- Sec. 122-176. General standards.
- (a) Fence materials and types.
  - (1) Except as otherwise stated herein, fences may be constructed of stone, masonry, brick, wood, PVC, chainlink or other materials of like kind that the chief building official determines have the same quality, appearance and durability.
  - (2) Chainlink fences less than five feet in height in residential districts shall have the finished edge of the material on the top of the fence.
  - (3) A fence constructed in such a manner that it may conduct electrical current shall not be permitted in any zoning district except the agricultural zoning district.
  - (4) Barbed wire fences shall not be permitted in any zoning district except on fence arms in industrial districts.
  - (5) Fence arms shall not be permitted in any zoning district except industrial districts. Fence arms may be permitted on fences located in industrial districts so long as they do not extend beyond the property line.
  - (6) Any stone, masonry or brick wall or fence constructed of similar materials greater than four feet in height shall be engineered, designed and the plans sealed by a state professional engineer.
- (b) Fence heights.
  - (1) Within industrial districts, fences may be constructed to a maximum height of ten feet.
  - (2) Front yard setback area fence requirements shall be as follows:
    - a. No fence over four feet in height shall be permitted from the front building line to the street right-of-way line;
    - b. All fences shall have a minimum of 50 percent through vision in any front yard;
    - c. All wire fences are prohibited in front yards in uses other than industrial; and
    - d. The lot shall have an existing structure on it or a building permit to construct a structure has been issued.
  - (3) Side yard setback area fence requirements shall be as follows: Fences may be constructed to a maximum height of 8½ feet on any side property line up to the building line of the building proper. Within the historic overlay district, the height shall not exceed six feet eight inches.
  - (4) Rear yard setback area fence requirements shall be as follows: Fences may be constructed to a maximum height of 8½ feet along the rear property line. Within the historic overlay district, the height shall not exceed six feet eight inches.
  - (5) Corner lot fence requirements:
    - a. On all corner lots in residential districts which have opposing rear lot lines, whether directly or across an alley, fences may be constructed to a maximum height of 8½ feet along the side and rear yard lines, as shown in figures 1 and 2. Fences may be constructed to the normally permitted height elsewhere on the property.



Figure 1



## Figure 2

b. On all corner lots in residential districts where the side lot line is immediately adjacent to the front yard of the adjacent lot (or immediately across an alley from the front yard of the adjacent lot), fences may be constructed to a maximum height of four feet between the side yard setback line and the property line adjacent to the street, as shown in figures 3 and 4, except that wrought iron fences may be constructed up to six feet in height if it does not create a sight distance issue or safety concern in the opinion of the chief building official or city engineer. Fences may be constructed to the normally permitted height elsewhere on the property.





## Figure 4

- (6) No fence adjacent to a required subdivision screening wall, whether parallel or perpendicular to the wall, may be constructed higher than the height of the subdivision screening wall unless granted a special exception by the board of adjustment as provided for in section 122-178.
- (7) Fences around tennis courts, regardless of the district in which they are located, shall be constructed between ten and 12 feet in height. Such fences shall be chain link or other open view material so as to minimize the visual impact of the fence. Fence arms shall not be allowed on tennis court fences.
- (c) Other fence standards.
  - (1) Sight visibility at intersections. No fence shall be constructed in the triangle formed by measuring 20 feet back from the intersection of two streets or 15 feet back from the intersection of a street and an alley. The city engineer may require additional sight distances to be maintained where specific conditions render such provisions necessary to provide for the public health and safety.
  - (2) Construction within drainage easements. No fence shall be constructed within any drainage easement in the corporate limits of the city unless the city engineer shall have first determined and advised the chief building official, in writing, that he believes such fence shall, in all probability, not interfere with or impair the natural flow of water across the drainage easement.

- (3) On or over city property. No privately owned fence or guy wires, braces or any other part of a privately owned fence shall be constructed upon or caused to protrude over property owned by the city.
- (4) *Gate required.* Every fenced enclosure constructed under the provisions of this article shall have at least one gate in its perimeter.

(Code 1982, § 34-152; Ord. No. 2005-10-105, §§ 2, 3, 10-18-2005; Ord. No. 2007-12-131, § 2, 12-18-2007; Ord. No. 2016-03-019, §§ 2—4, 3-15-2016)