



WAITSFIELD PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

September 1, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Beth Cook
Robert Cook
Emma Hanson, Chair
AnnMarie Harmon, Vice-Chair
Becca Newhall
James Senterfitt
Jonathan Ursprung

THE PLANNING COMMISSION WILL BE HOLDING A HYBRID MEETING. THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND IN PERSON AT WAITSFIELD TOWN HALL OR REMOTE VIA ZOOM WITH TELEPHONE AND/OR VIDEO ACCESS. THOSE PARTICIPATING MAY SPEAK DURING THE DESIGNATED PERIODS.

To join the meeting remotely, use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9190265312>

Meeting ID: 919 026 5312

Or call: 1 929 205 6099

Planning & Zoning Administrator

J. B. Weir

Town Administrator

York Haverkamp

Town Clerk

Jennifer Peterson

Town Treasurer

Steve Lewis

Waitsfield Town Office

4144 Main Street
Waitsfield, VT 05673
(802) 496-2218
www.waitsfieldvt.gov

1. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
2. **REVISIONS TO AGENDA, IF ANY (5 +/- min)**
3. **PUBLIC FORUM (10 +/- min)**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –AUGUST 18 (10 +/- min)**
5. **ZONING BYLAWS REVIEW (75 +/- min)**
 - a. Garage Sale Exemption
 - b. ADU restrictions
 - c. Base Flood Elevation
6. **WASTEWATER PLANNING PROJECT UPDATE (10 +/- min) JB/Bob**
7. **OTHER BUSINESS (10+/-min)**
 - a. DRB Update and Vacancy
 - b. MRVPD
 - c. CVRPC Municipal Plan review September 8, 2026
 - d. Selectboard STR discussion / Town Plan Amendment hearing: 9/14/26
 - e. Tier 1B SB recommendation: 8/24/2026
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Waitsfield Planning and Zoning Administrators Report
Planning Commission August 18, 2026 meeting

4. Zoning Bylaw Review

Section 6.02 (F): Garage Sale Exemption: In 2025, the Selectboard decided to repeal the Garage Sale Ordinance, deeming it rarely utilized and also excessive in light of the Zoning Bylaws adequately covering such use. The PZA has stricken the second half of the existing language of Section 6.02 (F) which referenced the ordinance.

The PC should decide whether language should be added concerning the need to apply for and obtain a permit for a *Home Occupation or Home Business* for any garage sale, yard sale, auction, and/or related activities exceeding three consecutive days or six days in a calendar year. The PZA believes this is inferred. In addition, similar inferences exist for the other listed exemptions.

Section 4.01: Accessory Dwelling Units

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4412 (1) (E), creation of an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a matter of right for the owner of a single-family residence. That section reads: “Except for flood hazard and fluvial erosion area bylaws adopted pursuant to section 4424 of this title, no bylaw shall have the effect of excluding as a permitted use one accessory dwelling unit that is located within or appurtenant to a single-family dwelling on an owner-occupied lot. A bylaw shall require a single-family dwelling with an accessory dwelling unit to be subject to the same review, dimensional, or other controls as required for a single-family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit. The criteria for conversion of an existing detached nonresidential building to habitable space for an accessory dwelling unit shall not be more restrictive than the criteria used for a single-family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit.”

Although 24 V.S.A. § 4303 (38) (B) limits the size of an ADU to 30% of the total habitable floor area of the single-family dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is greater, many municipalities are utilizing 24 V.S.A. § 4412 (1) (F) to allow for larger ADUs. 24 V.S.A. § 4412 (1) (F) states that “nothing in subdivision (1)(E) of this section shall be construed to prohibit (i) a bylaw that is less restrictive of accessory dwelling units.”

The PZA notes the trend statewide in allowing larger ADU units than has historically allowed. Both the Town of Fayston and the Town of Hinesburg amended their bylaws in 2025 to allow for more flexibility in the sizing of ADUs. Both towns now allow for larger ADUs on a sliding scale depending on the size of the primary residence. In both cases, the ADU size is limited to:

- (1) 900 sq. ft.;
- (2) 75% of the livable floor area of the primary dwelling unit, if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is less than 1,600 square feet;
- (3) 1,200 square feet if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is between 1,600-4,000 square feet; OR
- (4) 30% of the livable floor area of the primary dwelling unit, if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is greater than 4,000 square feet.

Stowe has similarly amended its bylaws to allow for more flexibility in ADU sizing. Stowe has chosen to keep the 900 sq. ft. threshold (but not the 30% alternative) for ADUs for SFRs under 1,800 sq. ft. However, for SFRs over 1,800 sq. ft., an ADU can be sized up to 50% of the size of the SFR.

Warren, in contrast, has maintained the 900 sq. ft. or 30% threshold for all *attached* ADUs, but has amended their bylaws to allow for an ADU to be sized up to 40% of the size of the habitable floor area of the primary dwelling if the ADU is *detached*.

Base Flood Elevation

This past winter, Ned Swanberg and Rose Watts of the Regional Floodplain office attended a meeting with the PC to discuss River Corridor bylaws. On a high level, river corridor bylaws and fluvial erosion hazard (FEH) standards both address risks from moving water and stream bank collapse, but river corridors are a broader, modern regulatory tool that includes the meander belt plus a dedicated buffer zone, whereas FEH areas historically focused strictly on the active erosion hazard zone. FEH standards focus narrowly on the land area prone to channel migration and lateral erosion based on stream geomorphic data. In contrast, river corridor bylaws encompass the broader [State Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Rule](#), covering the meander belt (width needed for a river to achieve natural equilibrium) plus an additional 50-foot buffer on either side to allow for stable woody vegetation.

Although the Town's FEH standards are perhaps the best in the State, both Ned and Rose agreed that at the very least the Town increase the base flood elevation from one foot to two feet. Base Flood Elevation (BFE) is the elevation of the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a 1% chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year. Base flood elevations are shown at selected intervals on maps of Special Flood Hazard Areas that are determined by detailed methods. The BFE is shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for zones AE, AH, A1–A30, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/A1–A30, AR/AH, AR/AO, V1–V30 and VE. Base flood elevations have not been determined in Zone A where the flood risk has been mapped by approximate methods.

The PZA has reached out to Ned and Rose as to any other possible revisions the PC could make with regard to the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay standards.

5. Wastewater Project Update

The PZA and Mr. Cook can provide an update on the last meeting of the Engineering Technical Team on 8/26/.

The project website has been updated by Planning District staff and can be found [here](#).

6. Other Business

DRB Update

The Board will hear two applications on August 25, 2026. The first is Labrador Builders' application for an office/workshop addition within the FHO and FEHO off Main Street. The second application is for light industrial use at the former TD Bank property. The applicant is seeking to use the space to operate a second location for the design and production of custom wood furniture.

The vacancy on the DRB remains unfilled.

MRVPD

Jonathan may have an update on the work of the Mad River Valley Planning District.

CVRPC Municipal Plan Review

On August 17, 2026, the PZA attended the scheduled Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Municipal Plan Review hearing. The childcare section amendment was up for discussion along with the East Montpelier draft Plan.

Despite the PZA speaking to the amendment and the unanimous approval of the members present, the meeting lacked quorum and the committee will meet again on September 8 to review the amendment.

The PZA will be attending the Selectboard meeting of September 14th for its own public hearing on the amendment.

Selectboard STR Discussion

The PZA will be attending the September 14 meeting of the Selectboard – along with Emma – to discuss the draft STR ordinance and the context around adoption. Commissioners are urged to attend if possible.

Tier 1B recommendation

At the August 24 meeting of the Selectboard, the Board discussed and then signed a resolution opting into Tier 1B status the area encompassed within the Village Business, Village Residential, and Irasville Village zoning districts. The Selectboard was a bit concerned with the extent of area covered within the Tier 1B status, and narrowed the area down as reflected in the resolution. The Board would like the current zoning districts of Irasville Village, Village Business and Village Residential to be the area for Tier 1B status. What is currently mapped as eligible for Tier 1B status includes the Designated Village Center and the Neighborhood Development Area, plus some additional buffer acreage. There was concern that the eligible area as mapped by CVRPC was too broad and extended into land considered more agricultural and residential.

The PZA will be meeting with Brian Shupe and Brian Voigt of the CVRPC) on Friday September 4th to review the proposes mapping.

Next meeting

At next meeting, the PC should continue discussion on the Zoning Bylaws. Per discussion at last meeting, Performance Standards would be next on the list of potential revisions. Specifically, noise standards.

Upcoming trainings/webinars:

CHIP: Risk Management for Public-Private Development

Public-private partnerships can help communities create housing and make the most of Vermont's Community and Housing Infrastructure Program (CHIP). Like any partnership, they also involve risk. Understanding those risks - and planning for them early - can help municipalities make informed decisions, protect public resources, and build successful projects.

Join us for this practical webinar designed for elected and appointed municipal officials, planners, economic development staff, and others involved in CHIP. We'll explore common risks that arise during housing and infrastructure projects and discuss strategies municipalities can use to manage them throughout the life of a project.

Topics include:

- Evaluating whether a project and a development partner are the right fit.
- Identifying financial, legal, operational, and project delivery risks.
- Establishing clear expectations through development agreements and other risk management tools.
- Responding to changing project conditions while protecting public investments.
- Applying lessons learned to strengthen future housing and infrastructure projects.

Whether your community is just beginning to explore CHIP or is preparing to move a project forward, you'll leave with practical ideas for managing risk from the earliest planning conversations through project completion.

Presenters:

Katie Buckley, Director of Municipal Operations Support, VLCT

Bonnie Waninger, Project & Funding Specialist, VLCT

Dominic Cloud, City Manager, City of St. Albans

Samantha Dunn, Founder and Principal, All at Once, LLC

Dave Snedecker, Executive Director, Northeastern Vermont Development Association

Building Housing, Building Futures: VLCT's CHIP Webinar Series

[The Vermont Community Housing Infrastructure Program](#) (CHIP) aims to enable housing development by allowing municipalities to finance infrastructure improvements using future tax revenue. This webinar series helps local government officials and staff learn about different aspects of CHIP and manage its requirements. Each topic-oriented event begins with a presentation or panel discussion then transitions to Q&A. Bring your questions, share your challenges, and learn from other communities. This series is a component of VLCT's new three-year initiative [CHIP – Invest in Vermont \(CHIP IN VT\)](#), which is helping municipalities make use of CHIP.

Date: Wednesday, September 02, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, September 02, 2026

Location: Online Webinar

Register [here](#).

Fall Planning & Zoning Forum

Our Fall 2026 Planning and Zoning Forum will focus on key land use initiatives shaping Vermont's future in conservation, community planning, and local decision-making. Participants will gain insight into Vermont's statewide Conservation Plan, municipal experiences implementing Act 181, and the policy priorities expected to shape the 2027 legislative session, providing valuable perspectives to help communities navigate a changing land use landscape.

This event is in-person only. Registration closes on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

Agenda

8:30 AM – Check-in and Breakfast

9:00 AM – Welcome

9:10 – 10:00 AM – Vermont's Statewide Conservation Law (Act 59)

Vermont's Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) is developing recommendations for a statewide Conservation Plan to permanently conserve 30% of Vermont by 2030 and, with long-term conservation tools, 50% by 2050. As questions continue about impacts on communities, landowners, funding, and housing, Trey Martin of VHCB will explain the law, the planning process, and key lessons learned.

Speaker: Trey Martin, Director of Conservation & Rural Community Development, Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

10:00 – 10:10 AM – Break

10:10 – 11:10 AM – Implementing Act 181 in Rutland County: Municipal Experiences

Learn about how municipalities in Rutland County and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission are working together on Act 181 mapping and approval processes. Representatives from both will share their experiences and insights. Bring your questions and stories to share during this interactive session.

Speakers:

Devon Neary, Executive Director, Rutland Regional Planning Commission
Municipal official representative(s) from Rutland County

11:10 – 12:00 PM – Looking Ahead to the 2027 Legislative Session

Join VLCT's policy team, including Josh Hanford and Samantha Sheehan, for a discussion of VLCT's newly released 2026-2027 Municipal Policy priorities and the anticipated land use issues. Share your questions, perspectives, and your municipality's needs to help shape VLCT's advocacy efforts during the 2027 Legislative Session.

Speakers:

Josh Hanford, VLCT Intergovernmental Relations Director
Samantha Sheehan, Municipal Policy and Advocacy Specialist

12:00 PM – Complete Feedback Form and Safe Travels Home

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Time: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 08, 2026

Location: Capitol Plaza Hotel
100 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Respectfully submitted,

J.B. Weir

TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 18, 2026
Draft

Members Present: Beth Cook, Bob Cook, Emma Hanson, AnnMarie Harmon, Jonathan Ursprung
Members Absent: Becca Newhall
Staff Present: JB Weir, Zoning Administrator
Others Present: Jimmy Senterfitt

II. Regular Business

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by AnnMarie Harmon. The meeting was held in person at the Town Offices and remotely via Zoom.

2. Review agenda for addition, removal, or adjustment of any items

A report of the potential use of CHIP funding was added to the Other Business portion of the meeting.

3. Public Forum

Nobody requested time to speak.

4. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of August 4, 2026 were amended and approved.

5. PC Vacancy: James (Jimmy) Senterfitt

Jimmy had submitted a letter of interest for joining the PC. PC members had a conversation with him regarding his interest in joining the Commission and what types of work the PC takes on.

MOTION: *Emma moved to recommend to the Selectboard that Jimmy Senterfitt be appointed to fill the PC vacancy. The motion was seconded by Beth, and passed unanimously.*

6. Wastewater Planning Project Update

The following information was included in the update:

- The Construction General Permit (Stormwater) and Wetlands permitting from the State have been issued.
- Easement language is still waiting for completion by the Town's attorney so that JB can present easements to landowners.
- Contract 1 should go out for bid relatively soon.
- Contract 2 will be ready a few weeks later.
- Trees to be removed will be kept to the minimum possible, some may be replanted, all this work will be included in the project costs.
- A draft of the Municipal Project Manager position is ready.
- It is possible that construction may begin in the fall, but more likely will commence in Spring 2027.

7. PC Work Plan 2026-2027

The following matters were agreed to need further attention from the PC:

- Noise ordinance
- ADU restriction update
- Other bylaw changes
- Retreat center in ag/res
- Noise standards applicable to all development
- Garage sale language revisions due to removal of the related ordinance

Regarding River Corridor Bylaws, JB indicated that the current Fluvial Erosion Hazard Section of the Land Use Regulations covers most of the protection that River Corridor Bylaws would address. There are currently model bylaws available, and Ned Swanberg can be consulted if this work is undertaken by the PC. It was agreed that, at a minimum, the new Base Flood Elevation (BFE) standard should be addressed.

JB will see legal guidance before further consideration of developing a fire safety ordinance for all rental properties.

It was agreed to address garage sales and ADUs in one meeting, and a noise ordinance in another meeting.

8. Other Business

DRB Update – JB provided information on the upcoming DRB schedule.

MRVPD – Jonathan reported on the Bridge Street cleanup work taking place over the weekend, noted that Joshua Schwartz will be presenting LOT information to the Moretown Selectboard, and that the PD Steering Committee (SC) is planning for engaging local PC members not on the SC in the work that the PD undertakes.

CVRPC Municipal Plan Review – This review was scheduled for August 17; due to the meeting not having a quorum present, formal approval will take place at the Review Committee's September meeting. The new expiration date for the Plan is in 2031.

Selectboard STR discussion and Town Plan Amendment hearing – The draft STR ordinance will be discussed by the Selectboard at their September 14 meeting.

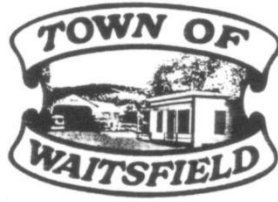
Tier 1B Selectboard recommendation – This topic will be on the Selectboard's August 24 agenda.

CHIP for housing development – Aron Shea has been invited to complete a formal application for the use of CHIP funding for a potential housing development on Route 100 south of Irasville.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary



TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

ZONING BYLAWS

As amended January 8, 2024

This project was supported by the State of Vermont's Bylaw Modernization Grant program,
administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Originally adopted March 2, 1971
Amendments adopted March 5, 1991
Amendments adopted November 8, 1994
Amendments adopted March 7, 1995
Amendments adopted March 7, 2000
Amendments adopted March 6, 2001
Amendments adopted March 5, 2002
Amendments adopted May 20, 2003
Amendments adopted March 2, 2004
Amendments adopted May 2, 2005
Amendments adopted January 26, 2009
Corrective amendments adopted June 8, 2009
Amendments adopted January 4, 2010
Amendments adopted April 12, 2010
Amendments adopted May 17, 2010
Amendments adopted September 26, 2016
Amendments adopted September 28, 2020
Amendments adopted January 8, 2024

WAITSFIELD ZONING BYLAW

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Maps:

Town of Waitsfield Zoning Map

ARTICLE I. AUTHORITY & PURPOSE

Section 1.01 Enactment

Zoning regulations for the Town of Waitsfield are hereby established in accordance with the Vermont Planning & Development Act [24 V.S.A. Chapter 117], hereinafter referred to as “the Act.” The following text and maps which constitute these regulations shall be known and cited as the “**Town of Waitsfield Zoning Bylaw.**”

Section 1.02 Purpose

- A. The purpose of this zoning bylaw is to protect public health, safety and welfare; to further the purpose and goals of the Act [§4302]; and to implement the current *Waitsfield Town Plan*.
- B. Such shall also be the purpose of any regulations, restrictions, or boundaries contained in this bylaw, or adopted and established pursuant to it.

Section 1.03 Application & Interpretation

- A. The application of this bylaw is subject to all provisions of the Act as most recently amended.
- B. In accordance with the Act [§4446], no land development shall commence within the jurisdiction of the Town of Waitsfield except in conformance with the requirements of this bylaw. Any land development which is not specifically authorized under this bylaw, nor is otherwise exempted from these regulations under Section 6.02, is prohibited.

Land Development: The construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation or landfill, and any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land, or extension of use [§4303(10)].
- C. All uses or structures lawfully in existence as of the effective date of this bylaw are allowed to continue indefinitely. Changes, alterations or expansions to pre-existing structures or uses shall be subject to all applicable requirements of this bylaw, including provisions applying to nonconforming uses and/or nonconforming structures under Section 3.08.

Note that the definition of “development” for purposes of flood hazard area regulation within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District may include additional uses, structures and activities that are otherwise exempt from regulation under the Act or Section 6.02 of this bylaw.
- D. The subdivision of land, including the division of a parcel into two or more parcels, does not require a zoning permit, but does require subdivision approval in accordance with the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations. Where applicable, subdivision approval shall be obtained prior to the issuance of a zoning permit for subsequent land development. The subdivision of land also may be subject to planned unit development (PUD) review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.04 of this bylaw.
- E. In its interpretation, the provisions of this bylaw shall be the minimum required. It is not the intent of this bylaw to repeal, annul, or in any way impair other regulations in effect, or any permits previously issued; however, where this bylaw imposes more stringent restrictions upon land development, the provisions of this bylaw shall apply.

Section 1.04 Effective Date

In accordance with the Act [§4442], this bylaw shall take effect on the date of its adoption by the legal voters of the Town of Waitsfield at a duly warned special or regular meeting of the town or, in the event an amendment is adopted by a majority of the Waitsfield Selectboard, it shall take effect twenty-one (21) days from the date of adoption. The zoning ordinance and associated maps in effect prior to the adoption of this bylaw are hereby repealed as of the effective date of this bylaw.

Section 1.05 Amendments

- A. The provisions of this bylaw and the boundaries of zoning districts established herein may from time to time be added to, repealed, altered, changed, or otherwise amended by the legislative body, in accordance with the Act [§§ 4441, 4442].
- B. Proposed amendments to this bylaw shall be submitted to the Waitsfield Planning Commission for consideration in accordance with amendment procedures established under the Act [§4441]. Such amendments, if supported by a petition signed by not less than 5% of the voters, shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission only to correct technical deficiencies. When considering any amendment to this bylaw, the Planning Commission shall prepare a written report on the proposal in accordance with the Act [§4441I], for submission to the Waitsfield Selectboard and voters.
- C. Proposed amendments to Flood Hazard Area Overlay or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District regulations under this bylaw shall be sent to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, River Management Program at least fifteen (15) days prior to the first public hearing to be reviewed for conformance with federal and state program requirements.

Section 1.06 Conformance with S.100 “HOME” Act

No provision in this bylaw shall be interpreted as superseding the Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone (HOME) Act, Act 47 (S.100) or other pertinent state laws.

Section 1.07 Severability

The provisions of this bylaw are severable. If any provision of this bylaw or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this bylaw which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

ARTICLE II. ZONING DISTRICTS

Section 2.01 Establishment of Zoning Districts & Maps

- A. For the purposes of this bylaw, the Town of Waitsfield is divided into the following zoning districts as described in the accompanying tables (Tables 2.01 – 2.11) and the official zoning map:

Table 2.01.	Village Business District	(VB)
Table 2.02.	Village Residential District	(VR)
Table 2.03.	Irasville Village District	(IV)
Table 2.04.	Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District	(ARO)
Table 2.05.	Limited Business District	(LB)
Table 2.06.	Industrial District	(IN)
Table 2.07.	Agricultural-Residential District	(AR)
Table 2.08.	Forest Reserve District	(FR)
Table 2.09.	Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District	(HWVO)
Table 2.10.	Flood Hazard Area Overlay District	(FHO)
Table 2.11.	Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District	(FEHO)

- B. The location and boundaries of each zoning district are established as shown on the official “Town of Waitsfield Zoning Map.” In addition:
1. Flood Hazard Area Overlay District boundaries that depict Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) are shown in and on the most current Flood Insurance Studies and National Flood Insurance Program maps for the Town of Waitsfield, published by the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Flood Insurance Program, as provided by the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources pursuant to 10 V.S.A. Chapter 32 §753.
 2. Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay Area District boundaries are shown on the most current Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area maps prepared for the town in accordance with state geomorphic assessment and mapping protocols.
- C. The official zoning map and accompanying overlay maps are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be part of this bylaw. The official zoning map may only be altered by adoption or amendment in accordance with the Act [§§4441, 4442] and this bylaw (Section 1.05).
- D. The official zoning map, flood hazard area overlay map, and fluvial erosion hazard area overlay map shall be located in the Waitsfield Town Office. The official zoning map shall be identified by the signatures of the Selectboard, as attested to by the Town Clerk. These maps shall be the final authority as to the zoning status of any lands or waters in the town.

Section 2.02 Zoning District Boundary Interpretation

- A. Narrative descriptions of zoning district boundaries are included in Appendix A of these regulations.

-
- B. Where uncertainty exists as to the location of district boundaries as shown on the official zoning map, the following rules shall apply:
1. Boundaries indicated as following roads, transportation, or utility rights-of-way shall be interpreted to follow the centerlines of such features.
 2. Boundaries indicated as following rivers or streams shall be interpreted to follow the channel centerline and shall move with the centerline of such features.
 3. Boundaries indicated as following lot lines shall be interpreted to follow the delineated property boundary.
 4. Boundaries indicated as following contour lines shall be interpreted to follow a constant, specified elevation as measured from mean sea level or other accepted reference datum.
 5. Boundaries indicated as following compass headings shall be interpreted to follow such headings.
 6. Boundaries indicated as parallel or perpendicular to, or extensions of the above features (1-4), shall be so interpreted on the ground.
 7. Distances not specifically indicated shall be determined by the scale on the official zoning map.
- C. The abandonment or relocation of a right-of-way or roadway, or the change in a line or feature which references a district boundary line, after the effective date of this bylaw, shall not affect the location of the district boundary line except as specified above for streams and rivers.
- D. Within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, where available (i.e., in Zones 1- A30, AE and AH) the base flood elevations and floodway limits provided by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in the Flood Insurance Study and accompanying maps shall be used to administer and enforce the flood hazard area overlay district provisions of this bylaw. In Special Flood Hazard Areas where base flood elevations and floodway limits have not been provided by the NFIP in the Flood Insurance Study and accompanying maps (i.e., Zone A), it is the applicant's responsibility to develop the necessary base flood elevations and floodway information. Where available, the applicant shall use data provided by FEMA, state or federal agencies, or other sources.
- E. When the Administrative Officer cannot definitely determine the location of a district boundary, the Development Review Board and/or appropriate state or federal official may be consulted prior to issuing a determination. A determination by the Administrative Officer regarding the location of a district boundary may be appealed to the Development Review Board under Section 6.04. Where there is a dispute as to where a property is located in relation to a district boundary, the property owner may be required to verify the location of the boundary line by a survey prepared by a licensed surveyor.
1. If uncertainty exists with respect to a boundary within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, including the location of a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) or floodway, the boundary location shall be determined by the Administrative Officer in consultation with the National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. If the applicant disagrees with the determination made by the Administrative

Officer, an elevation certificate and Letter of Map Amendment from FEMA shall constitute proof.

