilities. Since this district is located along the roads that serve as gateways into St. Charles, quality building architecture, landscaping and other site improvements are necessary to ensure this type of development enhances St. Charles' image.

**C. BR Regional Business District**

The purpose of the BR Regional Business District is to provide locations along Strategic Regional Arterial corridors for shopping centers and business uses that draw patrons from St. Charles, surrounding communities and the broader region. The BR District consists primarily of large-scale development that has the potential to generate significant automobile traffic. It should be designed in a coordinated manner with an interconnected street network that is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan. Uncoordinated, piecemeal development of small parcels that do not fit into a larger context are discouraged in the BR District.

Compatible land uses, access, traffic circulation, stormwater management and natural features, all should be integrated into an overall development plan. Because this district is primarily at high-visibility locations, quality building architecture, landscaping and other site improvements are required to ensure superior aesthetic and functional quality.

**D. CBD-1 Central Business District**

The purpose of the CBD-1 Central Business District is to provide for the maintenance and orderly growth of a mixed use, pedestrian friendly, compact district of retail, service, office, and higher density residential uses in the central area of the City. Development within the CBD-1 District is intended to promote the upgrade and full utilization of existing older structures as well as appropriate redevelopment.

**E. CBD-2 Mixed Use Business District**

The purpose of the CBD-2 Mixed Use District is to provide for a properly scaled mixed-use transition between single-family residential neighborhoods and the retail core of the CBD-1 Central Business District. The CBD-2 District permits a mix of retail, service, office, and medium-density residential uses within buildings that are of a reduced height and scale than that permitted in the CBD-1 District. However, development in this district is also intended to retain a pedestrian-oriented character, similar to that of the CBD-1 District.

**F. Downtown Overlay District**

The purpose of the Downtown Overlay District is to preserve the economic vitality and pedestrian character of downtown's shopping core within the CBD-1 and CBD-2 Districts by encouraging the continuous flow of pedestrian movement. This is accomplished by limiting uses on the first floor that typically generate relatively little pedestrian activity or are otherwise incompatible with a pedestrian oriented shopping area. Only those uses listed in Table 17.14-1 shall be permitted on the street level or first floors of buildings/structures within the Downtown Overlay District.

**17.14.020 Permitted and Special Uses; Downtown Overlay Exemptions**

Table 17.14-1 lists permitted and special uses for the business districts, and for the first floor level of the Downtown Overlay District.

Buildings within the Downtown Overlay District are restricted with respect to the uses permitted on the first floor level, as provided in Table 17.14-1. Notwithstanding these restrictions, the first floor level of a building within the Downtown Overlay District may be occupied for any use permitted within the underlying zoning district (i.e., CBD-1 or CBD-2), upon certification by the Director of Community Development that its physical characteristics make it unsuitable for occupancy for any of the first floor uses permitted within the Downtown Overlay District, and that altering such physical characteristics would either 1) be incompatible with the purpose of Chapter 17.32 (Historic Preservation) of this Title, or 2) impose an undue financial burden on the property owner. Such physical characteristics may include but shall not be limited to: Inappropriate placement, size or orientation of doors or windows, a floor level which is not of a similar elevation to the adjoining sidewalk, lack of window area for display of goods, lack of street frontage, and interior space which is not adaptable to the permitted uses because of structural components or limitations on accessibility. For purposes of this section, an undue financial burden shall mean where the estimated cost of altering the building exceeds 25% of the current appraised value of the property.

**17.14.030 Bulk Regulations**

Table 17.14-2 establishes the Bulk regulations for the business districts.

**BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS**

TABLE 17.14-1 PERMITTED AND SPECIAL USES								
P=Permitted Use S=Special Use A=Permitted Accessory Use SA=Special Use, Accessory Only	ZONING DISTRICT						SPECIFIC USE STANDARDS	
	BL	BC	BR	CBD-1	DOWNTOWN OVERLAY FIRST FLOOR			CBD-2
					CBD1	CBD2		
<b>RESIDENTIAL USES</b>								
Artist Live/Work Space				P			P	Section 17.20.030
Assisted Living Facility		S		S			P	
Dwelling, Upper Level	P			P			P	
Dwelling Unit, Auxiliary							P	Section 17.20.030
Dwelling, Multi-Family				P			P	
Dwelling, Townhouse							P	
Dwelling, Two-Family							P	
Dwelling, Single-Family	P						P	
Group Home, Large							P	Section 17.20.030
Group Home, Small							P	Section 17.20.030
Independent Living Facility							P	
<b>CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS, RECREATIONAL AND ENTERTAINMENT USES</b>								
Art Gallery/Studio	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Carnival (as temporary use)		P	P	P				Section 17.20.040, 050
Cultural Facility		P	P	P	P	S	S	
Indoor Recreation and Amusement		P	P	P	P	S	S	
Live Entertainment		P	P	P	P			
Lodge or Private Club	P	P	P	P				
Outdoor Amusement			S					
Outdoor Recreation		P	P					
Park, Neighborhood	P			P	P	P	P	
Place of Worship	P	P	P	P			P	
Public Plaza	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	
Temporary Outdoor Entertainment	A	A	A	P	P			Section 17.20.030
Theater		P	P	P	P	P		
<b>GOVERNMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL USES</b>								
College/University		P	P	S				
Emergency Medical Center			P					
Fairground			S					
Golf Course			S					
Homeless Shelter				S			S	
Hospice							S	
Hospital			P					
Library				P			P	
Office, Government		P		P			P	
Post Office		P	P	P			P	
Public Service Facility		P	P	S				
School, Specialized Instructional	P	P	P	P			P	
School, Primary or Secondary							P	
<b>RETAIL AND SERVICE USES</b>								
Bank	P	P	P	P			S	Section 17.20.030
Bed and Breakfast				P			P	Section 17.20.030
Car Wash		S	P					Section 17.24.100
Currency Exchange		P	P	S				
Day Care Center	P	P	P	S			P	
Drive-Through Facility	S	S	S	SA			SA	Section 17.24.100
Financial Institution	P	P	P	P			P	
Gas Station		P	P					Section 17.20.030
Heavy Retail and Service		P	S					
Home Improvement Center		P	P					
Hotel/Motel		P	P	P	P			

BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS

TABLE 17.14-1 PERMITTED AND SPECIAL USES								
P=Permitted Use S=Special Use A=Permitted Accessory Use SA=Special Use, Accessory Only	ZONING DISTRICT							SPECIFIC USE STANDARDS
	BL	BC	BR	CBD-1	DOWNTOWN OVERLAY FIRST FLOOR		CBD-2	
					CBD1	CBD2		
Kennel		S	S					Section 17.20.030
Medical/Dental Clinic	P	P	P	P			P	
Motor Vehicle Rental	P	P	P				P	
Motor Vehicle Service and Repair, Minor	P	P	P					Section 17.20.030
Motor Vehicle Sales and Leasing		P	P					Section 17.20.030
Office, Business and Professional	P	P	P	P			P	
Outdoor Sales, Permanent	SA	SA	SA	S	S			Section 17.20.030
Outdoor Sales, Temporary	A	A	A	A	A		A	Section 17.20.040, 050
Pawn Shop			S					
Personal Services	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Coffee or Tea Room	A	P	P	P	P	A	A	
Restaurant	S	P	P	P	P			
Retail Sales	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Tattoo Parlor			S					
Tavern/Bar	S	P	P	P	P			
Theater		P	P	P	P			
Veterinary Office/Animal Hospital		P	P					
INDUSTRIAL/STORAGE USES								
Mini-Warehouse		P	P					
Temporary Motor Vehicle Storage		P	P					Section 17.20.030
OTHER USES								
Accessory Uses	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Chapter 17.20, 17.22
Parking Garage/Structure			A	S	S	S	SA	Chapter 17.24
Parking Lot, Private	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Chapter 17.24
Parking Lot, Public				P	P	P	P	Chapter 17.24
Planned Unit Development	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Chapter 17.04
Transportation Operations Facility		S	P	S				
Communication Tower		S	S					Section 17.22.020
Communication Antenna	P	P	P	P			P	Section 17.22.020
Utility, Community/Regional		S	S				S	
Utility, Local	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Wind Turbine, Structure Mounted	A	A	A					Section 17.22.020.G
Wind Turbine, Tower Mounted		S	S					Section 17.22.020.H

