

## Chapter 19.550 – FENCES, WALLS AND LANDSCAPE MATERIALS

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### 19.550.020 Prohibited materials.

Fences or walls containing razor wire (visible to a public right-of-way, alley or parking lot) or, barbed wire ~~or~~ **electrified wire** shall be prohibited unless a variance is granted pursuant to Chapter 19.720 (Variance).

(Ord. 7331 §88, 2016; Ord. 6966 §1, 2007)

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### 19.550.030 Height and location provisions.

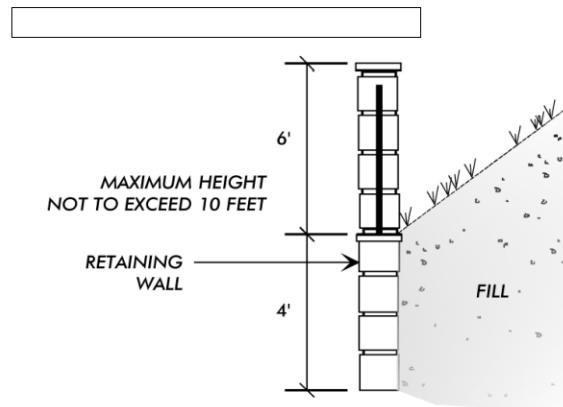
Fences, walls, and hedges shall be allowed in conformance with the following provisions:

A. *Front yards.*

1. In the RA-5, RC, RR and RE Zones, any fence or wall in the required front yard setback may be up to six feet in height, provided that the openwork portion of the fence or wall above a height of three feet shall be no more than one part solid to three parts open with no portion of the solid wall, excluding pilasters, extending above three feet.
2. In all other zones, front yard fences or walls shall not exceed four feet in height provided that the openwork portion of the fence or wall above a height of three feet shall be no more than one part solid to three parts open with no portion of the solid wall, excluding pilasters, extending above three feet.
3. The height of fences or walls in front yard areas shall be measured inclusive of retaining wall portion.

B. *Side and rear yards.*

1. A fence or wall along a side or rear property line may be up to six feet in height provided it does not extend into a front yard. Higher fences or walls in commercial or industrial zones may be required by other provisions of the Zoning Code.



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19.550.030.B.2  
Height of Retaining Walls

2. In side and rear yard areas, the height of fences or walls may be increased in height by up to a maximum of four feet by retaining wall portions.
3. The fencing around tennis courts along rear and interior side yards shall not exceed 12 feet in height and must be partially open above six feet in height subject to approval of the Community & Economic Development Director or his/her designee.

C. *All yards.*

1. Free standing walls outside of any required setback area shall not exceed six (6) feet in height, except as provided in subsection D below.
- 1.2. All height restrictions applying to fences and wall shall apply equally to hedges planted within required yards forming a barrier serving the same visual purpose as a fence or wall.
- 2.3. Notwithstanding A and B above, any minimum required height of walls established by the Zoning Code for screening or safety purposes shall be measured from the highest grade, not including retaining wall portion.

D. Exceptions.

1. Alternative decorative screening constructed of a material other than solid decorative masonry may be permitted where not visible from the public right-of-way subject to the approval of the Community & Economic Development Director or his/her designee.
2. Required walls for sound attenuation.
  - a. Walls shall be permitted at a height sufficient to adequately attenuate sound in compliance with Title 7 (Noise) as specified by an acoustical analysis prepared by a qualified acoustical engineer or equivalent professional.
  - b. No variance or other discretionary approvals shall be required.
3. Walls adjacent to railroads, freeways, and flood control channels may extend up to 8 feet in height.
4. Fences or walls around a public utility building or structure may exceed the provisions of this section as needed for security or public safety, subject to approval of the Community & Economic Development Director or his/her designee.
3. Outdoor storage yards and incidental outdoor storage shall be subject to the location and design regulations of Chapter 19.285 (Outdoor Storage Yard) and Chapter 19.510 (Outdoor Storage - Incidental).

(Ord. 7541 , § 11, 2020; Ord. 7331 §88, 2016; Ord. 6966 §1, 2007)