2. If uncertainty exists with regard to the boundary of a mapped Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area (FEHO) within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District, the Administrative Officer shall determine the location in consultation with the Vermont River Management Program, pursuant to Section 6.01(B)(4). A letter of boundary determination from the River Management Program shall constitute proof of a boundary location, and whether a proposed development is located, is not located, or should not be located within the mapped FEHO Overlay District due to an error in delineating the FEH boundary.
- F. Where a district boundary divides a lot in single ownership as of the effective date of this bylaw, or any amendment thereto, the Development Review Board may permit, subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, the extension of district standards for either portion of the lot up to 50 feet beyond the district line into the remaining portion of the lot. This provision does not apply to parcels in the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District or the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District.
- G. Where a lot is divided by a town boundary, the standards of this bylaw shall be applied to that portion of the lot located in the Town of Waitsfield in the same manner as if the entire lot were located in this town.

Section 2.03 Application of District Standards

- A. Tables 2.01-2.11 set forth the stated purposes, allowable uses, and specific standards for each zoning district. Additional district standards pertaining to conditional uses may be found under Section 5.03, and to planned unit development under Section 5.04.
- B. As of the effective date of this bylaw, all uses and structures, unless specifically exempted under Section 6.02, must comply with all prescribed standards for the district in which they are located, as set forth in Tables 2.01-2.11, unless otherwise specified in these regulations. The standards for each district shall apply uniformly to each class of use and/or structure, unless otherwise specified. Nonconforming uses and nonconforming structures in lawful existence as of the effective date of this bylaw shall be regulated in accordance with Section 3.08.
- C. Overlay district standards, as set forth in Tables 2.09-2.11, shall be applied concurrently with the standards for underlying zoning districts. Where overlay districts impose more restrictive standards on the use of land or a structure, the standards of the overlay district shall apply.
- D. Prescribed uses for each district are classified as “**permitted uses**” (“use by right”), subject to administrative review by the Administrative Officer in accordance with Section 6.01; or as “**conditional uses**” subject to review by the Development Review Board in accordance with Section 5.03. Both permitted and conditional uses are also subject to applicable general standards set forth in Article III. In addition, Specific Use Standards apply to certain uses as described in Article IV. All uses not specifically allowed under, or exempted from, the provisions of this bylaw are prohibited.

Table 2.01
Village Business District (VB)

A. Purpose: The purpose of the Village Business District is to promote a dense mix of uses in the traditional center of Waitsfield Village while preserving the area's historic character, architectural resources, and ability to function as a livable, walkable community, as described in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*. A mix of residential, civic, cultural, and commercial uses are allowed, provided such uses are compatible with existing uses and the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District

B. Permitted Uses:	C. Conditional Uses:
1. Accessory Dwelling no larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater	1. Accessory Dwelling larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a permitted use)	2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a conditional use)
3. Agriculture	3. Adaptive Reuse of Historic Barns
4. Home Child Care	
5. Home Occupation	4. Bank (drive-through prohibited)
6. Single-family Dwelling	5. Bar/Tavern
7. Multi-family dwelling containing four or fewer dwelling units	6. Bed & Breakfast
8. Artist Studio/Gallery	7. Cemetery
9. Personal Services	8. Child Care Facility
10. Home Business	9. Community Center
11. Mixed Use (containing only permitted residential and commercial uses)	10. Cultural Facility
	11. Hotel (not to exceed 25 beds or rooms, whichever is greater)
	12. Mixed Use (containing conditional residential and/or commercial uses)
	13. Multi-family Dwelling (containing five or more dwelling units)
	14. Cottage Development
	15. Office
	16. Parking Facility
	17. Public Facility
	18. Place of Worship
	19. Private Club
	20. Recreation Facility (indoor only)
	21. Restaurant (drive-through prohibited)
	22. Retail
	23. School
	24. Special Events

D. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Minimum Lot Size:	1/5 acre
Maximum Lot Coverage:	85%
Maximum Building Coverage:	75% (no single building footprint may exceed 7,000 sq.ft.)
Maximum Building Height:	3 stories, maximum of 40 feet
Minimum Building Height:	2 stories above grade (excluding accessory structures)
Minimum Pitches of Principal Roofs of Buildings:	No less than 6 inches over 12 inches (excluding roofs covering an

	accessory structure less than 500 square feet, open porches, and entryways)
Minimum Setbacks:	
Front yard:	25 feet from the road centerline
Side yard:	10 feet
Rear yard:	10 feet for principal structures; 5 feet for accessory structures
River or Stream:	In accordance with section 3.12.
Maximum Setback:	
Front yard:	35 feet from the road centerline (not applicable to buildings on flag lots or accessory structures)
Minimum Road Frontage:	25 feet for flag lots, 50 feet for all other lots

E. **Additional District Standards:**

1. **Front Yard Requirement.** The purpose of the front yard requirement is to promote a lively, neighborhood feel with an active connection between buildings and streets. The front yard area shall be limited to landscaping, yard area, sidewalks, public spaces and/or driveways that access side- or rear-yard parking areas. Parking areas shall not be located in the front yard area.
 - a. Front yard requirements shall not apply to flag lots.
2. **Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.
3. **Glazing Standards.**
 - a. At least 15% of each road-facing façade of commercial and mixed-use buildings shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
 - b. At least 5% of the road-facing façade of residential buildings (except for detached accessory dwellings) shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
4. **Road-Facing Facade.** Commercial buildings shall have their façade(s) and primary building access facing the primary public street(s), unless otherwise prohibited by law.
5. **Cottage Development Standards.** Cottage Developments shall include a sidewalk or other pedestrian connection along the primary driveway access.

Table 2.02
Village Residential District (VR)

A. **Purpose:** The purpose of the Village Residential District is to maintain and enhance the residential and historic character of Waitsfield Village outside of the commercial core, as described in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, and to allow for additional residential, public, institutional, and neighborhood-scale commercial uses in a manner that supports the historic settlement pattern of the Village and maintains the Village's ability to function as a livable, walkable community.

B. Permitted Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling no larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a permitted use)
3. Agriculture
4. Home Occupation
5. Home Child Care
6. Single-family Dwelling
7. Multi-family Dwelling containing four or fewer dwelling units

C. Permitted Uses – Route 100

Corridor: In addition to the permitted uses listed in subsection B., the following permitted uses are allowed, but only within 200 feet from the edge of the Vermont Route 100 right-of-way:

1. Mixed Use (containing only permitted residential and commercial uses)

D. Conditional Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a conditional use)
3. Adaptive Reuse of Historic Barns
4. Bed & Breakfast
5. Child Care Facility
6. Community Center
7. Crisis Shelter
8. Home Business
9. Mixed Use
10. Multi-family Dwelling containing five or more dwelling units
11. Cottage Development
12. Place of Worship
13. Public Facility
14. Recreation Facility
15. School
16. Special Event
17. One Accessory Dwelling unit per Two Dwelling-Unit Multi-Family Dwelling

E. **Conditional Uses – Route 100 Corridor:** In addition to the conditional uses listed in subsection D., the following conditional uses are allowed, but only within 200 feet from the edge of the Vermont Route 100 right-of-way:

1. Cultural Facility
2. Medical Center
3. Artist Studio/Gallery
4. Personal Services
5. Office (in accordance with subsection F. below)
6. Private Club
7. Retail (in accordance with subsection F. below)

F. **Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):**

Minimum Lot Size:	1/5 acre
Maximum Lot Coverage:	75%
Maximum Building Coverage:	50% (no single building footprint may exceed 4,500 square feet)
Maximum Building Height:	3 stories, maximum of 40 feet
Minimum Building Height:	1 ½ stories above grade (excluding accessory structures)
Minimum Pitches of Principal Roofs of Buildings:	No less than 6 inches over 12 inches (excluding roofs covering an accessory structure less than 500 square feet, open porches, and entryways)
Minimum Setbacks:	
Front yard:	35 feet from the road centerline
Side yard:	10 feet
Rear yard:	25 feet for principal structures; 10 feet for accessory structures
River or Stream:	In accordance with section 3.12.
Maximum Setbacks:	
Front yard:	45 feet from the road centerline (not applicable to buildings on flag lots or accessory structures)
Minimum Road Frontage:	25 feet for flag lots, 50 feet for all other lots

G. Additional District Standards:

1. **Restrictions on Retail and Offices.** Retail and office uses are only permitted as conditional uses in a structure located entirely within 200 feet of the Vermont Route 100 right-of-way, and the structure must be a mixed-use building within which not less than 50% of the usable floor space is occupied for residential purposes (e.g., contains one or more dwelling unit). Usable floor space shall include all heated interior space of the building, including basement areas, and shall exclude structures that are accessory to a single-family dwelling. The use of accessory structures for retail or office use, such as the conversion of a carriage barn into office or retail space, may be permitted as a conditional use providing not less than 50% of the total usable floor space of all habitable structures on the parcel is occupied for residential purposes. Because the “Oddfellows Hall/Valley Players Theater” has not historically been used for residential purposes/and presently functions as a venue for live performances that is not compatible with residential uses, this provision does not apply to parcel #99062.000.
2. **Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.
3. **Front Yard Requirement.** The purpose of the frontage area requirement is to promote a lively, neighborhood feel with an active connection between buildings and streets. The front yard area shall be limited to landscaping, yard area, sidewalks, public spaces and/or driveways that access side- or rear-yard parking areas. Parking areas shall not be located in the front yard area.
 - a. Front yard requirements shall not apply to flag lots.
4. **Glazing Standards.**
 - a. At least 15% of each road-facing façade of commercial and mixed-use buildings shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
 - b. At least 5% of the road-facing façade of residential buildings (except for detached accessory dwellings) shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
5. **Road-Facing Facade.** Commercial buildings shall have their façade(s) and primary building access facing the primary public street(s), unless otherwise prohibited by law.

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6. **Cottage Development Standards.** Cottage Developments shall include a sidewalk or other pedestrian connection along the primary driveway access.

Table 2.03
Irasville Village District (IV)

A. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Irasville Village District is to function as the town’s growth center as defined in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, to enable coordinated expansion of residential development to promote affordable and attainable housing, shopping facilities, and other customer-facing commercial uses that minimize traffic impacts, and which concentrate development into a more compact village setting. Development shall enhance traditional Vermont village patterns and Vermont vernacular design, maintain continuity with Waitsfield Village, and limit impacts to wetland areas. The traditional village pattern shifts away from automobile-oriented development in favor of a denser, more pedestrian-oriented pattern.

B. Permitted Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling no larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a permitted use)
3. Agriculture
4. Forestry
5. Home Child Care
6. Home Occupation
7. Single-family Dwelling
8. Multi-family dwelling containing four or fewer dwelling units
9. Artist Studio
10. Gallery
11. Personal Services
12. Home Business
13. Mixed Use (containing only permitted residential and commercial uses)

C. Conditional Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a conditional use)
3. Adaptive Reuse of Historic Barns
4. Automobile Repair
5. Automobile Sales
6. Bank
7. Bar/Tavern
8. Bed & Breakfast
9. Building Supply Store
10. Car Wash
11. Cemetery
12. Child Care Facility
13. Commercial Water Extraction
14. Community Center
15. Crisis Shelter
16. Cultural Facility
17. Gas Station
18. Hotel (7,500 sq. ft. max. building footprint)
19. Light Industry (7,500 sq. ft. max. building footprint)
20. Medical Center
21. Mixed Use (containing conditional residential or commercial uses)
22. Multi-Family Dwelling containing five or more dwelling units
23. Office (7,500 sq. ft. max. building footprint)
24. Cottage Development
25. Parking Facility
26. Place of Worship
27. Post Office
28. Private Club
29. Public Facility
30. Recreation Facility
31. Restaurant/Bar (no drive-through)
32. Retail
33. School
34. Special Events
35. Telecommunications Facility
36. Warehouse/Storage

D. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Minimum Lot Size:	1/5 acre
Minimum Road Frontage:	25 feet for flag lots, 50 feet for all other lots

Minimum Setbacks:	
Front Yard/other roads:	25 feet from road centerline (35 feet for properties contiguous with the Route 100 right-of-way)
Side Yard:	15 feet
Rear Yard:	25 feet; 10 feet for accessory structures
River or Stream:	In accordance with section 3.12.
Maximum Front Yard Setback:	35 feet (45 feet for properties contiguous with the Route 100 right-of-way)
Maximum Building Coverage:	70% (no single building footprint constructed after the effective date of these bylaws may exceed 15,000 sq.ft.)
Maximum Building Height:	3 stories (40 feet) for multi-family dwellings and mixed-use; 2 stories/35 feet for all other uses
Minimum Number of Stories:	2 stories above finished grade (excluding accessory structures)
Maximum Lot Coverage:	80%

E. Additional District Standards:

- 1. Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.
- 2. Front Yard Requirement.** The purpose of the front yard requirement is to promote a lively, neighborhood feel with an active connection between buildings and streets. The frontage area shall be limited to landscaping, yard area, sidewalks, public spaces and/or driveways that access side- or rear-yard parking areas. Parking areas shall not be located in the front yard area.
 - a. For proposed developments with dual frontages on Slow Road and Route 100, parking areas shall be located in side yard areas unless a shared parking plan that reduces the overall number of on-site parking spaces by at least 50% is made acceptable to the Zoning Administrator.
 - b. Front yard requirements shall not apply to flag lots.
- 3. Glazing Standards.**
 - a. At least 15% of each road-facing façade of commercial and mixed-use buildings shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
 - b. At least 5% of the road-facing façade of residential buildings (except for detached accessory dwellings) shall be glazed with clear glass. Some portion of glazing should be present on each building floor.
- 4. Road-Facing Facade.** Commercial buildings shall have their façade(s) and primary building access facing the primary public street(s), unless otherwise prohibited by law.
- 5. Cottage Development Standards.** Cottage Developments shall include a sidewalk or other pedestrian connection along the primary driveway access.

Table 2.04
Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District

A. **Purpose.** The purpose of this district is to allow for the adaptive redevelopment of former commercial lodging establishments along Route 100 in a manner that promotes and exemplifies principles of sustainable development and design, while also maintaining the rural and scenic character of the Route 100 corridor by allowing for specified uses not otherwise allowed in the Agricultural-Residential District.

B. Applicability.

Former commercial lodging establishments in the Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District may obtain approval under these standards only for properties which:

- (1) were established prior to January 1, 1980, and
- (2) have frontage on Route 100, and
- (3) meet minimum PUD area under Subsection D.

Development within this district is intended to sustain and enhance resource-based uses of the land including farming, forestry, and local value-added production; to promote the conservation and efficient use of energy, water, and renewable resources; to reduce and limit waste; to demonstrate techniques of sustainable site and building design; and to promote community outreach and awareness of the techniques of sustainable development and design.

B. Permitted (Accessory) Uses – Accessory uses may be allowed only in association with a principal use as identified in an approved PUD master plan (see Subsection E.4).

1. Accessory Housing (Employee, Student)
2. Accessory Structure
3. Agriculture
4. Artist Studio
5. Child Care Facility
6. Community Center
7. Cultural Facility
8. Forestry
9. Gallery (limited to works produced onsite)
10. Office
11. Recreation Facility
12. Restaurant
13. Small-Scale Processing
14. Special Event
15. Warehouse (limited to temporary storage of goods used, produced on-site)

C. Conditional (Principal) Uses – Principal uses must be identified in an approved PUD master plan (see Subsection E.4).

1. Hotel
2. Mixed Use (uses allowed in district)
3. Multi-family Dwelling
4. Value-Added Production
5. School

Table 2.04 (continued)
Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District

D. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Minimum PUD Area:	15 acres, in one or more contiguous parcels
Minimum Road Frontage – Route 100:	450 feet
Minimum Setbacks (see also subsection E(5)):	
Front– Route 100:	225 feet from road centerline
Side:	100 feet
Rear:	100 feet
River or Stream:	In accordance with Section 3.12
Minimum Open Space:	70% of total PUD area
Maximum Building Height:	40 feet (see Section 3.06 for exemptions)

E. Additional District Standards:

1. **Master Plan.** All development within this district must occur within a Planned Unit Development, in conformance with a master plan approved by the Development Review Board that establishes:
 - a. the location, extent and use of open space, to include the protection of natural and cultural resources within the project area, in accordance with Sections 3.3 and 3.9 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations;
 - b. the type and location of existing and proposed principal and accessory use(s) of the property, including the location of development envelopes (or individual building footprints) designated in accordance with Section 3.3 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations;
 - c. the amount, type, density and location of housing associated with principal use(s) of the property, including student or employee housing;
 - d. the overall intensity (level) of use of on-site facilities at maximum design capacity at build-out, to include total occupants, employees, student enrollment, building capacity, etc.;
 - e. the location of internal and connecting access roads, parking areas, walkways, and paths;
 - f. the location and type of on-site renewable energy, water, wastewater, and waste management systems;
 - g. projected trip generation rates from the site at build-out; and
 - h. a development schedule, including a proposed schedule for any phased development.
2. **Development Review Process.** The master plan for adaptive redevelopment shall be reviewed concurrently by the Development Review Board as a Planned Unit Development (PUD) under Section 5.04 of these regulations and as a major subdivision under the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations. In addition to applicable planning and design standards under Section 5.04 and Article 3 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations, the master plan for adaptive redevelopment shall also meet all applicable requirements of this overlay district. Where the standards of development differ, the more restrictive shall apply.
 - a. Conditional use review, as required for principal uses within this district, may occur concurrently with final subdivision review and approval.

Table 2.04 (continued)
Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District

3. **Uses.** Only those uses specified for this overlay district under Subsections B and C may be allowed within the planned unit development. Accessory structures and uses within this district must directly relate to and support the principal use(s) identified in the master plan. Accordingly:
 - a. Housing allowed within this overlay district is limited to (i) the conversion of an existing lodging facility to multifamily housing as part of a Planned Unit Development; and (ii) employee or student housing that is accessory to and retained in common ownership with the principal use(s) of the property. Accessory housing may include single or multi-family housing units, group housing (e.g., dormitories), seasonal housing (e.g., camps) or caretaker apartments.
 - b. The Development Review Board may, under the conditions of master plan approval, allow for administrative approval of minor changes to the master plan, including modifications to structures and parking areas within designated development envelopes, and the administrative approval of one or more accessory uses listed above which do not alter the conditions of master plan approval.
 - c. Accessory uses not identified in the master plan, or as otherwise specified under the conditions of master plan approval, may be allowed subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03 and the requirements of this district.
 - d. Amended master plan and PUD approval shall be required for new principal uses not identified in the approved master plan.
4. **Setbacks.** Setback requirements under Subsection D apply to all structures within the PUD, and designated development envelopes. However:
 - a. The DRB may reduce PUD setback requirements under Subsection D by no more than 50% (one-half the required distance) for a structure within the PUD if the DRB determines that the structure (i) has no undue adverse impacts on district character and (ii) otherwise meets the requirements of Subsections E(6) and E(8).
 - b. Transit stops, including bus shelters, are exempt from district setback requirements, but shall not be located within the travel lanes of Route 100.
5. **District Character.** In accordance with Section 3.2 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations, PUDs within this district shall be designed to reinforce the district's rural character and historic working landscape, characterized by wooded hillsides and hilltops, open fields, and a visual and functional relationship of structures to the surrounding landscape. Accordingly:
 - a. Particular consideration shall be given to locating development envelopes and new structures off of agricultural land or at the periphery of agricultural land and, where possible, taking advantage of existing slopes and vegetation to provide a backdrop and screening for the project.
 - b. Development envelopes located within view of Route 100 and other scenic roads should be located to avoid prominent placement within the foreground or background of the viewshed; new development should be placed in the middle ground of the view to the extent practical.
 - c. Along Route 100 and other scenic roads buildings shall be blended into, and be visually compatible with, the surrounding area through the use of landscaping and topographical

Table 2.04 (continued)
Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District

- features, or may be required to be screened from view of Route 100. Conditions also may be imposed with regard to development siting (envelopes or footprints), density, setbacks, scale, height, bulk, massing, materials and screening to ensure compatibility with existing structures and uses within the vicinity of the PUD or to minimize the visual impacts of development.
- d. Parking and loading areas shall meet the requirements of Section 3.09 of these regulations, and shall be located behind buildings or otherwise screened from view of Route 100.
 - e. Utility lines, to the extent feasible, shall be sited to follow linear features (e.g., tree lines, access roads) and to avoid the physical and visual fragmentation of agricultural land and open space. Utility lines shall be screened from Route 100; the Development Review Board may require that lines visible from the road be buried.
 - f. Development within the PUD also shall meet applicable requirements of Section 3.10 (Scenic Road Standards) as they apply to development along Route 100.
6. **Adaptive Reuse of Existing Former Commercial Lodging Facilities.** The adaptive reuse of existing former commercial lodging facilities may include structural alterations, modifications, additions, and renovations; however, no more than 25% of the volume of original principal structures in existence as of January 4, 2010 shall be demolished. Modifications to any structure built before 1950 and listed on or eligible for listing on the state register of historic sites and structures shall be subject to conditional use review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.03 of these regulations and to the following:
- a. Any structural modifications or changes associated with the adaptive reuse shall not significantly alter the footprint, façade, essential historic character, or immediate context of the structure.
 - b. In making such a determination, the Board shall consider historic preservation guidelines set forth in Table 4.01.
7. **New Buildings.** Pursuant to Section 5.04(E) of these regulations, new buildings in this district shall reflect a diversity of building scale and massing. Excessively large, monolithic buildings shall be avoided, or the scale and massing reduced through varied rooflines and interrupted building elevations (facades) to create attached, but separate, masses.
8. **Access & Circulation.** PUDs in this district must comply with applicable access management, pedestrian and vehicular circulation requirements found under Sections 3.02 (Access Management), 5.03(C) and (D) (Traffic, Pedestrian Circulation), and 5.04 (Planned Unit Development) of these regulations, as well as related requirements under Section 3.6 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations. PUDs in this district must also comply with the following standards specific to development in this district, as accessed from Route 100:
- a. Access onto Route 100 may be limited to secondary or frontage roads in accordance with Section 3.02 of these regulations and state access management requirements. Shared access with adjoining or subsequently subdivided properties also may be required.
 - b. Traffic to be generated by the proposed development identified in the master plan shall not result in unreasonable traffic congestion or exceed the capacity of Route 100, or other roads and intersections in the vicinity of the development. The Development Review Board may require the preparation of a master plan traffic impact study to be paid for by the applicant,

based on existing and projected trip generation rates at build-out, in accordance with Section 5.03(C)(3) of these regulations and Section 3.6 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations.

Table 2.04 (continued)
Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District

- c. Future road connections to adjoining properties as identified in the *Waitsfield Town Plan* policies or as necessary to ensure traffic safety shall be incorporated in PUD master plan layout and design. Connecting rights-of-way shall be identified on the master plan and subdivision plat, and shall remain free of permanent structures. Rights-of-way shall remain in private ownership until such time as the Town decides to lay out roads in accordance with applicable state statutes and town ordinances.
 - d. The PUD, as shown on the master plan, shall be designed to facilitate year-round pedestrian circulation within the development between buildings, parking and open space areas and, where appropriate, to connect to adjoining properties and established trail and path networks.
 - e. Bicycle racks shall be provided in convenient locations near building entrances, as identified on the master plan, for the use of employees, residents, students and the general public.
 - f. A sheltered transit stop shall be incorporated in PUD design and shown on the master plan. The transit stop shall be installed when public transit service to the site is provided.
9. **Open Space.** In order to maintain the rural character of the area along Route 100 south of Irasville while allowing for sustainable resource development, a minimum of 70% of the PUD shall be maintained as largely contiguous or connected open space, which may be managed and used for one or more of the following purposes:
- Agriculture, forestry; and community gardening;
 - Natural, cultural; and scenic resource protection;
 - Renewable energy production (e.g., wind, solar, biomass);
 - Innovative on-site water, wastewater, stormwater, and waste management systems;
 - Outdoor education; and
 - Outdoor recreation, including recreation fields, trails, and paths.
- a. If the PUD involves land currently in agricultural or forestry use, or has the potential for agricultural or forestry use due to the presence of prime agricultural or forestry soils, the development should make provisions for the use of such land for agricultural or forestry purposes.
 - b. The Development Review Board, as a condition of approval, may establish conditions on the ownership, use, and maintenance of open space and other land and facilities held in common, to ensure continued availability and sustainable long-term management, in accordance with Section 3.9 of the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations.

Table 2.05
Limited Business District (LB)

A. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Limited Business District, which is characterized by a distinct land use pattern as defined in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, is to enable the continued operation and limited expansion of existing businesses, and to allow for the establishment of a limited number and type of new small businesses as set forth below.