(Ord. 2011-Z-11 § 2; Ord. 2008-Z-24 § 4, 5; Ord. 2008-Z-3 § 2; Ord. 2003-Z-13 § 4, 6, 7; Ord. 2001-Z-42 § 1; Ord. 2001-Z-40 § 1; Ord. 2001-Z-11 § 2, 3; Ord. 1999-Z-20 § 1; Ord. 1998-Z-19 §1; Ord. 1996-Z-12 § 11-13; Ord. 1995-Z-5 § 1; Ord. 1993-Z-19 § 4; Ord. 1993-Z-4 § 1 (B, D); Ord. 1990-Z-7 § 1; Ord. 1989-Z-6 § 1; Ord. 1986-Z-11 § XI; Ord. 1986-Z-4; Ord. 1985-Z-2 § 1; Ord. 1984-Z-6 § 2; Ord. 1984-Z-4 § 1; Ord. 1984-Z-3 § 1; Ord. 1983-Z-9 § 1; Ord. 1982-Z-3 § 1; Ord. 1982-M-16 § 1; Ord. 1981-Z-7 § 2; Ord. 1981-Z-3 § 1; Ord. 1980-Z-13 § 1; Ord. 1980-Z-3 § 1; Ord. 1978-Z-3; Ord. 1976-Z-15 § 2; Ord. 1975-Z-8 § 1; Ord. 1973-Z-1 § 1; Ord. 1972-Z-56 § 1, 2; Ord. 1972-Z-46 (A, B, C (part)); Ord. 1968-31 (part); Ord. 1967-14 (part); Ord. 1966-33 § 1, 2; Ord. 1961-29; Ord. 1960-18 § VIII (E) (2); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (F) (2, 3); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (E) (3); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (D) (2, 3); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (C) (2, 3); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (B) (2).)

BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS

TABLE 17.14-2 BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS BULK REGULATIONS					
ft = feet sf = square feet du = dwelling unit B = building and structures P = parking lots	ZONING DISTRICT				
	BL	BC	BR	CBD-1	CBD-2
Minimum Lot Area <sup>1</sup>	Dwelling, Upper Level: 3,000sf/du Drive-thru facilities, Minor Motor Vehicle Service & Repair: 1 acre Other Uses: No minimum lot area	1 acre	1 acre	Dwelling, Upper Level & Multi-family: 1,000 sf/du Nonresidential Uses: No minimum lot area	Single-Family: 5,000sf Two-family: 3,750 sf/du Townhouse: 3,000 sf/du Upper Level & Multi-Family: 2,200sf/du Non-Residential Uses: 5,000 sf
Minimum Lot Width	None	None	None	None	Townhouse, multi-family, mixed-use development: 100 ft All other uses: 50 ft
Maximum Building Coverage	60%	40%	30%	None	Single-family: 25% All other uses: 40%
Maximum Gross Floor Area per Building	10,000 sq	75,000 sq	None	40,000 sq	10,000 sq
Maximum Building Height	30 ft	40 ft	40 ft	50 ft	40 ft
Front Yard	B: Minimum 20 ft P: Minimum 10 ft	B, P: Minimum 20 ft	B, P: Minimum 20 ft	B: Maximum 5 ft/No Minimum P: Minimum 5 ft	B, P: Minimum 5 ft
Side Yards:					
Interior Side Yard	B: Minimum 5 ft P: None	B: Minimum 10 ft P: None	B: Minimum 15 ft P: None	B: If provided, minimum 5 ft P: None	B: Minimum 5 ft P: None
Exterior Side Yard	B: Minimum 20 ft P: Minimum 10 ft	B, P: Minimum 20 ft	B, P: Minimum 20 ft	B: Maximum 5 ft/No minimum P: Minimum 5 ft	B, P: Minimum 5 ft
Minimum Rear Yard	B: 20 ft, P: None	B: 30 ft, P: None	B: 30 ft, P: None	B,P: None	B: 20 ft, P: None
Landscape Buffer Yard (B, P) <sup>2</sup>	10 ft	25 ft	40 ft., except on lots with a building over 150,000 sf of gross floor area: 80 ft.	None	10 ft

## BUSINESS AND MIXED USE DISTRICTS

(Ord. 2011-Z-1 § 12; Ord. 2008-Z-24 § 6; Ord. 1986-Z-11 § XIII & XIV; Ord. 1980-Z-20 § 1; Ord. 1972-Z-46 (A, B, C) (part); Ord. 1968-31 (part); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (F) (4,5); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (E) (4,5); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (D) (4, 6, 7); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (C) (4, 5); Ord. 1960-16 § VIII (B) (4, 5).)<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The Lot Area for Two Family, Townhouse and Multi-Family developments with more than one lot may be calculated by adding the land area of all lots and common areas on which one category of dwellings is located, and dividing the total land area by the total number of dwelling units of that category. Common areas may be included in the calculation of land area, except for the area within a public or private street right of way; if no right of way is designated to private streets, the area between the backs of curbs of the private street shall be excluded.

<sup>2</sup> Within the zoning districts specified, a Landscape Buffer Yard shall be provided along any lot line that abuts or is across a street from property in any RE, RS, RT or RM District. See Chapter 17.26 for planting and screening requirements for Landscape Buffers. Landscape Buffer Yards may include or overlap with other required yards.