

From: [Andy Newkirk](#)
To: [Andy Newkirk \(anewkirk@cityofgoleta.org\)](mailto:anewkirk@cityofgoleta.org)
Subject: FW: Fence and Wall Height
Date: Monday, September 09, 2019 7:20:00 AM
Attachments: [2019.09.09 Fences.pdf](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Dee Tee [dee3.tee@gmail.com]
Received: Sunday, 08 Sep 2019, 10:36PM
To: Anne Wells [awells@cityofgoleta.org]
Subject: Fence and Wall Height

Hi Anne,

The attached document states why I believe the 4-foot height limitation in the side street setback in the draft NZO is inappropriate.

Please distribute copies to the planning commissioners before the meeting Monday, September 9th.

Thank you,

--Dana

To Anne Wells
From Dana Trout

Fence and Wall Height

Regarding Section 17.24.090 and Figure 17.24.090(B) of the 2019.09.09 draft NZO

Specifically Street Side Setback height limit of 4 feet

The issue of driver visibility at intersections is addressed by the front setback -- it includes the whole of the front of the property, including the corner. And driver visibility at the driveway is handled elsewhere.

The side setback for the other street does not involve visibility of the driveway nor of the intersection. There is no safety issue, merely an esthetic one. The side setback prevents the placement of buildings against the sidewalk.

The issue for me is the proposed limitation of side street fencing or hedges to 4 feet would place our side and back yards in public view. I regard those areas as for our private use and pleasure.

An additional problem is that our house, as well as many others on corner lots in our tract, was constructed with a door leading from the back bathroom to the side yard. This is handy for families with small children so they can bathe their kids without having to traipse through the house to get to the bath. With only a 4 foot fence this door would be in public view -- a very unappealing prospect.

An observation is that every corner lot in our neighborhood has fences or hedges approximately 6 feet high on the side street, most of which are at the lot line. Clearly the proposed limit of 4 feet will be extremely unpopular.

I looked at the requirements for some other cities. Here's a quote from the City of Azusa 88.30.020 - Fences, Walls, Hedges, and screening:

"Side street setback 36 in. within corner cut-off area; 6 ft elsewhere, except as provided by 88.30.020.B.3"

"A corner cut-off area is a triangular area which is formed by a straight line connecting a point ten (10) feet back of the front or side street lot line and a point which is ten (10) feet on either side of a private driveway measured along the applicable front or side street lot line."

Section 88.30.020.B.3 deals with fences placed on top of retaining walls.

I think Azusa has the right idea -- preserve visibility for drivers but allow privacy where driver visibility is not needed.