B. **Permitted Uses:**

1. Accessory Structure/Use (to a permitted use or pre-existing dwelling)
2. Agriculture
3. Forestry
4. Home Child Care (pre-existing dwelling)
5. Home Occupation (pre-existing dwelling)

C. **Conditional Uses**

1. Accessory Dwelling
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a conditional use)
3. Commercial Water Extraction
4. Home Business
5. Kennel
6. Light Industry (7,500 sq.ft. max. building footprint)
7. Mixed Use
8. Multi-family Dwelling
9. Office (7,500 sq.ft. max. building footprint)
10. Public Facility
11. Recreation Facility
12. Single-family Dwelling
13. Telecommunications Facility
14. Transfer Station
15. Warehouse (indoor only; not greater than 10,000 sq. ft. per acre)

D. **Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):**

Minimum Lot Size:	1 acre
Minimum Road Frontage:	100 feet
Minimum Setbacks:	
District boundary:	125 feet
Front Yard (from Route 100):	150 feet from road centerline
Front Yard (other roads):	50 feet from road centerline
Side Yard:	25 feet
Rear Yard:	25 feet
River or Stream:	In accordance with section 3.12.
Maximum Building Coverage:	25%
Maximum Building Height:	35 feet

E. **Additional District Standards:**

1. All uses within this District are subject to the performance standards set forth in Section 5.03.
2. All non-residential conditional uses shall be served by access to Route 100 by way of a driveway or road located entirely within the Limited Business District.

Table 2.06
Industrial District (IN)

A. Purpose. The purpose of the Industrial District to promote well-paying, year-round employment in the Mad River Valley by encouraging the concentration of light industrial, manufacturing, and other compatible uses in an appropriate location that will have minimal negative impact on surrounding properties and the rural character of the community.

B. Permitted Uses:

1. Agriculture

C. Conditional Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling
2. Accessory Structure/Use
3. Auto Repair Service
4. Child Care Facility
5. Commercial Water Extraction
6. Contractor's Yard
7. Extraction of Earth Resources
8. Light Industry
9. Manufacturing
10. Mixed Use
11. Office (see subsection E., below)
12. Public Facility
13. Recreation Facility
14. Restaurant (as an accessory to and contained within another allowed use)
15. Retail (see subsection E., below)
16. Telecommunications Facility
17. Transfer Station
18. Warehouse
19. Wholesale Trade

D. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Minimum Lot Size:	10,000 sq. ft.
Minimum Road Frontage	
Town Roads (TH 2 & 6):	200 feet
Minimum Setbacks:	
Town Roads (TH 2 & 6):	75 ft. from road centerline, or as required by the Development Review Board in accordance with conditional use approval
District Boundary:	50 feet
Lot boundaries:	25 feet, or as approved by the Development Review Board pursuant to conditional use approval (Sec. 5.03) or PRD approval (Sec. 5.04)
River or Stream:	In accordance with section 3.12.

Table 2.06 (continued)
Industrial District

Maximum Lot Coverage:	60% on any lot or, with approval of the Development Review Board pursuant to PUD review (Section 5.04), higher lot coverage may be permitted on a single lot if offset by the preservation of open space on a lot located elsewhere in the Industrial District. In no circumstances will the total lot coverage of the entire district exceed 60%.
Maximum Building Height:	50 feet (see Section 3.06)

E. Additional District Standards:

1. **Retail uses** within the Industrial District shall not exceed either 1,000 square feet of gross floor area in any structure, or 5,000 square feet of gross floor area within the entire district.
2. **Office uses** within the Industrial District shall be limited to those activities associated with other allowed uses within the district, or business activities that do not involve regular access to the general public and/or frequent visits from customers or clients (e.g., real estate, insurance, lawyers, medical offices).
3. The **subdivision** of any lot shall be subject to PUD review procedures and standards in accordance with Section 5.04.
4. **Landscaping & Screening.** In reviewing applications for conditional use review pursuant to Section 5.03, the Development Review Board may require the installation of landscaping and/or screening to limit or prevent visibility of structures, storage areas, and associated uses from adjacent parcels and town roads. The Board also may require the establishment and maintenance of a vegetative screen along district boundaries to provide a visual barrier between the district and adjacent residential areas. Such screening should consist of a mix of tree and plant species designed to maintain a naturalized appearance and dense visual barrier.

In addition to landscaping requirements, all development shall be sited, designed, and landscaped to be minimally visible from Route 100, and shall not have an undue adverse impact on the visual character of the adjacent Mad River Valley Rural Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

5. All uses shall comply with the **performance standards** set forth in subsection 5.03(D)(9). In reviewing applications for conditional use review within the Industrial District, the Development Review Board shall require a proposed construction plan, a description and specifications for all proposed machinery, operations, and products to be located and/or stored on-site, and a description of the methods or techniques to be used to ensure siting, use, and operation in conformance with performance standards listed in subsection 5.03(D)(9).

Table 2.07
Agricultural- Residential District (AR)

A. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Agricultural-Residential District is to provide for low density residential development; to permit the continuance and expansion of agricultural operations; to encourage clustered housing units to preserve open space; to preserve the significant scenic resources of this district, including scenic roads, historic structures, and open spaces; and to protect natural resources.

B. Permitted Uses

1. Accessory Dwelling no larger than 900 sq. ft. or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a permitted use)
3. Agriculture
4. Forestry
5. Home Child Care
6. Home Occupation
7. Primitive Camp (see subsection E. below)
8. Single-family Dwelling
9. Multi- family Dwelling (Maximum Two Dwelling Units)

C. Conditional Uses:

1. Accessory Dwelling larger than 900 sq. ft or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater
2. Accessory Structure/Use (to a conditional use)
3. Adaptive Reuse of Historic Barns
4. Adaptive Reuse of Farmsteads
5. Bed & Breakfast
6. Cemetery
7. Child Care Facility
8. Commercial Water Extraction
9. Cultural Facility
10. Extraction of Earth Resources
11. Home Business
12. Mobile Home Park
13. Multi-family Dwelling (for 3 dwelling units or greater, must be part of an approved PUD)
14. Public Facility
15. Recreation Facility/Outdoor
16. Small-scale processing of farm and forest products
17. Special Events
18. Telecommunications Facility
19. One Accessory Dwelling unit per Two Dwelling-Unit Multi-Family Dwelling

D. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Minimum Lot Size:	1 acre
Bed & Breakfast	0.33 acre/unit
Minimum Road Frontage	
Scenic roads (as defined in 3.10)	200 feet
All other roads	90 feet
Minimum Setbacks:	
Front Yard (from road centerline)	75 feet
Side Yard	25 feet
Rear Yard	25 feet
River or Stream	In accordance with section 3.12.
Maximum Building Coverage:	N/A

Maximum Building Height:

35 feet

Table 2.07 (continued)
Agricultural- Residential District (AR)

E. Additional District Standards:

1. **Primitive Camps.** Prior proof of state wastewater and potable water supply permit exemption required; such structure shall at all times comply with applicable state permit exemption.
2. **Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.

Table 2.08
Forest Reserve District (FR)

A. **Purpose.** The Forest Reserve District is to protect significant forest resources and water supply watersheds at higher elevations and to limit development in areas with steep slopes, shallow soils, unique or fragile resources, headwater streams, wildlife habitat, and poor access to Town roads and community facilities and services.

B. Permitted Uses:

1. Agriculture
2. Forestry

C. Permitted uses on lots having received sufficient review under Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations as of January 1, 2002:

In the Forest Reserve District, on lots depicted on survey maps having received final subdivision approval and recorded in the Waitsfield Land Records at Map Slides #116A and #166, the following uses are permitted by right:

1. Accessory use
2. Agriculture
3. Forestry
4. Single-family Dwelling

D. Conditional Uses:

In the Forest Reserve District, with the exception of lots listed under subsection C above, the following uses are permitted with the approval of the Development Review Board pursuant to Section 5.03:

1. Accessory dwelling less than 1,700 sq. ft. (below elevation of 1,700' msl only)
2. Accessory Structure
3. Commercial Water Extraction
4. Home Occupation
5. Outdoor Recreation consistent with traditional uses of forest land
6. Public Utilities
7. Primitive Camp
8. Single-family Dwelling (only below elevation of 1,700' msl.)

E. Dimensional Standards (unless otherwise specified by use type):

Maximum Density:	1 unit per every 25 acres (see subsection F. below)
Building Height:	35 feet
Lot Setbacks:	See subsection F below
Stream Setbacks:	See subsection F below
Road Frontage:	200 feet

F. Additional District Standards:

1. **Forest Management.** Forestry activities shall meet all applicable state regulations, and shall, as a minimum standard, comply with the most recent version of *Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont*, published by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation.
2. **Headwaters Protection.** See Section 3.12 and Section 6.02 for headwater stream buffer requirements.

Table 2.08 (continued)
Forest Reserve District

3. **Density & Siting.** In addition to the standards set forth in Section 5.03, the Development Review Board shall ensure that all proposed development complies with the following:
 - a. **Lot Size Standards.** Within the Forest Reserve District, lots may be created which are less than the 25 acres providing that the total residential density of any parcel does not exceed one dwelling unit per every 25 acres. Lots less than 25 acres in size created after January 1, 2002, shall be reviewed in accordance with Section 5.04 Planned Unit Development. Lots less than 25 acres in size shall make provision for the protection of the balance of the undeveloped acreage as open space. The minimum lot size for lots created prior to January 1, 2002 shall be 10 acres.
 - b. **Setbacks and Site Layout.** The Development Review Board may limit or restrict the size and/or location of structures, and establish minimum setbacks, based upon site conditions to ensure that proposed development:
 - i. is minimally visible from off site, and does not stand in contrast to surrounding landscape patterns and features or serve as a visual focal point; and
 - ii. will not adversely affect natural and scenic resources and fragile areas identified in the *Waitsfield Town Plan* or through site investigation, including but not limited to wetlands, streams, critical habitat, steep slopes, areas of unstable soils and/or soil types that are generally unsuitable for development and on-site septic disposal.
4. **Sewage Disposal for Primitive Camps.** Alternative sewage disposal methods proposed for primitive camps shall be subject to approval by the Development Review Board. Alternative systems are meant to include, but are not limited to, composing toilets, incinerating toilets and outhouses, designed in accordance with State of Vermont Standards.
5. **Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.

Table 2.09
Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay (HWVO) District

A. **Purpose:** The purpose of the Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District is to maintain the historic character and architectural integrity of the Waitsfield Village Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

B. **Permitted Uses:**

As established by the underlying district.

C. **Conditional Uses:**

1. As established by the underlying district; and
2. Demolition of Historic Structures (in accordance with subsection E, below.

D. **Dimensional Standards:**

All applicable standards of the underlying district shall apply.

E. **Additional District Standards:**

1. **Exterior Alterations.** When reviewing applications for conditional use review which involve exterior alterations to buildings identified as contributing structures to the Waitsfield Village Historic District listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the applicant and Development Review Board should refer to *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* of historic structures for guidance on the appropriateness of the proposed alterations.
2. **Demolition of Historic Structures.** No building that is identified as a contributing structure to the Waitsfield Village Historic District listing on the National Register of Historic Places shall be demolished, in part or in its entirety, without the approval of the Development Review Board as a conditional use in accordance with Section 5.03. In addition to the application requirements and standards set forth in Sections 5.02 and 5.03, the following submission requirements and associated standards are required:
 - a. The applicant shall provide photographs that clearly indicate the current condition of the structure.
 - b. The applicant will submit documentation that clearly indicates the extent of the proposed demolition.
 - c. Not less than 10 days prior to the Development Review Board 's first public hearing to consider the application, the applicant shall provide a copy of the complete application, including all accompanying materials listed in subsections a and b above, to the Mad River Valley Rural Resource Commission (a certified local government) and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.
 - d. In granting approval for demolition, the Development Review Board shall find that a minimum of one of the following standards has been met:

Table 2.09 (continued)
Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District

- i. the structure poses an immediate threat to public health and safety;
 - ii. the retention of the structure would result in undue hardship on the part of the owner; or
 - iii. the proposed demolition, although involving a portion of a contributing structure, is only a minor portion of the structure.
 - e. Prior to granting approval for demolition, the Board may recess the public hearing for not more than 120 days to provide an opportunity for any interested person to demonstrate that the proposed demolition does not meet any of the three standards set forth in subsection d above, and that viable alternatives to demolition are available.
3. **Conditional Use Standards.** As provided under Section 5.03.

Table 2.10
Flood Hazard Area Overlay District (FHO)

A. Purpose. The Flood Hazard Area Overlay District includes designated Special Flood Hazard areas (SFHAs) subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year (i.e., 100-year flood plains) as depicted on the most recent National Flood Insurance Program maps issued by the National Flood Insurance Program for the Town of Waitsfield. The purposes of this overlay district are to: (1) promote public health safety and welfare; to (2) prevent increases in flooding caused by uncontrolled development in special flood hazard areas; to (3) minimize losses due to floods; to (4) manage all special flood hazard areas in conformance with adopted municipal and hazard mitigation plans; and to (5) ensure that the Town of Waitsfield, its residents and businesses can obtain available federal flood insurance, disaster recovery and hazard mitigation funds through community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

B. Permitted Uses – requiring only administrative review:

1. Agriculture (see Section 6.02)
2. Forestry (see Section 6.02)
3. Home Child Care*
4. Home Occupation*

* *Only in association with an existing or permitted single family dwelling*

Permitted Uses – subject to state review and administrative approval; must meet applicable requirements of this district and Section 5.03(E) prior to the issuance of a zoning permit; documentation of state permits required where applicable:

5. Accessory Use (to a permitted use)
6. Accessory Structure (max: 500 sq. ft.; see Section 5.03 E.19)
7. Additions (max: 500 sq. ft.), minor improvements to existing structures
8. Channel management activities
9. Flood and stormwater management activities
10. Public Facility/Utility (regulated by the state)
11. Recreational vehicle storage (see Section 5.03 E.18)
12. Water supply and wastewater systems
13. Minor grading outside the NFIP floodway (max: 1000 sq ft.; no fill, berming, or increase in elevation)
14. Trail

D. Dimensional Standards:

All applicable standards of the underlying district shall apply.

C. Conditional Uses – The following development is allowed in association with uses listed in Subsections B and C of underlying zoning district tables, subject to state and conditional use review under Section 5.03 E as well as other applicable conditional use standards:

1. Accessory Structure (> 500 sq. ft.)
2. Accessory Use (to a conditional use)
3. Additions (>500 sq. ft.), substantial improvements to existing structures
4. Fill (only as necessary to elevate structures)
5. Fuel storage tanks (see Section 5.03 E.13)
6. Grading and excavation (incidental to allowed uses and activities, excluding normal maintenance)
7. Infrastructure improvements (incidental to allowed uses; see Section 5.03 E.8)
8. Parking (at grade only, to serve allowed uses)
9. Ponds
10. Principal Structure** (see 5.03 E.14,16)
11. Public Facility (limited to facilities that are functionally dependent on river access)
12. Road improvements (to existing roads)
13. Stream crossings (bridges, culverts)

** *Only within underlying Village Residential and Village Business Districts*

Table 2.10 (continued)
Flood Hazard Area Overlay District

E. Additional District Standards – also see Section 5.03(E):

1. All development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, as development is defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03 (Definitions), shall be subject to the provisions of Section 5.03 E, as well as any applicable requirements of the underlying zoning district. Where this overlay district imposes more restrictive standards on the construction or use of structures or land, the standards under this overlay district shall apply. See also state application referral requirements under Section 5.02.
2. **Definitions.** For purposes of flood hazard area regulation, federal program definitions under Section 7.03 shall apply.
3. **Allowed Uses & Activities.** Uses and activities allowed within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District which are not subject to overlay district standards include agriculture and forestry activities conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.02, unimproved open space, the regular maintenance of existing roads, driveways, utilities, stormwater systems and other infrastructure, and those uses allowed by statute in association with single-family dwellings (i.e., home child care, group homes and home occupations). Other “permitted” uses listed under Subsection B must meet applicable provisions of Section 5.03 E, either through documentation that required state permits have been obtained, or through administrative review prior to the issuance of a zoning permit. All other development in this district shall be subject to conditional use review by the Development Review Board under the provisions of Section 5.03, as well as all other applicable municipal and state regulations.
4. **Prohibited Uses & Activities.** The following development is specifically prohibited within this overlay district (Special Flood Hazard Areas) as specified:
 - a. All new development, except as allowed under Subsections B and C above.
 - b. Principal and accessory structures, within floodway areas.
 - c. New principal structures, except as allowed in underlying Village Residential and Village Business Districts under Subsection C.
 - d. Salvage yards and facilities for the storage of chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, explosives, and flammable, toxic, hazardous and floatable materials.
 - e. Fill, except as necessary to elevate structures above the base flood elevation.
 - f. Enclosed areas that are below grade on all sides (including below grade crawlspaces and basements).
 - g. Critical public facilities, within special flood hazard areas and mapped 500-year floodplains (those areas with a 0.2% or more annual chance of flooding).

F. Warning and Disclaimer:

District designation does not imply that lands outside of designated flood hazard areas, or land uses permitted within designated flood hazard areas, will be free from flooding or flood damages. District designation and the administration of associated standards shall not create liability on the part of the municipality, or any official or employee thereof, for any damages that result from the application of this bylaw or any decision lawfully made hereunder.

Table 2.11
Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District (FEHO)

A. **Purpose.** The purposes of the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District (FEHO) are to: (1) implement adopted municipal and hazard mitigation plans; to (2) protect mapped fluvial erosion hazard areas that are highly sensitive to erosion due to naturally occurring stream channel migration and adjustment; to (3) limit new development within these areas to protect public health, safety welfare, and to minimize property losses and damage and extraordinary public expenditures resulting from fluvial erosion; and to (4) allow rivers and streams to re-establish and maintain their natural equilibrium, and thereby avoid the need for costly and environmentally degrading stream channelization and bank stabilization measures.

B. **Permitted Uses** – requiring only administrative review:

1. Agriculture (see Section 6.02)
2. Forestry (see Section 6.02)
3. Home Child Care*
4. Home Occupation*

** Only in association with an existing single family dwelling*

Permitted Uses – subject to state review and administrative approval; must meet applicable requirements of this district and Section 5.03 F prior to the issuance of a zoning permit; documentation of state permits required:

5. Accessory Use (to a permitted use)
6. Accessory Structure (max: 500 sq. ft.)
7. Addition to an existing structure (max: 500 sq. ft.)
8. Channel management activities
9. Flood and stormwater management activities
10. Public Utility/Facility (regulated by the state)
11. Recreational vehicle storage (see Section 5.03 F.10)
12. Water supply and wastewater systems
13. Minor grading outside the NFIP floodway (max: 1000 sq ft.; no fill, berming, or increase in elevation)
14. Trail

C. **Conditional Uses** – The following development is allowed in association with uses listed in Subsections B and C of underlying zoning district tables, subject to state and conditional use review under Section 5.03 F as well as other applicable conditional use standards:

1. Accessory Structure (>500 sq. ft.)
2. Accessory Use (to a conditional use)
3. Addition to an existing structure (>500 sq. ft.)
4. Driveways (new, improved or relocated)
5. Fill (only as necessary to elevate structures)
6. Grading and excavation (incidental to allowed uses, activities)
7. Infrastructure improvements (incidental to allowed uses, activities)
8. Parking (at grade only, to serve allowed uses)
9. Public Facility (limited to facilities that are functionally dependent on river access)
10. Road improvements, relocations (existing roads only)
11. Stream Crossings (bridges, culverts)

D. **Dimensional Standards:**

1. As required for the underlying zoning district; however:
 - a. No new accessory structure or addition to an existing principal structure in this district shall further reduce the minimum setback distance from the stream established by

Table 2.11 (continued)
Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District

existing structures on the lot, as measured horizontally from the top of the stream bank (or slope) to the point of the structure nearest to the stream;

- b. An accessory structure in the FEHO shall be located no more than 50 feet from the principal structure, unless it can be located farther away from the stream than the principal structure as measured horizontally from the top of the stream bank (or slope) to the point of the structure nearest to the stream;
- c. The total combined, cumulative footprint of all accessory structures within the FEHO constructed on a property after May 18, 2010 shall not exceed 500 square feet or 50% of the existing footprint of the principal structure, whichever is greater.
- d. The total combined, cumulative footprint of all structural additions or improvements within the FEHO constructed on a property after May 18, 2010 shall not exceed 500 square feet or 50% of the existing footprint of principal structure, whichever is greater.

E. Additional District Standards – see also Section 5.03 (F)

- 1. **Applicability.** District standards shall apply to all mapped Fluvial Erosion Hazard Areas in the Town of Waitsfield, as depicted on the most current Fluvial Erosion Hazard (FEH) maps accepted by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources River Management Program and on file at the town office.
 - a. Development within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District shall be subject to the provisions of Section 5.03 F, as well as any applicable requirements of the underlying zoning district. Where the standards of this overlay district differ from those of the underlying district, or from other applicable sections of these regulations – including flood hazard area regulations under Section 5.03 and stream setback and buffer requirements under Section 3.12 – the more restrictive shall apply.
- 2. **Allowed Uses & Activities.** Uses and activities allowed within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District which are not subject to review under district standards include agricultural and forestry activities conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.02, unimproved open space, the regular maintenance of existing roads, driveways, utilities, stormwater systems and other infrastructure, and those uses allowed by statute within existing single-family dwellings (e.g., home child care, group homes and home occupations). Other “permitted” uses listed under Subsection B must meet applicable provisions of Section 5.03 F, either through documentation that required state permits have been obtained, or through administrative review prior to the issuance of a zoning permit. All other uses, structures and activities, including but not limited to expanded single-family dwellings, shall be subject to conditional use review under the provisions of Section 5.03 F, as well as other applicable municipal and state regulations.
- 3. **Prohibited Uses & Activities.** The following development is specifically prohibited within this district: all new development, including new structures, buildings, dwellings, septic systems, roads, utilities and other infrastructure, except as allowed under Subsections B and C above; junk or salvage yards; the storage of chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, explosives, and flammable, toxic, hazardous and floatable materials; and fill, except as specified under C to elevate existing structures also within the Flood Hazard Overlay District above the base flood elevation.

ARTICLE III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 3.01 Abandoned and Damaged Structures

- A. No zoning permit shall be required for the stabilization of damaged structures to prevent hazards to public health or safety, or to adjoining properties, structures or uses; nor for the timely repair, or reconstruction of damaged structures to the extent of their prior condition and use. Rebuilding that results in changes in density, dimension or use under applicable provisions of these regulations shall require a zoning permit.
- B. Within 12 months after the abandonment of a permanent or temporary structure that has been demolished, destroyed, or substantially damaged; or within 12 months after the abandonment of construction on a substantially incomplete structure, the owner shall either:
 - 1. apply for a zoning permit under Section 6.1 to resume repair, reconstruction or construction, and thereby confirm the intent not to abandon the structure; or
 - 2. remove all improvements and materials from the site, restore the site to a normal grade, and establish ground cover sufficient to prevent erosion.
- C. The demolition of structures in the Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District shall be subject to the requirements set forth in Table 2.09.
- D. The repair or replacement of a damaged structure within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District must comply with all applicable requirements under Section 5.03 E. A structure in this overlay district that has been substantially damaged or destroyed may be reconstructed only if it cannot be relocated to a less hazardous site on the parcel. The lowest floor of a reconstructed structure within a Special Flood Hazard Area must be rebuilt to two feet ~~one foot~~ or more above the base flood elevation.

Section 3.02 Access Management

- A. **Access to Pre-Existing Lots.** In accordance with the Act [§4412(3)], no land development may be permitted on lots in existence prior to the effective date of these regulations which does not either have frontage on a public road or public waters or, with the approval of the Development Review Board, access to such a road or waters by means of a permanent easement or right-of-way at least 20 feet wide. In deciding whether to grant, condition or deny approval, the Board shall consider the intended use of the property, safety, traffic, road and site conditions, the purpose of the district in which the parcel is located and associated policies of the *Waitsfield Town Plan*. Lots created after the effective date of these regulations are subject to all applicable provisions herein regarding access and frontage.
- B. **Frontage on Private Roads.** Frontage requirements for parcels served by private rights-of-way that are a minimum of 50 feet in width shall be the same as the requirements for parcels served by public rights-of-way.
- C. **Driveway Access (Curb Cuts).** Access onto public highways is subject to the approval of the Waitsfield Selectboard or, in the case of state highways (Route 100 and Route 17), the approval of the Vermont Agency of Transportation. As a condition to access approval, compliance with all local ordinances and regulations pertaining to roads and land use is required. Access permits

must be obtained prior to the issuance of a zoning permit. In the event approval of the Development Review Board is required for a conditional use under Section 5.03, the access permit(s) shall be obtained from the Selectboard after Development Review Board approval. In addition, the following provisions shall apply to all parcels having road frontage on town and state highways:

1. With the exception of accesses (curb-cuts) used solely for agricultural or forestry purposes, no lot in existence as of the effective date of these regulations may be served by more than one curb cut. The Development Review Board may, as a conditional use approved pursuant to Section 5.03, approve additional accesses in the event that:
 - a. the additional access is necessary to ensure vehicular and pedestrian safety; or
 - b. the strict compliance with this standard would, due to the presence of one or more physical features (e.g., rivers and streams, steep slopes, wetlands), result in a less desirable site layout and design than would be possible with the allowance of an additional access; or
 - c. a traffic management plan is developed and implemented which will improve vehicular and pedestrian safety and result in a traffic circulation and parking arrangement within the site that better achieves the standards set forth under Section 5.03 than would be possible with a single access; or
 - d. the parcel(s) is occupied by multiple uses (e.g., shopping centers, PUDs) and the additional access would result in better traffic circulation and safety than a single access.
2. Access to properties located along Route 100 may be limited to secondary or frontage roads. In the event that a frontage road is planned (e.g., identified in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, the official zoning map, and/or the Capital Budget), but is not yet constructed, temporary access may be permitted onto Route 100 with conditional use approval from the Development Review Board. In granting temporary access, the Board may place appropriate conditions that the access be relocated within a reasonable time after construction of the frontage road.
3. In appropriate instances, including the presence of compatible adjacent uses, areas characterized by congestion and frequent and/or unsafe turning movements, or parcels having direct access to Route 100, the Development Review Board may require provision for shared access between adjoining properties. Requirements for shared access shall be made either at the time of conditional use approval if similar provision has been made on contiguous parcels, or contingent upon future development of neighboring properties.
4. Applicants for a zoning permit for any parcel where the number of existing accesses exceeds the number allowed under this section must eliminate or combine accesses in order to meet the applicable standard, unless otherwise approved by the Development Review Board in accordance with Section 5.03.
5. Subdivision of a parcel after the effective date of these regulations shall not create a right to construct more than one access unless otherwise approved by the Development Review Board in accordance with the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*.
6. Access shall be limited to a defined width approved by the Development Review Board, and shall not extend along the length of road frontage; in the case of excessively wide pre-existing driveways, the Development Review Board shall require the reduction in driveway width as a condition of approval under Section 5.03, unless such reduction would place an undue burden on the continued operation of an existing land use.

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7. An access shall be located at least 100 feet from the intersection of public road rights-of-way (125 feet from centerline), for all uses except for single and two family dwellings, which shall be located at least 50 feet from such intersections (75 feet from centerline). Existing structures which do not meet these standards because of pre-existing site conditions may be required to make improvements necessary to bring the property closer to compliance with these standards as a condition of approval under Section 5.03.

D. **Driveways.** New driveways (access drives which serve 2 or fewer lots) shall meet the following standards:

1. Driveways shall be constructed to town driveway standards (*Vermont Agency of Transportation's B-71 Standards for Commercial and Residential Driveways*) unless otherwise required under conditional use review.
2. Driveways shall be set back a minimum of 10 feet from adjoining property lines. With the concurrence of an abutting property owner or as a condition of Development Review Board approval in accordance with Section 5.03, however, driveway access to contiguous properties may be combined.
3. Single lane driveways exceeding 500 feet in length must include, at minimum, one 10' x 30' pull-off area.

Section 3.03 Conversion and Change of Use

The conversion or change in use of land, existing buildings or other structures to another use is subject to the provisions of these regulations as follows:

- A. The proposed use shall be subject to all the requirements of these regulations pertaining to such use, including but not limited to district, access, and/or parking requirements, as well as any other applicable municipal, state or federal regulations currently in effect.
- B. An accessory structure such as a garage or barn may be converted to a principal use allowed within the district in which it is located only if the structure meets the lot size, setback, parking and other requirements applicable to the proposed use.
- C. A conversion or change of use from one permitted use to another permitted use, or from a conditional use to a permitted use, requires a zoning permit issued by the Administrative Officer under Section 6.01.
- D. A conversion or change of use from a permitted to a conditional use, or from a conditional use to another conditional use, requires conditional use approval under Section 5.03.
- E. Changes or conversions involving nonconforming uses and/or nonconforming structures also are subject to and will be reviewed under Section 3.08.

Section 3.04 Equal Treatment of Housing

In accordance with the Act [§4412(1)]:

- A. No provision of these regulations shall have the effect of excluding mobile homes, modular housing or other forms of prefabricated housing from the Town of Waitsfield except under the same terms and conditions as conventional housing is excluded. A mobile home shall be considered a single-family dwelling, and must meet the zoning requirements for such dwelling, except when located in an approved mobile home park (see Section 4.09) or mobile home sales establishment, or allowed as a temporary structure (see Section 4.13).
- B. No provision of these regulations shall be construed to prevent the establishment of a mobile home park pursuant to state statute [10 V.S.A., Chapter 153] and local standards (see Section 4.09) within designated zoning districts.
- C. Accessory dwellings are provided for under these regulations in accordance with the requirements of the Act regarding accessory dwelling units.
- D. No provision of these regulations shall be construed to prevent the establishment of multi-family dwelling units within designated zoning districts and in accordance with local standards.

Section 3.05 Existing Small Lots

- A. In accordance with the Act [§4412(2)], any lot in individual and separate and non-affiliated ownership from surrounding properties in existence on the effective date of these regulations, may be developed for the purposes permitted in the district in which it is located, even though not conforming to minimum lot size requirements, if such a lot is not less than one-eighth acre in area, with a minimum width or depth dimension of 40 feet. Such development shall conform to all other requirements of these regulations.
- B. If such a lot is, or subsequently comes under common ownership with one or more contiguous lots, the lot shall be deemed merged with the contiguous lot for purposes of these regulations. However, such a lot shall not be deemed merged and may be separately conveyed if:
 - 1. the lots are conveyed in their preexisting, nonconforming configuration; and
 - 2. on the effective date of these regulations, each lot had been developed with a water supply and wastewater disposal system; and
 - 3. at the time of transfer, each water supply and wastewater system is functioning in an acceptable manner; and
 - 4. the deeds of conveyance create appropriate easements on both lots for the replacement of one or more wastewater systems, potable water systems, or both, in case there is a failed system or failed supply as defined in 10 V.S.A. Chapter 64.
- C. If, subsequent to separate conveyance, as authorized under Subsection (B), a wastewater system fails, the owner shall be required to obtain from the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources a wastewater permit as required under state subdivision regulations, or a certification that the wastewater system has been modified or replaced, with the result that it no longer constitutes a failed system.

Section 3.06 Height Requirements

- A. Except for the following structures, which are specifically exempt from the height provisions of these regulations, no structure shall exceed district height requirements unless such structure meets the standards set forth in subsections B and C, below.
 - 1. Agricultural structures, including barns and silos, in accordance with the Act [§4413(d)];
 - 2. Church steeples, spires and belfries;
 - 3. Appurtenances to a public or residential use, including antennas, satellite dishes less than 3 feet in diameter, flag poles, chimneys, cupolas, and weather vanes, which are less than 50 feet in height from the average finished grade at ground level to the highest point of the appurtenance.
- B. The Development Review Board may, as a conditional use subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, approve a building height in excess of the standards for the district in which it is located for the following uses:
 - 1. Structures associated with an industrial use or public utility in which the additional height is necessary to its operation or function. Such structures include, but are not limited to, industrial cranes or silos, air navigational aids, high voltage transmission lines or telecommunications facilities (in accordance with Section 4.12).
 - 2. Accessory structures associated with the production of renewable energy which are less than 50 feet in height from the average finished grade at ground level to the highest point of the structure, such as wind generators with blades less than 20 feet in diameter and roof-top solar collectors.
- C. In approving building heights in excess of the district standards, the Development Review Board shall find that the proposed structure meets the standards set forth in Section 5.04, in addition to the following:
 - 1. the structure shall not constitute a hazard to public safety, or to adjoining properties;
 - 2. the portion of the structure above the district height requirement shall remain unoccupied except for normal maintenance, unless occupancy is expressly approved by the Development Review Board;
 - 3. front, side and rear yard setbacks are sufficient to protect adjoining properties and rights-of-way in the event of structural collapse; and
 - 4. the structure is not to be used for advertising purposes.

Section 3.07 Lot & Yard Requirements

- A. Only a single principal use or structure may be located on a single lot, unless permitted within the specific district as a mixed use; or otherwise approved by the Development Review Board as part

of a PUD in accordance with Section 5.04; or involving the adaptive reuse of an historic barn in accordance with Section 4.02, the adaptive reuse of a farmstead in accordance with Section 4.03, or the adaptive reuse of a former commercial lodging establishment in accordance with Table 2.04; or agricultural and forestry uses; or a cottage development where permitted.

- B. Notwithstanding subsection (A), within the Agricultural-Residential District, the Development Review Board may allow two principal uses or structures on a single parcel (e.g., extraction of earth resources on a parcel also occupied by a single-family dwelling) as a conditional use in accordance with Section 5.03. In addition to the conditional use standards, a parcel occupied by multiple principal uses shall comply with the following:
1. The parcel shall be of a size sufficient to meet the minimum lot size requirement for the second principal use or structure, independent of the lot area required to satisfy the minimum lot size for the other principal use or structure.
 2. Each principal use or structure shall meet all applicable requirements of these regulations.
 3. In no case shall two dwelling units that are separate structures be allowed on a single parcel, unless one is allowed as an accessory dwelling to the other in accordance with Section 4.1, or the two dwelling units are part of a planned unit development (PUD) approved by the Development Review Board under Section 5.4.
 4. Both principal uses shall remain in common ownership unless the parcel is subdivided into two or more lots in conformance with other applicable provisions of this bylaw and the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*.
- C. An accessory structure must conform to all lot setback, coverage and other dimensional requirements for the district in which it is located.
- D. No lot shall be so reduced in area that it cannot conform to area, yard, setback, frontage, coverage and other dimensional requirements as prescribed in these regulations, except as approved by the Development Review Board for PUDs in accordance with Section 5.04.
- E. Any interior lot which does not have frontage on a public or private road or public waters shall meet a minimum setback requirement for all its yards equal to the side yard setback distance for the district in which it is located.
- F. Any yard adjoining a street shall be considered a front yard. A corner lot shall be considered to have only front and rear yards unless otherwise specified in Section 2.03.

Section 3.08 Nonconforming Structures & Nonconforming Uses

- A. **Nonconforming Structures.** In accordance with the Act [§4412(7)], nonconforming structures existing on the effective date of these regulations may be allowed to continue indefinitely, but shall be subject to the following provisions. A nonconforming structure:
1. may undergo normal repair and maintenance provided that such action does not increase the degree of noncompliance (see definition of degree of noncompliance in Article VII).
 2. may be restored or reconstructed after damage from any cause provided that the reconstruction does not increase the degree of noncompliance which existed prior to the

damage and provided the reconstruction is commenced within 12 months from the date that the structure was damaged.

3. may be structurally enlarged, expanded or moved, upon approval of the Administrative Officer, provided the enlargement, expansion or relocation does not increase the degree of noncompliance or, with approval of the Development Review Board as a conditional use under Section 5.03, a nonconforming structure may be enlarged or expanded in a manner which increases the degree of noncompliance provided the expansion or enlargement:
 - a. does not increase the total volume or area of the nonconforming portion of the structure in existence prior to March 5, 2002 by more than 50%;
 - b. does not, after May 17, 2010, increase the total footprint of a structure within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District by more than 500 square feet or 50% of the existing footprint of the principal structure, whichever is greater (see Table 2.11 and Section 5.03F);
 - c. does not extend the nonconforming feature/element of a structure beyond that point which constitutes the greatest pre-existing encroachment; and
 - d. complies with all conditional use standards.
4. may, subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, undergo alteration or expansion which would increase the degree of noncompliance solely for the purpose of meeting mandated state or federal environmental, safety, health or energy regulations (e.g., handicap access ramp in accordance with ADA standards);
5. if located within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, may be improved, expanded, relocated, or reconstructed subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03 (C) and (D) and applicable flood hazard area requirements under Section 5.03(E).

B. **Nonconforming Uses.** In accordance with the Act [§4412(7)], nonconforming uses which exist on the effective date of these regulations may be continued indefinitely, but shall be subject to the following provisions. A nonconforming use:

1. shall not be re-established if such use has been changed to, or replaced by, a conforming use, or if such use has been discontinued for a period of 12 months.
2. shall not be re-established or continued following abandonment or discontinuance resulting from structural damage from any cause, unless the nonconforming use is carried on uninterrupted in the undamaged part of the structure, or the use is reinstated within one year of such damage, unless reasonable effort is being made to reinstate the use to the reasonable satisfaction of the Development Review Board. The owner of such a use shall be granted an additional one year to re-establish said use upon filing a notice of the owner's intent to do so with the Administrative Officer within one year of abandonment or discontinuance.
3. shall not be changed to another non-conforming use without the approval of the Development Review Board in accordance with Section 5.03, and then only to a use which, in the opinion of the Board, is of the same or a more restricted nature;
4. shall not be moved, enlarged, or increased by any means whatsoever, except with the approval of the Development Review Board subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03. In no case shall a nonconforming use be moved to a different lot within the same district in which it is located.

Section 3.09 **Parking & Loading Standards**

- A. **Parking.** For every structure or use erected, established, altered, extended or changed, associated off-street parking spaces shall be provided on the same lot, or on contiguous or proximate lots where property owner(s) demonstrate mutual agreement to share parking area(s), as set forth below.
1. A minimum number of parking spaces as determined by the proposed use shall be provided in accordance with the requirements listed in Table 3.01.
 2. All required parking spaces shall have a minimum width of 9 feet, a minimum length of 18 feet, unobstructed access and maneuvering room, and a gravel or paved surface sufficient to permit year-round use unless otherwise waived in accordance with subsection C, below.
 3. Non-residential parking areas are to be located to the side or rear of buildings, unless otherwise permitted by the Development Review Board under conditional use review.
 4. In addition to the requirements listed in Table 3.01, all multi-family, public, commercial and industrial developments must provide adequate, clearly marked handicapped parking spaces in accordance with state and federal (ADA) requirements; and, the Board may require at least one bicycle rack for use by employees and/or the general public.
 5. Where a parcel fronts upon a public or private road on which on-street parking spaces are clearly marked, the on-site parking requirements for that parcel may be reduced from the requirements set forth in Table 3.01 by one space for every 25 linear feet of frontage where parking is permitted (excluding frontage used for driveway accesses, pedestrian cross walks, and/or service areas).
 6. For development subject to conditional use review, shared parking and/or landscaping, screening, lighting, snow removal, pedestrian or transit facilities may be required as a condition of approval.
 7. For any shared parking arrangements, prior to any approval pursuant to this section, the means by which the shared parking, loading, and/or service areas will be guaranteed and enforceable over the long term, such as a contract, easement, or other means, and whether the Town should be a party to the management contract or easement, shall be made acceptable to the Town.
- B. **Loading and Service Areas.** Where a proposed development will require the frequent or regular loading or unloading of goods, sufficient off-street loading and service areas shall be provided. Service areas also may be required for emergency vehicles, waste disposal and collection, bus, taxi, or van service, regular drop-off and pick-up of people (e.g., day care facility) and other purposes as may be necessitated by the proposed use. All loading and service areas shall be clearly marked, and located in such a manner so that parked vehicles will not block or obstruct sight visibility at intersections or to or from any internal road or access.
- C. **Waivers.** The Development Review Board, under conditional use review (Section 5.03), may waive on-site parking, loading and/or service area requirements based on the Board's

determination under one or more of the following provisions that, due to circumstances unique to the development, the strict application of these standards is unnecessary or inappropriate for the specified use, site conditions or location:

1. Green areas are to be set aside and maintained as open space for future conversion to parking, loading and/or services areas in the event that the spaces initially permitted are subsequently deemed inadequate by the Board to meet demonstrated need;
2. adequate shared parking, loading, and/or services areas for use by two or more uses exists, on the same, contiguous, or proximate lots, , where property owner(s) demonstrate mutual agreement to share parking area(s); Prior to any approval pursuant to this section, the means by which the shared parking, loading, and/or service areas will be guaranteed and enforceable over the long term, such as a contract, easement, or other means, and whether the Town should be a party to the management contract or easement, shall be made acceptable to the Town.3. adequate off-site public parking exists within reasonable walking distance of the establishment;
4. the proposal is for the development of affordable or elderly housing as defined herein; and/or
5. in granting a waiver, the Development Review Board may require that a future change in use or ownership be subject to additional review to determine whether the reduction in parking continues to be unnecessary or inappropriate.
6. All waivers shall be subject to periodic review to determine whether the reduction in parking continues to be unnecessary or inappropriate.

Table 3.1
Minimum Off-Street Parking Requirements

Use	Parking Spaces
Automobile Service Station	5 per service bay
Bar/Tavern	1 per employee; 1 per every 3 persons of maximum capacity as defined by Vermont Dept. of Labor & Industry and/or Vermont Fire Marshall, whichever is greater.
Bed and Breakfast	2 per dwelling unit, and 1 per lodging room
Community Care Facilities (6 or more residents)	1 per 4 beds, and 1 per employee for the largest shift
Commercial/Retail Establishments	1 per 300 sq. ft. of gross floor area
Home Day Care	2 per dwelling unit, and 1 per additional employee
Home Occupation/Home Business	2 per dwelling unit, and 1 per additional employee
Industry	1.25 per employee, for the largest shift
Lodging (hotel, motel, inn, lodge, dormitory)	1 per lodging unit, and 1 per employee for the largest shift
Medical Clinics	6 per doctor or other primary professional care giver
Mixed Use	total required per each individual use
Personal Services	1 per employee, and one per customer service station
Private Club	1 per 4 members
Professional, Government, Business Offices	1 per 300 sq. ft. of gross floor area; 1 per 400 sq. ft. of gross floor area in the Village Residential District and Village Business District
Public assembly (church, auditorium, cultural facility, community center, etc.)	1 per 5 seats or 200 sq. ft. of gross floor area, whichever is greater
Residential (Accessory Dwelling)	1 per dwelling unit
Residential (Multi-Family Dwelling)	1 per dwelling unit
Residential (Single-Family Dwelling)	1 per dwelling unit
Restaurants/Eating Establishments	1 per 4 seats, and one per employee for the largest shift
School, Child or Day Care (6 or more children)	3 spaces per 10 children enrolled at the facility
Storage, warehouses, other non-public uses	1 per 1,000 sq. ft. of gross floor area, and 1 per employee for the largest shift
Unspecified	As determined by the Development Review Board under conditional use review, in accordance with ITE standards.

Section 3.10 Scenic Road Standards

- A. In recognition of their scenic qualities and in furtherance of the goals and objectives of the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, development along the roads identified in Table 3.02 shall be subject to additional consideration in accordance with the following provisions.
- B. When reviewing applications for conditional use approval or Planned Unit Developments, the Development Review Board shall consider the impact of the development on the features that contribute to the scenic qualities of the particular road segment. To evaluate those scenic qualities, the Board shall consider information such as the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, the Mad River Valley Rural Resource Protection Plan, and other planning and open space preservation studies and materials, in addition to site analysis conducted as part of the review process. Development may be limited or restricted to ensure that:

1. Road improvements necessitated by the development do not result in the loss of physical features within the road right-of-way that contribute to the road's scenic status, such as stone walls, street trees or the roads surface materials and width; and/or
2. the development is located to avoid adverse impact on scenic views from the road, especially with regard to the placement of structures within the foreground or background of such views (as opposed to the middle-ground), or the conspicuous placement of development in open meadows or steep slopes and ridgelines where they will be visible from multiple vantages.

Table 3.2 Scenic Roads		
Road #	Name	Description
State Aid 1	E. Warren Rd	In its entirety
State Aid 3	North Road	In its entirety
Town Road 4	Common Road	In its entirety
Town Road 10	Floodwoods Road	In its entirety
Town Road 16	East Road	In its entirety
Town Road 20	Meadow Road	In its entirety
Town Road 26	Brook Road	In its entirety
Town Road 27	Cross Road	In its entirety
Town Road 28	Palmer Hill Rd	In its entirety
Town Road 31	Rolston Road	In its entirety
Town Road 35	Sherman Road	In its entirety
Vermont 100	Main Street	North of Waitsfield Village District to the Moretown Town Line; South of Irasville District to the Warren Town Line.

Section 3.11 Sign Requirements

- A. **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare by regulating existing and proposed signs in the Town of Waitsfield. It is further intended hereby to control and reduce the proliferation of signs in order to protect the economic and scenic value of the town, and in order to prevent hazards to users of the roads in the town.
- B. **Procedure.** The erection, replacement or substantial alteration of any sign shall require a zoning permit issued by the Administrative Officer in accordance with Section 6.01 unless specifically exempted under subsection D, below.
- C. **General Provisions.** No signs shall be permitted in the Town of Waitsfield except as hereinafter provided.
 1. Signs and other advertising structures, together with all their supports, braces, hooks, guys and anchors, shall be of substantial and sturdy construction, shall be kept in good repair, and shall be painted or cleaned as often as necessary to maintain a clean, neat, safe and orderly appearance.

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2. All signs shall comply with the following restrictions:
- a. In computing the area of a sign, not including the supporting structure, the measured area shall encompass the smallest rectilinear shape within the supporting structure which can contain a sign, including the panel and frame, if any.
 - b. No sign shall be permitted within or over the right of way to a public road.
 - c. No sign shall be permitted which appears to direct the movement of traffic or which interferes with, imitates or resembles any official traffic, directional or route sign, signal or device.
 - d. No sign shall be permitted which prevents a clear and unobstructed view of official signs or approaching or merging traffic.
 - e. Signs shall be illuminated so as not to produce undue glare, hazards, or distractions. A constant, shielded light source may be used for sign lighting, provided that the light source is directed entirely onto the sign surface, and does not adversely affect neighboring properties, rights-of-way, or cause glare or interfere with the safety of vehicular traffic. The light source (bulb) shall not be visible from adjacent properties or roads.
 - f. No sign shall be illuminated internally, or by neon, flashing, moving or intermittent lights, nor shall it contain any moving parts.
 - g. No free standing sign may be more than 15 feet high nor less than 15 feet from any streetline nor nearer than 10 feet to any other lot line.
- D. **Exempt Signs.** Signs depicted as being exempt from these regulations in Table 3.3 are permitted without a permit from the Administrative Officer.
- E. **Prohibited Signs.** Signs depicted as being prohibited in Table 3.3 shall be deemed prohibited.
- F. **Permitted Signs.** Each business shall be allowed one of each type of signs in subsections (1) and (2) as permitted by the Administrative Officer, in accordance with Section 6.01 and the following provisions:
1. **Principal Business Signs.**
 - a. One principal business identification sign attached to or free standing from the premises not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet, per face, shall be permitted. Support structures shall not add more than an additional two feet in width and/or height to the sign.
 - b. One free standing or attached sign, in addition to the principal business sign referenced in subsection F(1)(a), not to exceed 16 square feet, for a business whose premises front on two public roads, or on both sides of a public road, where such additional exposure to the public is vital to the well-being and identity of said business.
 2. **Building Signs & Wall Graphics.** Lettering and/or graphics may be affixed or applied directly to the front facade of a building, including its wall and windows, in accordance with the following standards:
 - a. For a 2 story building, lettering and/or wall graphics shall not exceed an area equal to four times the square root of the lineal frontage of the building, up to a maximum of 100 lineal feet of frontage.

- b. For a 1 and ½ story building, lettering and/or wall graphics shall not exceed an area equal to four times the square root of the lineal frontage divided by 1.5, up to a maximum of 100 lineal feet of frontage.
 - c. For a 1 story building, lettering and/or wall graphics shall not exceed an area equal to four times the square root of the lineal frontage divided by 2, up to a maximum of 100 lineal feet of frontage.
 - d. Regardless of building height, lettering shall not exceed 18 inches in height.
 - e. In computing the area of a building sign or wall graphic, not including the supporting structure, the area shall be the area of the smallest rectangle with a level base line which can contain a sign including the lettering, graphic, panel and frame, if any.
 3. **Appendage Signs.** An appendage sign may be made to the face of or under the principal sign of a hotel, motel, lodge, or boarding house in order to notify the public as to vacancy, and to the principal sign of a restaurant to notify the public that the facility is open or to inform the public that an event is scheduled, provided that the appendage sign is:
 - a. Not larger than 2 square feet.
 - b. Of the same material and character as the principal sign.
- G. **Conditional Signs.** In approving conditional signs, the Development Review Board shall find that the sign meets the standards set forth in subsection C of this provision and is clear and readable. The following additional signs may be approved by the Development Review Board as a conditional use in accordance with Section 5.03:
1. One free standing or attached sign not to exceed 36 square feet, identifying two or more separate and distinct businesses on the same premises. The use of a single place of business for multiple purposes or the sale of multiple products or services (e.g. sale of sportswear and recreational equipment) shall not constitute 2 or more separate businesses.
 2. One free standing or attached signs, not to exceed 48 square feet each, if they identify ten or more businesses located on the same premises.
 3. Up to two free-standing or attached signs not to exceed nine square feet each, identifying prices for fuel.

Table 3.3
Exempt and Prohibited Sign

(A) Exempt Signs. No zoning permit shall be required for the following types of signs, which are exempt from these regulations:
(1) Signs erected by the state or town on public roads.
(2) Non-advertising signs placed for directional, safety, or public service purposes which do not exceed 2 square feet in area.
(3) One sign offering real estate for sale, not to exceed 4 square feet, to be located on the premises offered for sale, placed outside of the road right-of-way and shall be removed from the premises within 5 business days of conveyance of the property.
(4) One residential sign per dwelling unit identifying the occupant, not to exceed 2 square feet in area; and residential flags or banners intended solely for ornamental or non-advertising purposes.
(5) Signs relating to trespassing and hunting, each not to exceed 2 square feet in area.

- (6) Temporary auction, lawn, or garage sale not to exceed 4 square feet in total area, which shall be displayed for not more than 10 days per calendar year and be removed immediately following the event or sale.
- (7) Temporary election signs to be posted and removed in accordance with state law.
- (8) Temporary signs or banners for an event of a civic, philanthropic, service, or religious organization, fair, exposition, or similar event, which are placed no earlier than seven days prior to the event and which are removed the day after the event is completed.
- (9) Signs or bulletin boards incidental to places of worship, schools, libraries or public facilities, not to exceed one per establishment, 16 square feet in total area, or 6 feet in height above ground level.
- (10) Unlit signs associated with farm operations, not to exceed one per establishment or 16 square feet in area.
- (11) Unlit wall-mounted or freestanding signs advertising a home occupation, home business or home child care facility, not to exceed one per residential dwelling or 4 square feet in area.
- (12) On-premise historic or landmark signs, not to exceed one in number or 6 square feet in area.
- (13) Murals intended solely for artistic, non-advertising purposes.
- (14) Window signs which do not exceed 30 percent of the window frame area.
- (15) Temporary "Help Wanted" signs not to exceed 4 square feet.
- (16) One temporary construction sign, not to exceed 16 square feet in total area or 10 feet in height, located on the construction site, providing such sign is promptly removed immediately following completion of construction.
- (17) One flag or banner per separate business premises, not exceeding 12 square feet in area, used to indicate the business is open or is having a sale or special event. The flag or banner must only be displayed while the business is open.

(B) **Prohibited Signs.** The following signs are prohibited in all districts:

- (1) Signs which impair highway safety.
- (2) Signs which are internally illuminated, animated, flashing, oscillating, revolving or made of reflective material, unless necessary for public safety or welfare.
- (3) Signs painted on or attached to rock outcrops, trees, or similar natural features.
- (4) Wall signs which extend above the eave of the roof.
- (5) Permanent signs which project over public rights-of-way or property lines.
- (6) Signs identifying businesses or uses which are no longer in existence.
- (7) Signs located on motor vehicles which are used primarily as a support or foundation.
- (8) Off-premises signs, except for those which conform to state laws.

H. **Temporary Signs.**

1. One temporary, portable sign, signboard or menu board per lot, or for lots with more than one permitted business; one temporary sign per curb cut, may be displayed on that lot without permit, provided all the conditions listed herein are satisfied:
 - a. The sign may not be larger than 8 square feet per sign face, including supports, nor have more than 2 faces.
 - b. The sign shall be located so as not to block entrances or sidewalks or obstruct traffic sightlines, and shall be subject to the standards set forth in subsection 3.11(C).
 - c. The sign shall be removed during hours when the business is not open.
 - d. The maximum allowance for display of any temporary sign on a lot shall be limited to 14 days per calendar month and 60 days per calendar year.
2. These provisions do not apply to temporary signs otherwise exempt per Section 3.11(D).

I. **Enforcement of Sign Requirements.** A violation of this Section shall constitute a civil offense. Each day that a violation is continued shall constitute a separate offense. At the discretion of the enforcing officer, offenses may be pursued through a municipal civil complaint or an enforcement action as described below.

1. **Municipal Civil Complaint:** In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Sections 1974a, 1977 and 4452, the Town's Zoning Administrative Officer, the Town Administrator, or the Washington County Sheriff, upon request, may issue a municipal civil complaint for violations of this Section, with two (2) copies of said complaint to be served either in

person or by first class mail to the defendant (one copy shall be retained by the issuing officer and the original shall be filed with the Judicial Bureau). The issuing officer shall utilize the forms and follow the procedures set forth by the Judicial Bureau and State law for issuance and enforcement of municipal complaints. Each civil ordinance violation shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). The waiver fees shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a first offense, seventy five (\$75.00) dollars for the second offense, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each subsequent offense in a six-month period. Nothing herein shall limit or preclude the Town from enforcing violations of this Section, or from seeking injunctive relief, in any court of competent jurisdiction by whatever means available under State law.

2. Enforcement Action: In the alternative, and in accordance with 24 V.S.A. Sections 4451 and 4452 and Section 6.06 of these Bylaws, an enforcement action may be brought in Environmental Court for violation of this Section of the Bylaws.

Section 3.12 Surface Water Protection Standards

- A. To prevent soil erosion, protect wildlife habitat and maintain water quality, a naturally vegetated buffer strip shall be maintained from the banks of streams and rivers, and the shores of ponds formed by in-stream impoundments in streams and rivers. The width of the buffer strip shall be measured from the top of the streambank or stream slope, or, where no streambank is discernable, from the regular highwater mark. The following table (Table 3.4) provides widths of required buffer strips based on slope and waterbody type:

Table 3.4 Standard Width of Buffer Strip	
Average grade (slope) of riparian land (land adjacent to stream bank)	River & Stream Setback (in linear feet, measured horizontally)
0-8%	50 feet
9-15%	75 feet
15-20%	90 feet
20-30%**	100 feet
Headwater Streams	150 feet
** Add 20 feet for each additional 10% of slope	

1. Where the standards of this section differ from other applicable standards under the Flood or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay Districts, the more restrictive shall apply.
- B. No development, excavation, landfill, or grading shall occur within the buffer strip, and vegetation shall be left in an undisturbed state, with the exception of minimal clearing and associated site development necessary to accommodate the following:
1. Road, driveway, and utility crossings, provided such crossings comply with the standards and specifications of the *Vermont Handbook for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites*. If a road, driveway, utility corridor, or stream crossing related to an approved use crosses a headwater stream, then minimal clearing and associated site development to allow for the development and maintenance of these crossings shall receive prior approval of the Development Review Board pursuant to Section 5.03.
2. Streambank stabilization and restoration projects, in accordance with all applicable State and Federal regulations.

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3. Unpaved bicycle and pedestrian paths and trails, provided all improvements comply with the standards and specifications of the *Vermont Handbook for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites*.
 4. Public recreation facilities and improved river/lake accesses.
 5. Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) as defined by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Markets, shall be exempt from this subsection.
 6. Forest management activities in compliance with the most recent version of *Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) For Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont*, published by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, shall be exempt from this subsection.
- C. The Development Review Board may approve modification to the setback standards set forth in subsection A as a conditional use subject to conditional use review in accordance with Section 5.03, and after a determination that the proposed modification meets the following standards:
1. the proposed development is located within the Village Business District and reflects the historic settlement pattern and character of the Village; and
 2. reasonable measures are undertaken to protect water quality, such as, but not limited to, the planting of shade trees adjacent to streambanks, the establishment of vegetated buffer areas along streambanks, and/or stormwater management provisions to collect and disperse stormwater away from the stream or river; and
 3. the development will not result in degradation of adjacent surface waters.
- D. For development subject to subdivision, site plan, or conditional use review, the Development Review Board may require increased setback distances, limited or shared access to surface waters and wetlands, and/or a buffer area management plan to limit soil and bank erosion or to protect water quality or riparian habitat, if it is determined that such mitigation measures are needed based on site, slope, and soil conditions and the nature of the proposed use.
- E. The expansion or enlargement of any structure in existence prior to the effective date of this ordinance and not in compliance with subsection A, above, is permitted with the approval of the Development Review Board in accordance with Section 3.08 and applicable overlay district requirements.
- F. No alteration of the natural course of any stream shall be allowed unless a stream alteration permit has been issued by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in accordance with 10 VSA Chapter 41. Such alterations within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District are subject to state agency and municipal referral requirements under Section 6.01.
- G. A naturally vegetated buffer strip at least 50 feet in uniform width shall be maintained for Class Two wetlands, and 100 feet in uniform width for Class One wetlands as defined under the Vermont Wetlands Rules. No development, dredging, ditching or manipulation of vegetation will be permitted within the buffer strip nor within the wetland, unless in conformance with the Vermont Wetlands Rules. For conformance requirements, contact the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation.

ARTICLE IV. SPECIFIC USE STANDARDS

Section 4.01 Accessory Dwelling Units

- A. A dwelling unit may be allowed as an accessory to a principal use, subject to the following provisions, which also are intended to meet requirements for accessory dwelling units as set forth in the Act [§4412(1)(E)].
- B. One attached or detached dwelling unit which is accessory to a single-family dwelling, does not exceed ~~900,800~~ square feet in floor area or 30% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is greater, and meets other applicable requirements under Subsection (D), may be allowed as a permitted use in designated zoning districts with a zoning permit issued by the Administrative Officer in accordance with Section 6.01.
- C. The following types of accessory dwellings may be allowed as conditional uses in designated zoning districts, subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03 and the provisions of this Section:
 - 1. One attached or detached dwelling unit, which is accessory to a single-family dwelling, with a floor area in excess of 900 square feet or 30% of the gross ~~floor~~ area of the principal dwelling, whichever is larger.
 - 2. One caretaker's apartment or dwelling unit which is accessory to a nonresidential use.
 - 3. One attached or detached dwelling unit, which is accessory to a Two Dwelling Unit Multi- Family Dwelling
- D. All accessory dwellings shall:
 - 1. meet setback requirements for the district in which they are located; for nonconforming structures, the degree of noncompliance shall not be increased by the addition of an accessory apartment or dwelling;
 - 2. have adequate potable water and wastewater systems in accordance with applicable municipal and state regulations; and
 - 3. have adequate off-street parking for the residents of the principal and accessory dwellings in accordance with Section 3.09.
- E. A zoning permit issued for an accessory dwelling shall only authorize the development of a use that is accessory to the principal use of the property and as such shall be retained in common ownership. Such a dwelling, together with the appurtenant land, may be subdivided and/or converted for conveyance or use as a principal use only if it is found to meet all current municipal regulations applying to a single (or two) family dwelling, including all density and dimensional requirements for the district in which it is located. All applicable municipal permits and approvals shall be required prior to the subdivision, conversion, or conveyance as a principal dwelling.

Section 4.02 Adaptive Reuse of Historic Barns

- A. **Purpose.** To encourage the viability, reuse, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic barns (as defined in Section 7.02) which are no longer associated with an agricultural use, by allowing for

specified uses not otherwise allowed in the district in which they are located, within the current dimensions of such barns. Any changes associated with the adaptive reuse shall not significantly alter the facade of the building, and shall be in keeping with the essential character of the neighborhood.

B. **Applicability.** All adaptive reuse, and associated restoration and/or rehabilitation, of historic barns shall be considered a conditional use subject to review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.03 and the provisions of this Section.

C. **Allowed Uses.**

1. The following additional uses, if not otherwise allowed in the district:

- a. Artist Studio or Gallery (with no more than 5 artisans or employees on site at any one time)
- b. Community Center
- c. Cottage Industry
- d. Cultural Facility
- e. Day Care Facility
- f. School
- g. Warehouse

2. An office is an additional allowable use for historic barns with frontage on Route 100.

3. A combination of the above listed uses, if allowed in the underlying district as mixed use.

D. **Special Requirements.** All adaptive reuse, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic barns shall also meet the following requirements:

1. If the barn is a nonconforming structure, the adaptive reuse shall in no way increase the degree of noncompliance, except in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.08.
2. The proposed adaptive reuse shall not significantly alter the footprint, essential character or immediate context (e.g., barnyard) of the historic barn. In reviewing proposals for adaptive reuse of historic barns, the Development Review Board shall determine that the adaptive reuse is in accordance with the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, and that the historic character of the barn will be retained to the extent practical. In making such a determination, the Board shall consider the guidelines set forth in Table 4.01.

E. A zoning permit issued for an adaptive reuse shall clearly state that the use is allowed only as a permitted use of the existing structure, and shall not be re-established if the structure is substantially modified, except in accordance with the requirements of these regulations. All applicable municipal permits and approvals shall be obtained prior to the re-establishment of such use in a substantially modified structure.

F. In the event that the historic barn is destroyed or demolished, the barn may be reconstructed and the adaptive reuse re-established with the approval of the Development Review Board in accordance with conditional use review under Section 5.03. In allowing such reconstruction and re-establishment, the Board shall determine that, in addition to meeting conditional use standards, the replacement structure closely replicates the historic structure in architectural style, form, massing, scale, building materials, and fenestration.

Section 4.03 Adaptive Reuse of Farmsteads

- A. **Purpose.** To encourage the viability, reuse, restoration, and rehabilitation of farmsteads (as defined in Section 7.02) by allowing for specified uses not otherwise allowed in the district in which they are located. Any changes to existing structures associated with the adaptive reuse shall maintain the historic character of the farmstead.
- B. **Applicability.** All adaptive reuse, and associated restoration and/or rehabilitation of farmsteads that have frontage on and are accessed by Route 100 shall be considered a conditional use subject to review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.03 and the provisions of this Section.
- C. **Allowed Uses.** The following uses may be allowed, subject to conditional use review:
1. Permitted and conditional uses allowed in the Agricultural-Residential District.
 2. The following additional uses, if not otherwise allowed in the Agricultural-Residential District:
 - a. Accessory agricultural use
 - b. Farm café
 - c. Office
 - d. On-farm composting operation that requires state certification
 - e. Value-added production
 3. A combination of the above listed uses.
- F. **Special Requirements.** All adaptive reuse, restoration, and rehabilitation of farmsteads, unless specified below, shall also meet the following requirements:
1. If the farmstead includes farm structures which are nonconforming, the adaptive reuse shall in no way increase the degree of noncompliance, except in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.08.
 2. The adaptive reuse shall be in accordance with the *Waitsfield Town Plan* and the historic character of the farmstead.
 3. The farmstead on which any adaptive reuse is proposed shall be at least 8 acres, which may be counted in the aggregate if two separate but adjacent parcels are held in common ownership.
 4. The farm associated with the farmstead on which an adaptive reuse is proposed, except an office use, shall have gross sales of at least \$5,000 of agricultural products per year.

Table 4.01
Preservation Guidelines for Historic Barns

1. The historic setting of the barn should be preserved to the extent feasible
2. Barn siding should be repaired and repainted, rather than be covered with artificial siding.
3. Historic windows should be repaired, rather than replaced where feasible. Blocking or covering up historic windows, and inserting numerous new window openings should be avoided. New windows should be compatible with the size and scale of existing window openings.
4. Changing the size of door openings should be avoided where feasible; where doors must be enlarged the visual change should be minimized. Track-hung doors are preferred over rolled steel doors. Doors no longer needed should be fixed shut rather than removed. New doors should be compatible with the size and scale of existing openings, and siding materials.
5. An exterior addition should be considered only if it is essential to the continued use of the barn. If an addition is required, it should be built in a way that minimizes damage to external walls, and the internal plan. It should also be compatible with the historic barn, but sufficiently differentiated from it so that the new work is not confused with genuinely historic elements or features.
6. Historic features or elements that must be altered should be documented (e.g., through photographs or architectural drawings) prior to alteration.

Section 4.04 Child Care Facilities

- A. **Home Child Care:** In accordance with the Act [§4412(5)], a state registered or licensed child care facility serving no more than 6 full-time children and 4 part-time children, as defined in 33 V.S.A. §4902(3)(A), shall be considered by right to constitute a single-family residential use of property. A zoning permit will be required only to ensure that the statutory requirements of this section, as well as other applicable provisions of these regulations, are met.
- B. **Child Care Facilities:** Child care facilities serving more than 6 full-time and 4 part-time children within a single-family dwelling, and all nonresidential child care facilities, may be allowed in designated zoning districts subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03.

Section 4.05 Commercial Water Extraction

Commercial water extraction operations may be allowed in designated zoning districts subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, and the following additional provisions:

- A. In considering the impacts of the transportation of bulk water, the Development Review Board may consider, as a condition of approval, alternatives to trucking and on-site bulk storage of water.
- B. Commercial water extraction specifically excludes the processing of water (e.g., any bottling or packaging other than bulk transport). Such activities are only permitted in districts in which light industry is an allowed use.

Section 4.06 Extraction of Earth Resources

- A. The extraction or removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, rock, minerals or other similar earth resource may be allowed in designated districts subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, and findings that the proposed operation shall not:
 1. cause any hazard to public health and safety, or
 2. adversely affect neighboring properties, property values or public facilities and services, surface water and groundwater supplies, or natural, cultural, historic or scenic features.

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- B. In granting approval, the Development Review Board may consider and impose conditions with regard to any of the following factors as it deems relevant:
1. depth of excavation or quarrying;
 2. slopes created by removal;
 3. effects on surface drainage on and off-site;
 4. storage of equipment and stockpiling of materials on-site;
 5. hours of operation for blasting, trucking, and processing operations;
 6. effects on adjacent properties due to noise, dust, or vibration;
 7. effects on traffic and road conditions, including potential physical damage to public highways;
 8. creation of nuisances or safety hazards;
 9. temporary and permanent erosion control, including project phasing to limit exposed area;
 10. effect on ground and surface water quality, and drinking water supplies;
 11. effect on natural, cultural, historic, or scenic resources on-site or in the vicinity of the project;
 12. effect on agricultural land; and
 13. public health, safety and general welfare.
- C. The application for a conditional use permit under Section 5.2 also shall include erosion control and site reclamation plans showing:
1. existing grades, drainage patterns and depth to water table;
 2. the extent and magnitude of the proposed operation including proposed phasing;
 3. finished grades at the conclusion of the operation; and
 4. revegetation of the site.
- D. In accordance with the Act [§4407(8)] a performance bond, escrow account, or other surety acceptable to the Selectboard may be required to ensure reclamation of the land upon completion of the excavation, to include any regrading, reseeding, reforestation or other reclamation activities that may be required.
- E. The extraction of less than 3,500 cubic yards of sand, gravel, topsoil or similar material resources for a use that is incidental to another duly permitted construction activity located on the same parcel from which the materials were extracted, for use on the same parcel, may be permitted by the Administrative Officer in accordance with Section 6.01.

Section 4.07 Home Occupations & Home Businesses

- A. **Home Occupations.** In accordance with the Act [§4412(4)], no provision of these regulations may infringe upon the right of any resident to use a minor portion of a dwelling for an occupation which is customary in residential areas and which does not change the character of the surrounding neighborhood or area. A zoning permit is required to ensure that the proposed home occupation complies with the following standards:
1. The home occupation shall be carried on by residents of the dwelling; in addition up to 2 nonresident employees may work on the premises at any one time.
 2. The home occupation shall be carried on within a minor portion of the principal dwelling, not to exceed a gross floor area greater than 40% of the interior floor space of the principal dwelling.

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3. A home occupation may not be located in an accessory structure unless the accessory structure includes a dwelling unit.
 4. Exterior storage or display, other than that characteristic of a residential use, is specifically prohibited.
 5. The home occupation shall not generate noise, smoke, vibrations, dust, glare, odor, electrical interference or heat which is detectable at the property line, or which otherwise presents a hazard to public health and safety, or to neighboring properties.
 6. No traffic shall be generated in substantially greater volumes than would normally be expected from a residential use in the neighborhood. Home child care, as defined under Article VII, is specifically exempted from this provision.
 7. Off-street parking for residents and nonresident employees shall be provided in accordance with Section 3.09. No commercial vehicles other than passenger vehicles (e.g., cars, vans, pick-up trucks) associated with the business shall be parked on the premises.
 8. The home occupation shall meet all applicable sign standards (Section 3.11)
 9. On-site retail sales or services are prohibited.
 10. Adequate provisions shall be made for water, wastewater and the disposal of solid waste, in accordance with applicable municipal and state regulations.

B. **Home Businesses.** Home Businesses, as distinguished from “home occupations” under Subsection A, may be allowed as an accessory to a single-family dwelling in designated zoning districts subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, and the following provisions:

1. The home business shall be carried on by residents of the dwelling; in addition up to 4 nonresident employees may work on the premises at any one time.
2. The home business shall be carried on within a minor portion of the principal dwelling, not to exceed a gross floor area greater than 40% of the interior floor space of the principal dwelling or, with the approval of the Development Review Board, a home business located in an accessory structure may occupy an area greater than 40% of the interior floor space of the principal dwelling.
3. The home business shall not change the character of the neighborhood, or result in a change in the outward appearance of the dwelling or the accessory structure.
4. Exterior storage areas (e.g., for building, construction materials, dumpsters) must be completely screened year-round from public view and from neighboring properties. Landscaping may be required as appropriate. The storage of hazardous materials anywhere on the premises is prohibited, with the exception of materials customary and characteristic of residential uses (e.g., heating oil).
5. The home business shall not generate traffic, including delivery traffic, in substantially greater volumes than is characteristic of the neighborhood.

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6. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided for residents, employees and customers in accordance with Section 3.09. Commercial vehicles or equipment associated with the home business shall be parked in an enclosed area, or otherwise screened from public view and from adjoining properties.
 7. Adequate provisions shall be made for water, wastewater and the disposal of solid waste, in accordance with applicable municipal and state regulations.
 8. The home business shall meet all applicable sign standards (Section 3.11)
 9. Home industries shall not generate noise, smoke, vibrations, dust, glare, odor, electrical interference or heat which is detectable at the property line, or which otherwise presents a hazard to public health and safety, or to neighboring properties.
 10. On-site retail sales shall be minor and incidental to the business.
- C. The zoning permit issued for a home occupation or home business shall clearly state that the dwelling is permitted only as an accessory to the principal residential use of the property.

Section 4.08 Mixed Uses

In designated districts, more than one use may be permitted within a single building or on a single lot subject to conditional use review in accordance with Section 5.03 and the following provisions:

- A. Each of the proposed uses is otherwise allowed as a permitted or conditional use in the district in which the mixed use is proposed.
- B. The combined uses meet all applicable standards for the district in which the mixed use is proposed, including minimum setbacks and frontage, maximum lot coverage and minimum lot size.
- C. The mixed use meets all applicable general provisions contained in Article 3, including parking requirements under Section 3.09 based on the cumulative parking demand for the various proposed uses.

Section 4.09 Mobile Home Parks

- A. Mobile home parks may be permitted in designated districts subject to conditional use review in accordance with Section 5.03 and the following provisions:
 1. Proposed parks shall comply with the requirements of 10 VSA Chapter 153.
 2. Proposed parks shall comply with all applicable state and local laws, ordinances and regulations relating to water supply and waste disposal.
 3. The parcel of land for a mobile home park shall be no less than 5 acres in area.
 4. Each mobile home shall be located on a dedicated site of not less than 8,000 SF in area. Each site shall be landscaped with at least 3 trees of native species of at least 2.0 inch diameter at chest height for deciduous trees or not less than 8 feet in height for coniferous trees.

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5. All roads within a mobile home park shall comply with Town road standards, and adequate walkways shall be provided.
 6. Parking shall be provided in accordance with Section 3.09.
 7. A minimum of 25% of the total land area in any mobile home park shall be set aside for common recreational use or open space.
 8. All mobile home parks shall meet minimum setback requirements from the perimeter boundary for the districts in which they are located. Setback areas shall not be included in the calculation of recreation land or open space under subsection 7.
- A. Changes or alterations to park area, design, layout or common facilities are subject to conditional use review in accordance with the above provisions. Changes or alterations to individual mobile home sites or mobile homes within the park (e.g., the addition of a porch, deck or accessory structure serving the residents of the dwelling), shall be allowed in the same manner as changes or alterations to a single-family dwelling.
 - B. In accordance with the Act [24 V.S.A. §4412], if a mobile home park legally in existence as of July 1, 2004 is determined to be nonconforming under these regulations, its nonconforming status shall apply only to the park as a whole, and not to individual mobile home sites within the park. Accordingly, vacated sites within an existing mobile home park shall not be considered discontinued or abandoned; and the standards of these regulations shall not have the effect of prohibiting the replacement of a mobile home on an existing mobile home site.
 - C. No new mobile home parks or mobile home park expansions are allowed within the Flood and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts. Replacement mobile homes within existing parks in the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District must also meet district requirements under Section 5.03(E) for anchoring and elevation above base flood elevations.

Section 4.10 Pond Construction

- A. The construction of ponds and other impoundments may be allowed as an accessory use in any district, except within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District, upon receipt of a zoning permit in accordance with Section 6.01. In the issuance of a permit the Administrative Officer shall find that:
 1. Any pond that will impound, or be capable of impounding in excess of 500,000 cubic feet of water has received a permit from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in accordance with the requirements of 10 V.S.A. Chapter 43.
 2. Any pond involving the alteration of a stream has received a stream alteration permit from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in accordance with 10 V.S.A. Chapter 41.
- B. In addition to the application materials set forth in Section 5.02, an application to construct any pond involving the impoundment of water through the creation of an embankment, berm, or other structure that exceeds the natural grade of the site and contains greater than 20,000 cubic feet of water shall include written certification that the pond has been designed by a state licensed professional engineer. Applications for the damming of streams to form an impoundment area of 5 acres or more are also subject to state agency referral requirements under Section 6.1, and shall

also include the required report for submission to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

- C. Ponds constructed or expanded within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District are subject to conditional use review and applicable district requirements under Table 2.10 and Section 5.03(E).

Section 4.11 Public Facilities

- A. In accordance with the Act [§4413(a)], the following uses are allowed within all zoning districts (except as prohibited in 4.11(D) below) subject to conditional use review pursuant to Section 5.03 and the standards set forth below in 4.11(C):
1. Public and private hospitals.
 2. Regional solid waste management facilities certified by the State – excluding Transfer Station [10 V.S.A., Chapter 159].
 3. Hazardous waste management facilities for which a notice of intent to construct has been received under state law [10 V.S.A., §6606a].
- B. In accordance with the Act [§4413(a)], the following uses are allowed within designated zoning districts subject to conditional use review pursuant to Section 5.03 and the standards set forth below in 4.11(C):
1. State or community owned and operated institutions and facilities (see definition of Public Facility).
 2. Public and private schools and other educational institutions certified by the Vermont Department of Education (see definition of School).
 3. Churches, places of worship, convents and parish houses (see definition of Places of Worship).
 4. Regional solid waste management facilities certified by the State – Transfer Station only (see definition of Transfer Station).
- C. In reviewing public facilities listed in subsections (A) and (B), the Development Review Board shall ensure that the proposed use complies with all applicable district standards under Article II and conditional use standards under Section 5.03, only to the extent that such standards relate to site plan review criteria associated with the proposed public facility as follows: location, size, height, bulk, yards, courts, setbacks, density of buildings, off-street parking and loading facilities, traffic, noise, lighting, and landscaping or screening requirements.
- D. New critical public facilities, as defined under Section 7.03 for purposes of flood hazard area management and regulation, are prohibited within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District (mapped 100-year flood hazard areas), and also within mapped 500-year (0.2% annual chance) flood hazard areas.

Section 4.12 Telecommunications Facilities

- A. New or expanded telecommunication facilities, including but not limited to towers and accessory structures, may be permitted in designated zoning districts as conditional uses subject to review under Section 5.03 and the following provisions:

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1. A proposal for a new tower shall not be permitted unless it is determined by the Development Review Board that the equipment planned for the proposed tower cannot be accommodated on an existing approved tower, building or structure.
 2. New towers shall be designed to accommodate the co-location of both the applicant's antennas and comparable antennas for one or more additional users, depending on tower height. Towers must be designed to allow future rearrangement of antennas, and to accept antennas mounted at varying heights.
 3. All towers, including antennae, shall not exceed a height of 10 feet higher than the surrounding forest canopy or, in the case of towers located in open (unforested) areas, shall not exceed a height of 50 feet, as measured from the lowest grade at ground level to the top of the highest structure or component.
 4. Towers shall be set back from all property lines and public rights of-way for a distance equaling their total height, including attached antennas, unless otherwise permitted by the Development Review Board:
 - a. if tower design and construction guarantees that it will collapse inwardly upon itself, and there is no risk of damage to adjoining private or public property or injury to persons; or
 - b. to allow for the integration of a tower into an existing or proposed structure such as a church steeple, light standard, utility pole, or similar structure, to the extent that no hazard to public health, safety or welfare results.
 5. Tower construction and wiring shall meet all state and federal requirements, including but not limited to Federal Communication Commission requirements for transmissions, emissions and interference. No telecommunication facility shall be located or operated in such a manner that it poses a potential threat to public health or safety.
 6. New towers shall be sited and designed to minimize their visibility. No tower shall be located on a ridge line or hill top, and shall be sighted so that the highest point of the facility does not exceed the highest point of land in the immediate vicinity of the tower, and does not exceed the height of 10 feet higher than the surrounding tree canopy or exceed the height of the adjacent ridgeline or hill top. New or modified towers and antennae shall be designed to blend into the surrounding environment to the greatest extent feasible, through the use of existing vegetation, landscaping and screening, the use of compatible materials and colors, or other camouflaging techniques.
 7. Towers shall be enclosed by security fencing at least 6 feet in height, and shall be equipped with appropriate anti-climbing devices.
 8. Towers shall not be illuminated by artificial means and shall not display strobe lights.
 9. The use of any portion of a tower for signs other than warning or equipment information is strictly prohibited.
 10. Access roads, and all accessory utility buildings and structures shall be designed to aesthetically blend in with the surrounding environment, meet all other minimum requirements for the district in which they are located and comply with the standards set forth in subsection 3.2. Ground-mounted equipment shall be screened from view. Setback, landscaping and screening requirements may be increased as appropriate based on site conditions, and to protect neighboring properties and uses. All utilities proposed to serve a telecommunications site shall be installed under ground.

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11. All abandoned or unused towers and associated facilities shall be removed within 12 months of the cessation of operations at the site, and the site shall be restored to its original appearance. A copy of the relevant portions of any signed lease which requires the applicant to remove the tower and associated facilities shall be submitted at the time of application. A bond or other form of surety acceptable to the Select Board may be required to ensure tower removal and site reclamation.
- B. In addition to the site development plan required under Section 5.2, applications for new towers shall also include the following:
1. a report from a qualified and licensed professional engineer which describes tower height, construction design and capacity, including cross-sections, elevations, potential mounting locations, and fall zones;
 2. information regarding the availability of existing towers and buildings located within the site search ring for the proposed site, including written documentation from other tower owners within the search ring that no suitable sites are available;
 3. written documentation that the proposed tower will comply with all requirements of the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Aviation Administration; and
 4. any additional information needed to determine compliance with the provisions of these regulations.
- C. Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (A), wireless telecommunications equipment to be mounted on existing towers, utility poles, or other structures may be permitted by the Development Review Board pursuant to conditional use review under Section 5.03 provided that:
1. no changes are made to the height or appearance of such structure except as required for mounting;
 2. no panel antenna shall exceed 72 inches in height or 24 inches in width;
 3. no dish antenna shall exceed 3 feet in diameter;
 4. any accompanying equipment shall be screened from view.
- D. The following are specifically exempted from the provisions of this Section:
1. A single ground or building mounted radio or television antenna or satellite dish not exceeding 36 inches in diameter which is intended solely for residential use, and does not, as mounted, exceed 35 feet in height above the lowest grade at ground level.
 2. All citizens band radio antenna or antenna operated by a federally licensed amateur radio operator which do not exceed a height of 50 feet above the grade level, whether free standing or mounted, and which meet all setback requirements for the district in which they are located.

Section 4.13 Temporary Uses & Structures; Special Events

- A. Except within the Flood Hazard or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts, a temporary zoning permit may be issued by the Administrative Officer for a period not to exceed 90 days from the effective date of permit, for a conforming use or structure which is incidental to a permitted use, provided that such permit requires as a condition the removal of the structure or use within 7 days after expiration of the permit. The permit for a temporary use or structure shall expire at the end of the 90 day period, or upon removal of the use or structure, whichever is earlier. Such permits are subject to all other requirements for issuance and appeal under Sections 6.01 and 6.04.
- B. A temporary structure shall meet all setback requirements for the district in which it is located, and all other applicable provisions of these regulations.
- C. Temporary construction trailers may remain on the construction site for the duration of the construction or for a maximum of 18 months, whichever is less.
- D. Special events. Special events may be allowed as accessory uses to an existing use, in accordance with the following:
 - 1. A maximum of two special events in any calendar year, lasting a maximum of 2 consecutive days, with no more than 150 attendees, and associated with a single parcel of land, are exempt from this provision and shall not require a zoning permit. Events that are for profit or for which a fee for admission is charged are not exempted under this subsection.
 - 2. For more than two Special Events in a calendar year with an expected attendance of no more than 250 attendees for any single event, and for Special Events not eligible for exemption under provision #1 above, conditional use approval must be obtained from the Development Review Board under Section 5.03 prior to the issuance of a use permit. In granting conditional use approval, the Board shall determine that:
 - (a) the proposed use complies with all applicable conditional use standards under subsection 5.03(C);
 - (b) consideration is given to the cumulative impacts of all activities associated with the event, including pre- and post-event truck deliveries, temporary structures, parking and traffic safety;
 - (c) provision is made for the safe disposal of all wastewater and solid waste in accordance with applicable municipal and state regulations; and
 - (d) the number of events and the maximum number of attendees will not have an undue adverse impact on adjacent properties or the existing character of the surrounding area or neighborhood due to noise levels, lighting, traffic conditions or other off-site impacts that are uncharacteristic of the parcel, affected roads and surrounding area.
 - 3. Events that are subject to a Festival Permit issued by the Waitsfield Selectboard, in accordance with the Waitsfield Festival Ordinance, are explicitly exempted from the requirements of this Section and shall not require a zoning permit or conditional use approval.

ARTICLE V. DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

Section 5.01 Applicability of Development Review Standards

- A. **Conditional Use Review** standards shall apply to those uses designated as conditional uses in Article II, or as otherwise specified under Articles III (General Regulations) and IV (Specific Use Standards). Such uses are subject to conditional use review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.03, except that the Administrative Officer may issue an administrative amendment for development that has received conditional use approval by the Development Review Board only in accordance with the Act [§4464(c)] and Section 6.07(F) of these Bylaws.
- B. **Flood and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Review** standards under section 5.03(E) and (F) shall apply to all development, as defined for these purposes in Section 7.03, within the Flood or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts, and listed in Table 2.10, and Table 2.11. Development listed under Subsection C of the overlay district tables as “conditional uses” is subject to conditional use review under Section 5.03, including all applicable standards under subsections (E) and (F).
- C. **Planned Unit Development (PUD)** standards shall apply to all major subdivisions, as defined under Article VII, which are located in the Agricultural-Residential and Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay Districts, and all subdivisions located in the Industrial and Forest Reserve District; and may be applied to other subdivisions of land at the request of the applicant. Such subdivisions are subject to review by the Development Review Board under Section 5.04 and the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations* currently in effect.
- D. All **Subdivisions** are subject to review by the Development Review Board in accordance with the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*.

Section 5.02 Application Requirements

- A. **Conditional Use Review.** An applicant for conditional use, flood or fluvial erosion hazard area review shall submit, in addition to zoning permit application requirements under Section 6.01, one original and three complete copies of a site development plan to include the following information, unless otherwise specifically waived by the Development Review Board:
 - 1. The names and addresses of the property owner(s) of record, the applicant if different from the property owners, and the person(s) or firm preparing the application and plan.
 - 2. The names and addresses of all adjoining property owners, as determined from the current Waitsfield Grand List.
 - 3. A project description, including parcel identification number(s); the proposed use or activity; total lot area, lot coverage and square footage; zoning district(s) in which the property is located; and the construction sequence and timing schedule for the completion of each phase of the development, including structures, infrastructure, parking areas, and landscaping and site reclamation.
 - 4. A site location map (1 inch to 1000 feet) showing the location of proposed development in relation to properties, surface waters and drainage, land uses, roads and utilities within the vicinity of the development; and

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5. A site plan (24" x 36"), drawn to scale, which shows the following:
 - a. the name of the project, north arrow, scale and application date;
 - b. the name, address, and license or certification information of the preparer;
 - c. existing and proposed property boundaries, rights-of-way, and easements;
 - d. zoning district boundaries;
 - e. existing site features, including contours, elevations, and prominent topographic features; surface waters, wetlands and associated buffers; land use and vegetative cover, including large trees; designated floodplain and source protection areas; critical habitat areas, and historic sites;
 - f. cross-sections or profiles for roads, extraction, cut and fill areas, and for areas of steep slope (15% or more) to be developed;
 - g. existing and proposed structures, including building footprints and elevations, walls and fence lines, utilities, roads, driveways, pedestrian paths, parking and loading areas;
 - h. existing and proposed traffic and pedestrian circulation patterns, including access to or proposed connections with adjoining properties, public roads and public waters, and paths or trails;
 - i. water supply and wastewater disposal design details; and
 - j. proposed site grading, drainage, landscaping, screening, signage, waste receptacles and/or lighting details.
 6. Any additional information or studies as required by the Development Review Board to determine project conformance with the provisions of these regulations. Such studies shall be funded by the applicant, and be performed by a qualified professional selected jointly by the applicant and Board.
 7. The Development Review Board may waive one or more of the required submission materials in the event they determine that the information is not necessary for a thorough review of the application due to existing site conditions and/or the limited scale and/or intensity of the project.
 8. For development in the Flood Hazard Area Overlay (FHO) District, the application shall also include on the site plan, or in associated attachments:
 - a. base flood elevation data;
 - b. the elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor, including basement, of all new or substantially improved buildings;
 - c. the elevations, in relation to mean sea level, of streets, water supply and sanitary facilities;
 - d. the elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which buildings will be floodproofed;
 - e. a description of proposed floodproofing measures, and certification from a registered professional engineer or architect that the floodproofed structure meets all applicable floodproofing criteria under subsection F;
 - f. a typical cross-section showing the stream channel, elevation of adjoining lands, and areas to be occupied by the proposed development;
 - g. a profile showing the slope of the bottom of the channel or flow line of the stream;
 - h. a description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered; and
 - i. a report prepared for submission to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation in accordance with state agency referral requirements under Section 6.01.

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- j. An ANR project review sheet or equivalent that identifies required state permits and approvals, as described in Section 6.07(A)(1).
9. For development in the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay (FEHO) District, the application shall also include on the site plan or in associated attachments:
- a. FEH Overlay District boundaries on the site or subdivision plan, drawn to scale, as measured horizontally from the top of the stream bank or, if no stream bank is apparent, the centerline of the stream channel, as well as the location of all existing and proposed structures, roads, driveways, infrastructure, utilities, rights-of-way and other site improvements in relation to district boundaries;
 - b. identification on the site or subdivision plan of the horizontal distances from the streambank or channel centerline to the nearest structure and road;
 - c. written justification of need to develop within, rather than outside of, the FEH Overlay District; and,
 - d. as described in Section 6.07(A)(1), a state project review sheet or equivalent that identifies required state permits and approvals.
10. **Application Referral Requirements.** Completed applications for development within the Flood Hazard or Fluvial Hazard Area Overlay District and supporting information shall be referred by the Administrative Officer to the state for review, as specified below. No municipal permit or approval shall be issued for the development until comments have been received from the state, or 30 days have elapsed from the date of referral, whichever is sooner. State recommendations shall be incorporated as applicable in municipal findings and decisions.
- a. Applications for development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District shall be submitted to the State National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Coordinator at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.
 - b. Applications for development within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District shall be submitted to the River Management Program at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.
 - c. If the application includes the proposed alteration or relocation of a watercourse, copies of the application shall also be submitted to adjacent municipalities, the Stream Alteration Engineer and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and the Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the State NFIP Coordinator.
- B. **Planned Unit Developments (PUDs).** Applications for PUD approval shall be submitted simultaneously with applications for major subdivision review in accordance with the requirements set forth in the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*. In addition to the information required for subdivision review described in those regulations, applications for PUDs must include the following:
- 1. A statement setting forth the nature of all proposed modifications or changes of existing land use and development regulations and the standards and criteria which the applicant proposes for the development, including standards for the design, bulk and spacing of buildings and sizes of lots and open spaces; and
 - 2. A brief summary of the project and how it meets the standards in this section.

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3. Additional information required by the Development Review Board to determine whether the proposed mix of uses, density and scale and intensity of uses will meet the standards set forth in these regulations.
- C. The application shall not be considered complete until all required forms, information and associated fees have been submitted. The Development Review Board may waive one or more application requirements upon determination that the information is unnecessary for the comprehensive review of the application. Such waiver shall be made at the time the application is accepted and deemed complete.

Section 5.03 Conditional Use Review

- A. **Applicability.** No zoning permit shall be issued by the Administrative Officer for any use or structure which requires conditional use approval until the Development Review Board grants such approval in accordance with the Act [§4414(3)], and the following standards and procedures.
- B. **Review Process.** Upon determination that the application as submitted is complete, the Development Review Board shall schedule a public hearing, warned in accordance with Section 6.07. The Board shall act to approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove an application for conditional use review within 45 days of the date of the final public hearing; and shall issue a written decision. The written decision shall include a statement of the factual bases on which the Board made its conclusions, a statement of those conclusions, any conditions, and shall specify the period of time within which the decision may be appealed to the Environmental Court. Failure to act within the 45 day period shall be deemed approval. Any decision issued by the Development Review Board may authorize that certain subsequent changes or amendments to an approved project may be allowed subject to administrative review by the Administrative Officer, rather than Board review, in accordance with Section 6.07(F).
- C. **General Standards.** Conditional use approval shall be granted by the Development Review Board upon finding that the proposed development will not result in an undue adverse impact on any of the following:
1. **The capacity of existing or planned community services or facilities.** The Board shall consider the demand for community services and facilities resulting from the proposed development in relation to the available or planned capacity of such services and facilities. Available capacity may be determined in part through consultation with other municipal and/or state officials having jurisdiction over affected services and facilities. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate to ensure that the demand for community facilities or services does not exceed existing or anticipated available capacity.
 2. **The character of the area affected.** The Board shall consider the location, scale, type, density and intensity of use associated with the proposed development in relation to the character of the area likely to be affected. The character of the area shall be determined by the Board based on the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, applicable zoning district purposes and standards, and submitted materials and testimony. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate to ensure project compatibility with the character of the area affected.
 3. **Traffic on roads and highways in the vicinity.** The Board shall consider the potential impact of projected traffic resulting from the proposed development in relation to the condition, capacity, safety, and function of roads and associated infrastructure (e.g., bridges, culverts) potentially affected the proposed development.

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- a. A traffic impact study may be required, particularly for uses which propose direct access onto Route 100 or Route 17, or which generate in excess of 100 trips per day. A traffic impact study shall include the following, unless specifically waived by the Development Review Board:
 - i. the identification of all roads and intersections potentially affected by the project;
 - ii. a statement of existing and projected traffic conditions for a minimum of a 5 year period;
 - iii. a comparison of operating levels of service for affected roads and intersections with and without the proposed project, as of its opening date, and projected for a five year period; and
 - iv. identification of any adverse traffic, road or intersection impacts, and a description of the improvements needed to provide an acceptable level of service.
 - b. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate to ensure that the condition, capacity, safety and function of roads and associated infrastructure are adequately maintained over the long-term. For uses that will cause the level of service to go below “C” for the identified design hour, or will contribute to an existing level of service “D” or “F”, the Development Review Board may require off-site road or intersection modifications as appropriate for the area or district (e.g., the installation of frontage roads, turning lanes, or signals as warranted) as a condition of approval.
4. **Bylaws in effect.** The Board shall consider whether the proposed development complies with all bylaws in effect at the time of application, including other applicable provisions of this bylaw, other municipal permit and/or approval conditions (e.g., subdivision, highway access) and is consistent with applicable goals, policies and objectives of the *Waitsfield Town Plan*. Conditions may be imposed or incorporated as appropriate to ensure compliance with other municipal bylaws and ordinances in effect.
 5. **The utilization of renewable energy resources.** The Board shall consider whether the proposed development will interfere with the sustainable use of renewable energy resources, including access to, direct use or future availability of such resources. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate to ensure long-term access, use and availability of such resources.
- D. **Specific Standards.** In addition to the General Standards set forth above, the Development Review Board shall consider whether the following standards are applicable to the application due to site conditions and/or the scale and intensity of the proposed use. Where one or more of the following standards are determined to be applicable, the Board may impose specific conditions or require project modifications to ensure the following:
1. **Protection of Natural Resources.** The land to be developed will be able to support the intended use without undue adverse impacts to significant natural features (e.g., wetlands, wildlife habitat, steep slopes, groundwater, headwater streams), as determined from the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, and/or through site analysis. An environmental assessment may be required to determine potential adverse impacts and associated mitigation measures. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to minimum lot size, the density and siting of development on the parcel, and on-site or off-site mitigation measures to avoid or minimize any adverse impacts to significant natural features. In the Irasville Village District, projects may be approved subject to area-wide mitigation programs

encompassing multiple parcels which have been prepared to address one or more natural feature located on the site.

2. **Design and Location of Structures.** The design and location of structures will be compatible with their proposed setting and context, as determined by zoning district objectives and standards under Article II. A design or visual impact analysis may be required to identify potential adverse impacts and appropriate mitigation measures. Specific standards shall apply to the following districts:
 - a. In the **Village Residential and Village Business Districts**, development shall reinforce a traditional, compact village development pattern characterized by pedestrian scale and orientation, traditional densities and setbacks, a well-defined streetscape, sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian circulation, and a well-defined edge to the built environment. While building design is not required to reflect any one architectural style or era, the following standards apply to new and expanded structures subject to conditional use approval:
 - i. Building design shall be compatible with historic buildings identified as those structures listed on the *Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Register* and located within Waitsfield Village.
 - ii. The exterior design of buildings, including the arrangement, orientation, texture and materials, shall be compatible and harmonious with surrounding historic structures. Buildings should be oriented toward, and relate both functionally and visually, to public streets and/or common greens, parks or plazas. The Board may impose a maximum setback to achieve a consistent streetscape.
 - iii. The scale and massing of buildings, including height, width, street frontage, roof type and facade openings, shall be compatible and harmonious with surrounding historic structures. Consideration shall be given to buildings serving special civic, social or cultural functions, including places of worship, which may be designed to serve as prominent focal points within the Village.
 - iv. Conformance with the standards set forth in Table 2.09. Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District, if applicable.
 - b. In the **Irasville Village District**, development shall be designed to establish a defined streetscape, characterized by an interconnected network of streets bounded by a combination of sidewalks, street trees and consistent building setbacks, as opposed to large-scale buildings surrounded by expansive parking areas. Buildings (excluding accessory structures) shall be a minimum of two stories and shall reflect a diversity of building scale and massing. Excessively large, monolithic buildings shall be avoided, or the scale and massing reduced through varied roof lines and interruption to the building elevation (facades) to create attached, but separate, masses. New development shall conform to the requirements of the Route 100 scenic road standards in (d) below.
 - i. The exterior design of buildings, including the arrangement, orientation, texture and materials, shall be compatible and harmonious with traditional Vermont villages. Buildings should be oriented toward, and relate both functionally and visually, to public streets and/or common greens, parks or plazas.

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- ii. The scale and massing of buildings, including height, width, street frontage, roof type and facade openings, shall be compatible and harmonious with traditional Vermont villages.
 - c. In the **Agricultural-Residential and Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay Districts** particular consideration shall be given to locating structures off of agricultural land or at the periphery of agricultural land, and where possible, taking advantage of existing slopes and vegetation to provide a backdrop and screening for the project.
 - d. Along **scenic roads** identified in Section 3.10 particular consideration shall be given to the compatibility of the proposed development with existing and approved structures and uses, and the scenic characteristics of the road. Buildings shall be blended into, and visually compatible with, the surrounding area by appropriate landscaping and the use of topographic features, or may be required to be screened from view. Parking and loading areas should be located behind buildings or otherwise screened from the road. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to development siting (building footprints and/or envelopes), density, setbacks, scale, height, bulk, massing, materials, and screening to ensure compatibility with uses and structures adjoining or within the vicinity of the project.
3. **Traffic and Pedestrian Circulation.** A coordinated, safe and efficient system for vehicular and pedestrian circulation shall be provided on and off-site in accordance with all applicable municipal and state standards. A traffic and/or pedestrian circulation study may be required.
- a. Particular consideration shall be given to the number and location of accesses or curb cuts, visibility at intersections, to traffic flow and control, to pedestrian convenience and safety, and to access in case of emergency.
 - b. For development located along **Route 100** in the **Irasville Village, Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay, Limited Business and Industrial Districts**, particular consideration shall be given to limiting access onto Route 100 in accordance with Section 3.2. Within the Industrial District, access to Route 100 from the site is only permitted from town highways.
 - c. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to intersections, pedestrian paths and crossings, and the number, location and size of accesses, including the reduction, consolidation or elimination of noncomplying curbcuts, the limiting of access to side or secondary roads, and/or provisions for shared access with adjoining parcels or uses on the same parcel, in accordance with Section 3.02.
4. **Parking, Transit & Service Areas.** Off-street parking and service areas will be provided in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.09. A parking assessment may be required.
- a. Particular consideration shall be given to the effect of noise, glare, odors, on adjoining properties; the adequacy of proposed landscaping, screening, and stormwater management, and provisions for service areas, refuse and snow removal.

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- b. Off-street parking areas may be required to be landscaped or screened from adjacent uses and scenic roads, including Route 100. For uses located along Route 100 parking should be located behind buildings or otherwise screened from view.
 - c.
 - d. Permeable surfaces shall be encouraged for proposed parking areas to limit stormwater runoff.
 - e. Adequate space for maneuvering in and out of parking and loading areas shall be provided and located so as not to interfere with circulation to and within the site.
 - f. Transit facilities (e.g., bus shelters) shall be provided as appropriate for development to be served by existing or proposed transit routes.
 - g. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to the extent, siting, landscaping, screening, paving, curbing and/or the sharing of parking and service areas between adjoining parcels or for uses on the same parcel.
5. **Stormwater Management.** Stormwater runoff shall not result in adverse impacts to neighboring properties, town roads, or water quality in nearby surface waters. A stormwater management and/or erosion control plan, prepared by a licenced engineer, may be required as appropriate and incorporated as a condition to approval. Such plan shall be prepared in accordance with Best Management Practices (BMPs) for managing stormwater and controlling erosion, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.
6. **Lighting.** Lighting associated with proposed development will be the minimum required for safety and security, will avoid glare and sky glow, and will not result in an undue adverse effect on neighboring properties and uses or the quality of the night sky. A lighting plan may be required.
- a. Exterior incandescent lighting shall be limited to cut-off fixtures designed and maintained so that the angle of emitted light is not greater than 75° from the vertical.
 - b. Halide or arc-type fixtures shall be used for down lighting only and shall be screened so that no direct light is visible from adjacent properties.
 - c. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to the type, height, layout and mounting of exterior lighting fixtures.
7. **Landscaping & Screening.** Proposed landscaping and screening shall achieve maximum project compatibility and protection to adjacent properties. A landscaping plan may be required.
- a. Landscaping, which shall include shade and street trees, shrubs, planting beds, buffers, and ground covers), is required to be installed and maintained in front and side yards, and may be required in rear yards where rear yards abut residential properties or public rights-of-way. Landscaping plans for properties fronting upon Route 100 in the Village Residential, Village Business or Irasville

Village District shall be compatible with the *Waitsfield Village/Irasville Street Tree Master Plan*.

- b. Particular consideration shall be given to the preservation of existing vegetation and important features of the site (e.g., large trees, scenic views, fences, walls, and shrubs), the visibility of unsightly or incompatible areas from the road and adjoining properties, and the adequacy of landscaping materials to meet seasonal, soil, and light conditions.
 - c. Screening, which may consist of vegetative material, wood, brick or stone, may be required to reduce glare and achieve compatibility with the project setting or adjoining properties, and shall be of sufficient height and density so as to effectively screen an area within 2 years of construction. Vegetative screening should consist of a diversity of plant materials to create a naturalized appearance.
 - d. Specific conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to the amount, type, size, and location of landscaping and screening materials. A minimum of 3% of the total project cost may be required to be expended on landscaping, and/or a 3-year bond or other surety to ensure installation and maintenance also may be required as appropriate and incorporated as a condition of approval.
- 8. **Water & Wastewater Systems.** All applicable municipal and state regulations pertaining to water and wastewater disposal systems shall be met.
 - a. Site testing (e.g., soil tests, borings) and system designs prepared by a qualified professional (i.e., a professional engineer or certified site technician) may be required.
 - b. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to system siting, performance and maintenance. Professional certification of system installation also may be required as a condition of approval.
- 9. **Performance Standards.** The following standards shall apply to all new development, including the alteration, conversion, expansion or relocation of existing uses, structures and/or associated operations on a parcel. Pre-existing uses and operations in lawful existence as of the effective date of these regulations which exceed these standards shall be considered exempt until such time as they are discontinued or altered. The Board may require an assessment under one or more of the following performance standards of the potential impact to properties and uses within the vicinity of the project to ensure that the proposed use will operate in conformance with the following standards.
 - a. **Fire & Explosion.** All activities involving the use and/or storage of flammable and explosive materials shall be equipped with adequate safety devices against the hazard of fire and explosion, and adequate fire fighting and fire suppression equipment and devices which are standard for such industry or activity. Burning of waste materials in open fires is prohibited. Relevant provisions of state and federal law also shall apply.
 - b. **Vibration.** No vibration shall be produced through the ground which could have an undue adverse impact on adjacent landowners.
 - c. **Noise.** No noise which is excessive at the property line or any point beyond the property line and represents a significant increase in noise levels in the vicinity of

the development so as to be incompatible with the reasonable use of the surrounding area shall be permitted. The maximum sound pressure (decibel) level generated by any use, operation, or facility shall not exceed the values prescribed in Table 5.01 for a noise emitted from a facility or operation within the district, as measured from the lot line. If the noise is not smooth and continuous, and/or is emitted between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., one or more of the corrections in Table 5.02 shall be applied to the decibel levels given in Table 5.01. Specifically exempted from these noise standards are:

Table 5.01 Maximum Decibel Levels	
Frequency Band (Cycles per second)	Decibel Level
32	67
63	65
125	60
250	53
500	48
1,000	42
2,000	36
4,000	31
8,000	25

Table 5.02 Decibel Corrections by Type of Noise and Operation	
Noise is of an impulsive nature (e.g., hammering)	-5
Noise is of a periodic or pure tone in nature (e.g., hum, screech)	-5
Noise source operates between 7:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M.	-10

- transportation vehicles not used in the ordinary operation of a use or business or not under the control of the property owner, tenant or lessor;
 - occasionally used safety signals, warning devices, and emergency relief valves; and
 - temporary construction and property and lawn maintenance activities between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- d. **Odor.** No noticeable odors shall be discharged which are offensive and uncharacteristic of the area, or which will result in an undue adverse impact on the use of any public or private property or facility.
- e. **Emissions & Air Pollution.** No emissions shall be permitted which can cause any damage to health, animals, vegetation, or other forms of property, or which can cause any excessive soiling at any point on or beyond the property. All uses and development shall operate in compliance with the *Vermont Air Pollution Control Regulations*, as amended. The Board may require documentation to this effect prior to granting conditional use approval.
- f. **Heat.** For the purposes of these regulations, heat is defined as any thermal energy of a radioactive, conductive or convective nature. Heat emitted at any or all points shall not at any time cause temperature increase perceptible to humans on any adjacent property whether such change be in air, ground or water temperature, or in the temperature of any structure adjoining the property.
- g. **Direct Glare.** Direct glare is defined for purposes of these regulations as illumination beyond property boundaries caused by direct or arc lighting, or other source of light. No such direct glare shall be permitted with the exception that

parking areas and walkways may be illuminated by luminaries with cutoff, hooded or otherwise shielded fixtures such that the maximum angle of the cone of direct illumination shall be 80 degrees, or for fixtures less than 4 feet in height, 90 degrees, as drawn perpendicular to the ground. Such luminaries shall be placed no more than 16 feet above ground level and the maximum illumination at ground level shall not exceed 3 foot-candles. In reviewing proposed uses the Development Review Board may require a lighting plan.

h. **Indirect Glare.** Indirect glare for the purposes of these regulations is defined as illumination beyond property lines caused by diffuse reflection from a surface such as water, a wall, a window or the roof or a structure. Indirect glare shall not exceed that value which is produced by an illumination of the reflecting surface not to exceed a maximum of 0.3 foot-candles, and an average of 0.1 foot candles. Deliberately induced sky-reflected glare (e.g., casting a beam upward for advertising purposes) is specifically prohibited.

i. **Liquid & Solid Wastes.** No discharge of liquid or solid wastes or other materials of such nature or temperature as can contaminate surface or groundwater, or otherwise cause the release of dangerous or offensive elements, shall be permitted at any point into any sewage disposal system, watercourse or lake, or into the ground, except in accordance with all applicable municipal, state and federal regulations.

10. **Utilities.** Electrical, telephone and other lines or cables shall be sited to avoid or minimize environmental and visual impacts. In the siting of utility transmission and distribution lines, particular consideration shall be given to the sharing of corridors and rights-of-way, and/or the burial of utility service lines where feasible to minimize associated environmental and visual impacts. In addition:

a. In the **Agricultural-Residential and Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay Districts** utility lines, to the extent feasible, shall be sited to follow existing linear features (e.g., tree lines, access roads) and to avoid the physical and visual fragmentation of agricultural land and open space.

b. Along **Route 100 and other scenic roads** designated in Section 3.10, utility lines shall be screened from the road; the Development Review Board may require that lines be buried.

c. Conditions may be imposed as appropriate with regard to the location of utility corridors and lines to avoid or minimize an adverse environmental or visual impact.

E. **Flood Hazard Area Development Standards.** The Flood Hazard Area Overlay (FHO) District (Table 2.10) includes all Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) identified on the most current Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and accompanying Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for the Town of Waitsfield published by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as provided by the state (under 10 V.S.A. §752).

1. **Definitions.** For purposes of municipal flood hazard area management and regulation, federal program terms and definitions under Section 7.03 shall apply to the review of development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District. Where these terms differ from general terms and definitions used in these regulations, federal program definitions shall apply.

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2. **Review Standards.** Conditional use review is required for all development and activities listed as conditional uses within this overlay district (Table 2.10). Development within this district which is identified as a permitted use in the underlying district in which it is located shall be reviewed only under the standards of this subsection. For conditional uses in the underlying district, in addition to applicable general and specific conditional use standards under 5.03(C) and (D), applicable flood hazard area standards under this subsection also shall apply.
 3. **Prohibited Development.** The following development is specifically prohibited within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District (mapped SFHAs):
 - f. New principal residential and nonresidential structures, including new manufactured (mobile) homes except as allowed in the Village Business and Village Residential Districts;
 - g. Salvage yards and storage areas or facilities for floatable materials, chemicals, explosives, flammable liquids, or other hazardous or toxic materials.
 - h. Fill, except as necessary to elevate structures above the base flood elevation.
 - i. Critical public facilities, which are also prohibited within mapped 500-year flood hazard areas.
 - j. Fully enclosed areas below grade on all sides, including crawlspaces and basements (see E.14).
 - k. All other development not exempted or allowed under Table 2.10.
 4. In Zones A, AE, AH, and A1-A30 where base flood elevations and/or floodway limits have not been determined, development shall not be permitted unless it is demonstrated that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated encroachment, will not increase the base flood elevation more than 2.00 feet ~~1.00 foot~~ at any point within the community. The demonstration must be supported by technical data that conforms to standard hydraulic engineering principles, as certified by a registered professional engineer.
 5. **Floodways.** Within floodway areas:
 - a. New structures are prohibited.
 - b. Development and encroachments, including fill, are prohibited unless a registered professional engineer certifies, based on hydrologic and hydraulic analyses conducted in accordance with standard engineering practices, that the proposed development will (i) not result in any increase (0.00 feet) in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood, and (ii) will not increase the risk to surrounding properties, facilities or structures from flooding or erosion.
 - c. Public utilities may be placed underground, and the analyses may be waived, if a registered professional engineer certifies that there will be no change in grade and the utilities will be adequately protected from scour.
 6. **General Considerations.** In reviewing applications for development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, the Development Review Board shall consider the following:
 - a. the danger to life and property due to increased flood heights or velocities caused by encroachments;
 - b. the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands downstream or to the injury of others;

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- c. the ability of proposed water supply and sanitization systems to prevent disease, contamination and unsanitary conditions under conditions of flooding;
 - d. the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on individual owners or residents;
 - e. the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
 - f. the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location;
 - g. the availability of alternative locations not subject to flooding for the proposed use;
 - h. the safety of vehicular and emergency access to the property in times of flood;
 - i. the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise, and sediment transport of flood waters expected at the site;
 - j. the costs of providing governmental and public facilities and services during and after a flood event;
 - k. other such factors as are relevant to the purpose of these regulations.
7. All development within Special Flood Hazard Areas shall be:
- a. reasonably safe from flooding,
 - b. adequately drained to reduce exposure to flood hazards, and shall be
 - c. located to minimize conflict with changes in stream channel locations over time and the need to intervene with such changes.
8. Structures within Special Flood Hazard Areas shall be:
- a. designed, operated, maintained, or modified and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, release or lateral movement of the structure during the occurrence of the base flood,
 - b. constructed with materials resistant to flood damage,
 - c. constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damage,
 - d. constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding, and
 - e. accessible by dry land during a base flood occurrence.
9. The flood carrying and sediment transport capacity within any altered or relocated portion of a watercourse shall be maintained.
10. A stream alteration permit from the Agency of Natural Resources shall be required, where applicable, for the installation of bridges and culverts over or within stream channels. Documentation that necessary state permits have been obtained shall be required prior to the issuance of municipal certificates of occupancy or compliance.
11. All mobile home parks, subdivisions and planned unit developments must meet the requirements of this overlay district and the following:
- a. Subdivisions shall be designed to avoid siting structures, driveways and roads within special flood hazard areas, and to minimize potential flood damage within these areas.
 - b. All utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems serving the subdivision shall be located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flooding.
 - c. Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.

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- d. The subdivision must be accessible by dry land during base flood occurrences.
12. New and replacement water supply and sanitary sewage systems as approved by the state, must meet the following requirements:
- a. Water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate the infiltration of flood waters into the systems.
 - b. Sanitary sewer systems shall be designed and constructed to minimize or eliminate the infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharges from the systems into flood waters.
 - c. On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

Documentation that all water supply and wastewater permits have been received shall be required prior to the issuance of municipal certificates of occupancy or compliance.

13. Fuel storage tanks to serve allowed uses must either:
- a. be elevated at least ~~two feet one foot~~ above the base flood elevation, and securely anchored to prevent flotation, or
 - b. placed underground and securely anchored as certified by a qualified professional.
14. The lowest floor, including basement, of all new structures shall be elevated [at least ~~two feet one foot~~] above the base flood elevation, to be documented in as-built condition through the submission of a FEMA Elevation Certificate.
15. Substantial improvements to existing structures for residential purposes, including expanded or replacement manufactured (mobile) homes, and accessory dwellings shall be elevated such that the lowest floor (including the basement) is [at least ~~two feet one foot~~] above the base flood elevation, to be documented in as-built condition through submission of a FEMA Elevation Certificate.
- a. For the replacement of a manufactured (mobile) home in a pre-existing mobile home park (created before the FIRM) where elevating the replacement home to or above base flood elevation is not possible, the lowest floor shall be supported by reinforced piers or other foundation elements of at least equivalent strength that are no less than 48 inches in height above grade and be securely anchored to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.
 - b. Manufactured homes shall be adequately anchored to resist collapse, flotation and lateral movement in accordance with federal requirements (44 CFR.60.3).
16. Substantial improvements of existing buildings for nonresidential purposes shall either:
- a. meet the requirements of Subsection E.15, or
 - b. together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities be designed so that two feet above the base flood elevation the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy. A permit for a building proposed to be floodproofed shall not be issued until a registered professional engineer or architect has reviewed the structural design, specifications, and plans, and has

certified that the design and proposed methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of this subsection.

17. Fully enclosed areas below grade on all sides, including below grade crawl spaces and basements, are prohibited. Fully enclosed areas that are above grade, below the lowest floor, and below the base flood elevation (subject to flooding) shall:
 - a. be used only for parking vehicles, storage, or building access, as specified written permit conditions; and
 - b. be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria: a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves or other cover coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.
18. Recreational Vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AH and AE shall either:
 - a. be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
 - b. meet elevation and anchoring requirements for manufactured (mobile) homes under E.16 and 44 CFR 60.3(c)(6).
19. A small accessory structure that has a total footprint of 500 square feet or less and represents a minimal investment need not be elevated to the base flood elevation, provided the structure:
 - a. shall be used only for parking or the storage of non-hazardous materials, as specified in the permit and conditions of approval;
 - b. shall be designed to have low flood damage potential;
 - c. shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters;
 - d. shall be firmly anchored to prevent flotation which may result in damage to other structures;
 - e. shall have a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters; and
 - f. shall have service facilities such as electrical and heating equipment elevated or flood proofed to at least ~~one foot~~ two feet above the base flood elevation.

F. Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay (FEHO) Development Standards. For development within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District which is identified as a permitted use in the underlying district in which it is located, only the following standards shall apply under conditional use review. For conditional uses in the underlying district, in addition to applicable general and specific standards in 5.03(C) and (D), the following standards also shall apply:

1. No development shall be allowed within required surface water and wetland setback and buffer areas under Section 3.12, except as specified under that section.

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2. No increase in existing structural encroachments shall be allowed within this district, in accordance with Table 2.11(D)(1).
 3. The total combined, cumulative footprint of all structural additions or improvements within the FEHO constructed on a property after May 17, 2010 shall not exceed 500 square feet or 50% of the existing footprint of the principal structure, whichever is greater.
 4. The total combined, cumulative footprint of all accessory structures to existing structures within the FEHO constructed on a property after May 17, 2010 shall not exceed 500 square feet or 50% of the existing footprint of the principal structure, whichever is greater.
 5. An accessory structure in this overlay district shall be located no more than 50 feet from the principal structure, unless it can be located farther away from the stream than the principal structure, as measured horizontally from the top of the stream bank (or slope) to the point of the structure nearest the stream.
 6. Fill is allowed within this district only as provided under Table 2.11(C) to elevate existing structures within the Flood Hazard Overlay District above the base flood elevation, or as incidental to other allowed uses and activities under Table 2.11(C).
 7. New stream crossings by driveways, transportation or utility corridors shall be allowed only if it is determined by the Development Review Board that there are no other viable routes, access points or crossing locations outside of the FEHO, and the crossing is necessary for routing, public or emergency vehicle access. Stream crossings shall be designed by a professional engineer, in accordance with state guidelines, to minimize flood and fluvial erosion hazards both up- and downstream from the proposed crossing area.
 8. Bridges and culverts in this district shall be sited, sized and designed in accordance with state capacity guidelines to minimize fluvial erosion hazards, and shall be regularly inspected and maintained. Regular monitoring reports to the town may be required as a condition of approval.
 9. All utility lines in this district shall be buried.
 10. Recreational vehicles may be stored in this district only if they are fully licensed and ready for highway use.
 11. The Development Review Board, in consultation with the River Management Program, must also find that conditional uses within this district shall not:
 - a. Have an undue adverse effect on community services and facilities, including roads, bridges, culverts and emergency services, during and after fluvial erosion events.
 - b. Increase the susceptibility of property or other properties to fluvial erosion damage.
 - c. Increase the potential for materials to be swept into the stream channel or onto other land and cause damage.

Section 5.04 Planned Unit Development (PUD) Review

- A. **Purpose.** In accordance with the Act [§4417], standards for Planned Unit Development (PUD) are established under these regulations. PUDs allow for the modification of district standards subject to Development Review Board review, are required for major subdivisions in designated zoning districts, and are encouraged for other subdivisions in all districts as allowed. The purpose of PUD review is to:
1. encourage new communities, innovation in design and layout and more efficient use of land;
 2. facilitate the adequate and economic provision of streets and utilities;
 3. preserve the natural and scenic qualities of open land;
 4. provide for open common land for open space and recreation;
 5. maintain the town's agricultural resources and wildlife habitat;
 6. provide for the development of existing lots which, because of physical, topographical, geological, or geometric conditions, could not otherwise be developed; and/or
 7. provide for affordable housing.
- B. **Coordination with Subdivision Review.** An application for PUD shall be reviewed by the Development Review Board as a subdivision under the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations:
1. PUD review shall occur concurrently with subdivision review, the procedures for which are set forth in the subdivision regulations.
 2. An application for PUD approval shall include the materials described under Section 5.02.
 3. PUD approval shall be granted in association with subdivision plat approval. Modifications of this zoning bylaw approved by the Development Review Board shall be noted in writing and appended to the plat.
 4. All other provisions of these regulations not specifically modified shall remain in effect and be applicable to the project. Approval granted by the Development Review Board under this Section for a PUD involving the development of one or more uses subject to conditional use review shall not exempt the proposed development from subsequent review in accordance with Section 5.03. The Development Review Board may at its discretion review the application under this section concurrently with conditional use review under section 5.03.
- C. **General Standards for PUDs.** The modification of zoning bylaw requirements by the Development Review Board may be allowed simultaneously with the approval of a subdivision plat, in accordance with the following standards:
1. The minimum project area shall be the minimum lot size for the district within which it is located. The development site shall be a contiguous parcel of land. Separation by a public road does not result in a noncontiguous parcel.

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2. The PUD shall be consistent with the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, meet all applicable standards set forth in the current Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations, and be consistent with all other applicable municipal regulations and ordinances currently in effect. The PUD shall also meet all local and state regulations for sewage disposal and the protection of water quality.
 3. The PUD shall represent an effective and unified treatment of the development possibilities of the project site, including provisions as appropriate for the preservation or protection of surface and ground waters; wetland, stream bank, flood hazard and fluvial erosion hazard areas; significant topographic features including prominent hilltops and ridgelines and areas of steep slope; soils unsuitable for development; open space and scenic views; significant resource lands including agricultural and forest land; and unique natural or manmade features, including critical wildlife habitat and lands and buildings of historical significance.
 4. Unless otherwise provided, uses shall be limited to those permitted and conditional uses allowed within the district in which the PUD is proposed.
 5. Maximum overall density shall be determined based on maximum density requirements for the district within which the property is located, except for allowed density bonuses which are subject to Development Review Board approval. Land with a slope of 25% or more, and the area occupied within public or private road rights-of-way shall not be included in the calculation of density. The Development Review Board may otherwise reduce the allowed overall density if steepness of slope, ledges, low or wet areas, or other physical features limit the site's ability to support development.
 6. The total allowable number of dwelling units shall equal the number which could be permitted, in the Development Review Board's judgment, if the land were subdivided into lots in conformance with these regulations. In accordance with the Act, however, the total number of allowed units may be increased, subject to Development Review Board approval, by up to:
 - a) 25% as an incentive for clustered rather than dispersed development which protects open space, agricultural land or other critical resource lands, as identified in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*, and/or through site analysis; or
 - b) 20% as an incentive for affordable housing development in which at least 20% but no more than 50% of the units are affordable housing units as defined under Article VII; or
 - c) 50% as an incentive for affordable housing development in which at least 50% of the units are affordable housing units as defined under Article VII

In granting density increases the Development Review Board shall give due consideration to site conditions that may limit development, the capacities of community services and facilities, and the character of the area affected.

7. The Development Review Board may allow for a greater concentration or intensity of development within some section(s) of the development than in others, on individual lots which are smaller than the minimum lot size for the district within which the PUD is located, provided that there is an offset by a lesser concentration in other sections, including an appropriate reservation of open space on the remaining land.

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8. District regulations for height and spacing between structures for all uses shall be met unless specifically modified by the Development Review Board.
 9. Uses shall be sited and arranged for compatibility with their setting and context, and to ensure visual and auditory privacy for residents of the project. To ensure adequate privacy for existing or proposed uses within or adjacent to the project, increased building setbacks and/or perimeter screening may be required.
 10. Water supply and sewage disposal facilities shall meet all applicable municipal and state regulations.
 11. If a PUD results in common facilities, infrastructure and/or lands intended for parks, recreation, open space, or other community purposes, the Development Review Board, as a condition of approval, may establish conditions on the ownership, use and maintenance of such facilities and lands as it deems necessary to assure their continued availability and long-term management, in accordance with Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations. This may include a requirement that common facilities or land which are not dedicated to or accepted by the municipality be maintained by a homeowners association or similar organization whose rules and regulations are approved by the Development Review Board.
 12. In the Agricultural-Residential, Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District and Forest Reserve Districts, a minimum of 60% of the total project site shall be set aside as open space. Where a PUD involves land currently in agricultural or forestry use, or has the potential for agricultural or forestry use due to the presence of prime agricultural or forestry soils, the development should make provisions for the use of such land for agricultural or forestry purposes.

D. Standards Specific to PUDs.

1. PUDs located within the Irasville Village District shall be designed to establish well defined streetscapes, characterized by an interconnected network of streets bounded by a combination of sidewalks, street trees and consistent building setbacks, as opposed to buildings surrounded by expansive parking areas.
2. Provision shall be made for year-round pedestrian circulation within the site, and for pedestrian access to adjacent properties. Pedestrian circulation should include a network of pathways and sidewalks connecting existing land uses in and adjacent to the site.
3. Buildings shall front towards and relate to streets, entrance drives and public spaces (e.g., greens, parks, plazas), both functionally and visually, and not be oriented toward parking lots. Buildings shall reflect a diversity of building scale and massing. Excessively large, monolithic buildings shall be avoided, or the scale and massing reduced through varied roof lines and interruption to the building elevation (facades) to create attached, but separate, masses.
4. The minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks at the periphery of the PUD shall be as dictated for the particular district unless otherwise specified by the Development Review Board. The Development Review Board may consider within the project area other setback standards, such as zero lot lines, as part of subdivision review.
5. In addition to standards under subdivision review, the Development Review Board may impose further restrictions on the height and spacing of buildings; and greater setback and screening requirements for structures, parking areas and other development along the perimeter of the project, and between built and open space areas.
6. Provision shall be made for the preservation of open space. The location, size, shape, ownership, use and long-term management of land set aside to be preserved for open space shall be approved by the Development Review Board in accordance with the Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations.
7. Where a district boundary line divides a parcel, the Development Review Board may allow the development of a single PUD with a total density based on the combined allowable density of each district.
8. Two (2) or more contiguous parcels under the ownership or control of the applicant may be combined for review as a PUD. The permitted density on one parcel may be increased as long as the overall density for the combined parcels does not exceed that which could be permitted, in the Development Review Board's judgment, if the land were subdivided into lots in conformance with district regulations.

Section 5.05 Subsequent Conditional Use Applications

- A. **Applicability.** The Development Review Board shall hear and decide upon conditional use applications concerning property that is the subject of a previous conditional use decision pursuant to the Act [§4414(3)], conditional use review under Section 5.03, appeal procedures under Section 6.04, and the review standards in subsection (B) below.
- B. **Review Process.** The Board shall review an application for conditional use approval for property that is the subject of a previous conditional use decision as a whole.
1. If the Board concludes that a substantial change of conditions has occurred or other considerations materially affecting the merits of the request intervened between the current application and the previous application(s), then the Board shall consider the current application for conditional use approval in accordance with Section 5.03 as if there is no previous decision.
 2. To the extent the application proposes to change or avoid restrictions or conditions in a previous conditional use decision, the Board may approve the application only if one or more of the following facts are found, the findings are specified in its written decision, and the conditional use review standards in Section 5.03 are met:
 - a. There have been changes in factual or regulatory circumstances beyond the control of a permittee; or
 - b. There have been changes in the construction or operation of the permittee's project, not reasonably foreseeable at the time the permit was issued; or
 - c. There has been a change in technology that justifies an amendment to the permit.

ARTICLE VI. ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT

Section 6.01 Zoning Permits

- A. **Applicability.** Unless specifically exempted from these regulations under Section 6.02, no land development as defined herein may commence without a zoning permit issued by the Administrative Officer. Except as applicable in the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, nothing in this bylaw shall be construed as limiting or interfering with an individual's right to repair, improve or alter a structure, provided that such improvement or alteration does not increase the exterior dimensions of the structure. Structural alterations associated with a change of use shall require a zoning permit. Within the Flood Hazard and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts, permits are required for all development as separately defined under Section 7.03, including small accessory structures and structural improvements (see Tables 2.10 and 2.11).
- B. **Application Requirements.** An application for a zoning permit shall be made by the property owner, contract vendee with the written consent of the property owner, or their legal agent on a form provided by the town and certified as correct by the applicant. The application form shall be submitted to the Administrative Officer, along with required application fees. In addition, the following are required as applicable:
1. **Permitted Uses.** An application for a permitted use shall include a statement of the existing and proposed use of land and structures, and be accompanied by a sketch plan, which shows information in sufficient detail to determine whether the proposal is in conformance with these regulations.
 2. **Conditional Use, Planned Unit Development, Flood Hazard Area or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Review.** An application for development that requires approval under conditional use, planned unit development, or flood hazard area or fluvial erosion hazard area review prior to the issuance of a zoning permit shall include, in addition to the application information under Subsection B1, a site development plan prepared in accordance with Section 5.02.
 3. **Access Approval.** An application for development that requires access (curb cut) approval from the Waitsfield Selectboard shall include an application for access to a town highway.
 4. **Development Subject to State Agency Referral.** All applications for development within the Flood Hazard or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts shall be referred to the state as required under Section 5.02. No zoning permit shall be issued until a response has been received from the state, or the expiration of 30 days following the submission of the application. State recommendations for compliance with applicable requirements shall be incorporated as conditions of zoning permit approval.
- C. **Issuance of Permits.** In accordance with the Act [§§ 4448, 4449], the Administrative Officer shall act, within 30 days of the date of receipt of application materials and fees, to either issue a zoning permit, refer the applicant to the appropriate body having jurisdiction, or deny a zoning permit application. If the administrative officer fails to act with regard to an application for a permit within 30 days, the permit shall be deemed issued on the 31st day. A zoning permit shall be issued by the administrative officer only in accordance with the Act and these regulations:

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1. No zoning permit shall be issued by the Administrative Officer until required approvals from the Development Review Board and/or Selectboard, and associated fees, have been received. The application for a zoning permit shall not be deemed complete by the Administrative Office until all Development Review Board approvals required by these regulations have been obtained.
 2. For development subject to state agency referral requirements as identified in subsection (B)(4), no zoning permit shall be issued until the expiration of 30 days following the submission of the application to the state.
 3. Development for which a prior permit or approval has been issued shall comply with all such permits or approvals. Documentation of compliance may be required prior to the issuance of a zoning permit. A zoning permit shall not be issued for development that is in violation of a previously issued permit or approval.
 4. If public notice has been issued by the Selectboard for their first public hearing on a proposed amendment to these regulations, the Administrative Officer shall issue a zoning permit for development that is subject to the proposed amendment only in accordance with the requirements of the Act [§4449(d)].
 5. The Administrative Officer shall either issue or deny a permit in writing. In issuing a permit the Administrative Officer shall certify that the applicant has met the provisions of this bylaw. If the Administrative Officer determines that the proposal as set forth in the application is not in conformance with the provisions of these regulations, he or she shall deny the zoning permit and state specific grounds for denial. Pursuant to the Act, each permit or denial issued shall include a statement of the time in which appeals may be made under Section 6.04.
 6. Within 3 days of issuance, the Administrative Officer shall deliver a copy of the permit to the Listers, and post a copy of the permit in at least one public place until the expiration of 15 days from the date of issuance. Permits also shall be recorded in accordance with Section 6.07.
- D. **Effective Date.** No zoning permit shall take effect until the time for appeal under Section 6.04 has passed, or in the event that a notice of appeal is properly filed, until final adjudication of said appeal.
- E. **Permit Display.** A zoning permit shall require posting of a notice of permit, on a form prescribed by the town, within view of the nearest public right-of-way until the time for appeal has expired.
- F. **Permit Expiration.** All development authorized by the zoning permit shall be substantially commenced (50% completed) within 2 years of the date of issuance, and substantially completed (90% completed or otherwise determined to be suitable for occupancy or use) within 4 years of the date of issuance, unless otherwise specified as a condition of approval. A single two-year extension of the zoning permit may be granted by the Administrative Officer upon application and a determination that no violations exist. In the event the project has not been substantially completed prior to the expiration of the permit (and related extension), the zoning permit and all associated approvals shall become null and void, and re-application for a new zoning permit shall be required.

Section 6.02 Exemptions

No zoning permit shall be required for the following, except as otherwise required for development within the Flood or Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay Districts (see Tables 2.10 and 2.11). The Administrative Officer is available to review a proposed activity in order to determine whether or not it meets an exemption below. If the Administrative Officer makes such a determination, it is appealable per 24 V.S.A. Section 4465(a) and, therefore, shall be recorded in accordance with Section 6.07.

- A. Modifications of building interiors if no change of use is proposed; repairs and minor alterations (including chimneys, re-roofing or re-siding) to existing structures not resulting in any change to the exterior dimensions or height of the structure.
- B. Patio or deck on an existing single or multi-family dwelling for which the floor area does not exceed 50 square feet and does not result in any change to the height of the structure, provided that such structures comply with all setback requirements for the district in which they are located.
- C. Maintenance of existing roads, driveways and infrastructure within their existing and/or approved configuration. This includes associated ditching, resurfacing, and/or relocation within existing or approved right-of-way or easement areas, and the placement or relocation of public utilities and infrastructure within such areas.
- D. Site work incidental to permitted development including clearing, minor grading and excavation associated with road and driveway maintenance (including culvert replacement and re-surfacing); and yard improvements associated with accessory uses to existing principal uses (contouring yards, establishing garden and landscape areas). Site work exempted under this provision shall not involve the transport or displacement of more than 100 cubic yards of fill or other materials (e.g., gravel, topsoil), and shall not involve filling or grading of land within the Flood Hazard Overlay District.
- E. Up to four structures accessory to a dwelling, such as a dog house, child's play house, shed or similar structure, for each of which the floor area does not exceed 100 square feet and the height does not exceed 20 feet, or in the case of tree-houses the floor area shall not exceed 100 square feet, provided that such accessory structures comply with all setback requirements for the district in which they are located. The construction, repair and maintenance of residential stone walls and fences, provided that they do not extend into or obstruct public rights-of-way, or interfere with corner visibility or sight distances for vehicular traffic.
- F. Garage sales, yard sales, auctions, or related activities not exceeding 3 consecutive days, nor more than 6 days in any calendar year, ~~provided that such sales comply with the Waitsfield Garage Sale Ordinance which may require a permit from the Town Clerk.~~
- G. Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) and Best Management Practices (BMPs), including farm structures, as defined by the Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets in accordance with the Act [§4413(d)]; however, pursuant to associated state rules as most recently amended:
 - i. Prior to the construction of farm structures, the farmer must notify the administrative officer in writing of the proposed construction activity. The

notification must contain a sketch of the proposed structure, including setbacks from adjoining property lines, road rights-of-way, and surface waters.

- ii. The proposed structure shall comply with all setback requirements for the district in which they are located unless, upon written petition, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Markets has approved other setbacks for the specific farm structure being constructed or expanded. Such approval shall be attached to the notification filed with the Administrative Officer.
 - iii. Apparent violations of the RAPs or BMPs shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for enforcement action. When any non-agricultural use is added to a farm structure, then the structure also becomes subject to the permit requirements contained in the *Waitsfield Zoning Bylaw*.
- H. Forest management activities in compliance with the most recent version of *Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont*.
- I. Public facilities, including power generation and transmission facilities, which are regulated by the Vermont Public Service Board subject to Act 248 and Act 250 application review. Such facilities, however, should conform to policies, objectives, and Community Standards specified for such development in the *Waitsfield Town Plan*.
- J. Clearing and associated site improvements for recreation trails, provided such trails are not surfaced with impervious materials and are not used as part of a commercial facility.

Section 6.03 Certificate of Occupancy

- A. In accordance with the Act [§4449], a certificate of occupancy issued by the Administrative Officer shall be required prior to the use or occupancy of any permitted structure or part thereof constructed after the effective date of this bylaw.
- B. An application for a certificate of occupancy shall be provided with the zoning permit issued by the Administrative Officer, or upon request. The applicant shall submit the application and associated fee upon the completion of permitted improvements, but prior to the occupancy or use of the structure.
- C. The application for the certificate of occupancy for development within the Flood and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay Districts shall include a copy of the state project review sheet and all required state and federal permits.
- D. Within 14 business days of the date of receipt of a complete application and associated fees for a certificate of occupancy, the Administrative Officer will:
- 1. review the application and other available documentation, such as the state project review sheet and copies of state permits, to ensure that all required municipal, state and federal permits have been obtained;
 - 2. inspect the premises to ensure that all work has been completed in conformance with the zoning permit and associated approvals, including all applicable permit conditions; and

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3. ensure that a Vermont Residential or Commercial Building Energy Standards certificate has been recorded in the Town land records pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Section 4449(a)(2), if applicable.
- E. If the Administrative Officer fails to either grant or deny the certificate of occupancy within 14 days of the submission of a complete application, the certificate shall be deemed issued on the 15th day.
 - F. The Administrative Officer may issue a temporary Certificate of Occupancy for a structure that is substantially complete (suitable for occupancy or its intended use), for a period not to exceed 6 months from the date of issuance. The temporary certificate shall specify the remaining improvements to be completed in accordance with permit requirements prior to the issuance of a permanent certificate of occupancy.
 - G. If a certificate of occupancy cannot be issued for a structure within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, notice will be sent to the owner and the status of the certificate of occupancy shall be released to the lender upon inquiry.

Section 6.04 Appeals

- A. **Decisions of the Administrative Officer.** In accordance with the Act [§4465], the applicant or any other interested person may appeal a decision or act of the Administrative Officer by filing a notice of appeal with the Secretary of the Development Review Board, or the Town Clerk if no Secretary has been elected, within 15 days of the date of such decision or act.
 1. Pursuant to the Act [§4468], the Development Review Board shall hold a public hearing on a notice of appeal within 60 days of the date of its filing. The Board shall give public notice of the hearing under Section 6.7(D), and mail a copy of the hearing notice to the appellant at least 15 days prior to the hearing date.

Interested Person. In accordance with the Act [§4465(b)] the definition of an interested person includes the following:

- A person or municipality owning property or interest in property affected by imposed regulations (e.g., the applicant);
- The Town of Waitsfield or an adjoining municipality;
- A person owning or occupying property in the immediate neighborhood of a property which is the subject of a decision or act taken under these regulations, who can demonstrate a physical or environmental impact on the person's interest under the criteria reviewed, and who alleges that the decision or act, if confirmed, will not be in accord with the policies, purposes or terms of the plan or regulations of the town;
- Any 10 persons owning real property within the municipality who, by signed petition to the Development Review Board, allege that any relief requested by a person under this section, if granted, will not be in compliance with the plan or regulations of the municipality; and
- Any department or administrative subdivision of the state owning property or any interest therein within the town or adjoining municipality, and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

2. A decision on appeal, to include written findings of fact, shall be rendered within 45 days after hearing completion, pursuant to the Act [§4468]. The Development Review Board may reject an appeal without hearing, and render a decision, which shall include written findings of fact, within 10 days of the filing of a notice of appeal, if the Board determines

that the issues raised by the appellant have been decided in an earlier appeal, or are based on substantially or materially the same facts, by or on behalf of the appellant. Copies of the decision shall be mailed to the appellant and hearing participants, and filed with the Administrative Officer and Town Clerk.

- B. **Notice of Appeal of Administrative Officer Decisions.** Pursuant to the Act [§4466], a notice of appeal of an action of the Administrative Officer shall be in writing and include:
- the name and address of the appellant;
 - a brief description of the property with respect to which the appeal is taken;
 - a reference to applicable bylaw provisions;
 - the relief requested by the appellant, including any request for a variance from one or more provisions of these regulations;
 - the alleged grounds why such relief is believed proper under the circumstances; and
 - any request for a stay of enforcement which may be granted or denied by the Development Review Board in accordance with the Act [§4466].
- C. **Decisions of the Development Review Board.** Any interested person who has participated in a regulatory proceeding under these bylaws may appeal a decision of the Development Review Board within 30 days of the date of such decision to the Vermont Environmental Court, in accordance with the Act [§4471]. For the purposes of these regulations, participation in a regulatory proceeding shall include offering, through oral or written testimony, evidence or a statement of concern related to the subject of the hearing.
- D. **Notice of Appeal of the Development Review Board Decisions.** The notice of appeal of a decision of the Development Review Board shall be filed by the appellant by certified mailing, with fees, to the Vermont Environmental Court and by mailing a copy to the Administrative Officer who shall supply a list of interested persons (including the applicant if not the appellant), to the appellant within five (5) working days. Upon receipt of the list of interested persons, the appellant shall, by certified mail, provide a copy of the notice of appeal to every interested person. If any one or more of those persons are not then parties to the appeal, upon motion they shall be granted leave by the court to intervene.

Section 6.05 Variances and Setback Waivers

- A. **Variance.** The Development Review Board shall hear and decide upon requests for variances pursuant to the Act [§4469] and appeal procedures under Section 6.04. The Board may grant a variance, and render a decision in favor of the appellant, only if ***all*** of the following facts are found, and the findings are specified in its written decision:
1. that there are unique physical circumstances or conditions, including irregularity, narrowness, or shallowness of lot size or shape, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the particular property, and that unnecessary hardship is due to such conditions and not the circumstances or conditions generally created by the provisions of the regulations in the neighborhood or district in which the property is located;
 2. that because of such physical circumstances and conditions, there is no possibility that the property can be developed in strict conformity with the provisions of the zoning regulation and that the authorization of a variance is necessary to enable the reasonable use of the property;

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3. that the unnecessary hardship has not been created by the appellant;
 4. that the variance, if authorized, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located, substantially or permanently impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, reduce access to renewable energy resources, nor be detrimental to the public welfare; and
 5. that the variance, if authorized, will represent the minimum that will afford relief and will represent the least deviation possible from the zoning regulation and from the plan.
- B. In addition to the requirements under subsection A, variances for development within the Flood Hazard Overlay District shall be granted by the Development Review Board only in accordance with all of the following, as required under the Act [§4424(E)]:
1. The criteria for granting variances found in 44 CFR, Section 60.6 of the National Flood Insurance Program regulations.
 2. The determination that during the base flood discharge, the variance will not result in increased flood levels.
 3. The determination that the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and will result in no additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expenses, or nuisances.
 4. The determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
 5. Any variance issued within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District shall include as part of the written decision, over the signature of a municipal official, the statement that: “The issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood elevation increases risk to life and property and will result in increased flood insurance premiums up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of coverage.” Such notification shall be maintained with a record of all variance actions.
- C. On an appeal for a variance from the provisions of these regulations that is requested for a structure that is primarily a renewable energy resource structure, the Board may grant such variance only if it finds that all of the facts listed in the Act [§4469(b)] are found in the affirmative and specified in its decision.
- D. In granting a variance, the Development Review Board may attach such conditions as it deems necessary and appropriate under the circumstances to implement the purposes of these regulations and the municipal plan currently in effect.
- E. **Setback Waivers.** Notwithstanding the minimum setback standards for front yards (setback from road centerline) and side and rear yards (setback from parcel boundaries) for various zoning districts set forth in Article II, the Development Review Board may grant a waiver of building setbacks for a new structure or an addition or expansion of an existing structure as a conditional use reviewed in accordance with Section 5.03 and subject to the following:
1. The parcel associated with the waiver request was legally in existence prior to January 1st 2009;

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2. The Board may allow for a modification of the front, side and rear setback providing the modification will not adversely impact the use and enjoyment of adjacent parcels, and the modified setback complies with all conditional use standards set forth in Section 5.03; and
 3. The waiver of the setback standard is consistent with the predominant building setbacks within the surrounding area of the parcel, and does not result in a reduction of the setback standard for the district in which the parcel is located by greater than 30% (e.g., a 50 foot setback may be reduced in accordance with this provision by up to 15 feet).

Section 6.06 Violations & Enforcement

- A. **Violations.** The commencement or continuation of any land development which is not in conformance with the provisions of this bylaw shall constitute a violation. Except as provided in Section 3.11, all violations will be pursued in accordance with the Act [§§ 4451, 4452]. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. Any person violating any provision of this bylaw shall be subject to the fines and remedies set forth in the Act. All fines imposed and collected for violations shall be paid over to the municipality.
- B. **Notice of Violation.** Pursuant to the Act [§4451], no action may be brought under this section unless the alleged offender has had at least 7 days notice by certified mail that a violation exists. The warning notice shall state that a violation exists, describe the violation, and explain that the alleged offender has an opportunity to cure the violation within the 7-day period and will not be entitled to an additional warning notice for a violation occurring after the 7-day period. Action may be brought without notice and opportunity to cure if the alleged offender repeats the violation of the bylaw after the 7-day notice period and within the next succeeding 12 months.
 1. **Flood Hazard Area Violations.** For violations within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District (Special Flood Hazard Areas), a copy of the notice of violation shall be mailed to the State NFIP Coordinator. If the violation remains after all appeals have been resolved, the Administrative Officer shall submit a declaration to the Administrator of the National Flood Insurance Program requesting a denial of flood insurance for the property pursuant to Section 1316 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended.
- C. **AAP Violations.** Apparent violations of Vermont's Accepted Agricultural Practices shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of Agriculture for enforcement under 6. V.S.A. §4812. Any land development, or other activity regulated under this bylaw that does not qualify as accepted agricultural and silvicultural practice, as defined by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets or the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation, respectively, shall be subject to enforcement under this section if commenced in violation of these bylaws.
- D. **Enforcement.** In accordance with the Act [§§ 4451, 4452], the Administrative Officer shall institute in the name of the municipality any appropriate action, injunction or other proceeding to enforce the provisions of these regulations. The town shall observe limitations on enforcement relating to municipal permits and approvals, as set forth in the Act [§4454].

Section 6.07 Municipal Administrative Requirements

- A. **Appointments.** The following appointments shall be made in association with the administration and enforcement of this bylaw as provided for in the Act:
 1. **Administrative Officer.** In accordance with the Act [§4448], an administrative officer shall be appointed for a term of 3 years by the Selectboard, from nominations submitted

by the Planning Commission. The Selectboard may also appoint an Acting Administrative Officer who shall have the same duties and responsibilities as the Administrative Officer in his or her absence. An Administrative Officer may be removed for cause at any time by the Selectboard after consultation with the Planning Commission. The Administrative Officer:

- a. shall administer these regulations literally, and shall not have the power to permit any land development which is not in conformance with this bylaw.
- b. shall provide forms and maintain records as required.
- c. shall recommend to applicants for municipal permits that they contact the state regional permit specialist in order to assure timely action on any related state permits.
- d. shall, for development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, review available documentation including, where applicable, state project review sheets and permits, to ensure that all necessary municipal, state and federal permits have been obtained in accordance with federal program requirements under 44 CFR 60.3(a)(2) and these regulations.

2. **Development Review Board.** In accordance with the Act [§4460(b)], a Development Review Board consisting of not less than three (3) or more than nine (9) members shall be appointed by the Selectboard for 3-year terms.. Vacancies shall be filled by the Selectboard for unexpired terms and upon the expiration of such terms. The Selectboard also may appoint alternates to the Development Review Board for specified terms, to be assigned by the Selectboard to serve in the event that one or more members of the Board are disqualified or absent. Members of the Development Review Board may be removed for cause by the Selectboard upon written charges and after public hearing. The Board shall adopt rules of procedure and rules of ethics with respect to conflicts of interest to guide its official conduct in accordance with the requirements of the Act [§4462] and Vermont's Open Meeting Law [1 V.S.A., §§310-314]. The Development Review Board shall have all powers and duties as set forth in the Act to administer the provisions of these regulations, including but not limited to the power to hear and decide:

- a. applications for conditional use approval under Section 5.03;
- b. appeals from any decision, act, or failure to act by the Administrative Officer under Section 6.04; and
- c. variance requests under Section 6.05.
- d. requests for access approval under Section 3.02; and
- e. applications for planned unit developments under Section 5.04, in association with the review of subdivisions of land under the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*.
- f. applications for subdivision review pursuant to the *Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations*.

3. **Planning Commission.** In accordance with the Act [§§ 4322, 4323], a planning commission consisting of not less than 3 nor more than 9 voting members shall be appointed by the Selectboard for 4 year terms; however no more than 3 commissioners shall be reappointed or replaced during any calendar year. Vacancies shall be filled by the Selectboard for the unexpired terms and upon the expiration of such terms. Any member may be removed at any time by unanimous vote of the select board. The Planning Commission shall elect a chairman and clerk, and adopt rules of procedure and rules of ethics with respect to conflicts of interest to guide its official conduct in accordance with the requirements of the Act [§4323] and Vermont's Open Meeting Law [1 V.S.A., §§310-314]. The Planning Commission shall have all powers and duties as set forth in the Act to administer the provisions of these regulations, including but not

limited to the power to hear and, where appropriate, decide requests and petitions for bylaw amendments under Section 1.05;

- B. **Fee Schedule.** The Selectboard shall establish a schedule of fees to be charged in administering these regulations, with the intent of covering administrative costs. In accordance with the Act [§4461(c)], the fee schedule may include provisions which require applicants to pay for reasonable costs of an independent technical review of their applications. The schedule of fees shall be posted in the Waitsfield Town Office, and may be altered or amended only by the Selectboard.
- C. **Application Forms.** The Planning Commission is hereby authorized to prepare and revise application forms from time to time, in consultation with the administrative officer. In no case shall the introduction of a new or revised form have the effect of, or be construed as, amending these regulations. Application forms will be made available at the Waitsfield Town Office during regular business hours.
- D. **Hearing Notice Requirements.**
1. In accordance with the Act [§4464(a)], a warned public hearing shall be required for conditional use review (Section 5.03), appeals and variances (Sections 6.04 & 6.05) and Planned Unit Development review (Section 5.04). Any public notice for a warned public hearing shall be given not less than 15 days prior to the date of the public hearing by all of the following:
 - a. publication of the date, place and purpose of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the town;
 - b. posting of the same information in three (3) or more public places within the municipality, including posting of a notice within view from the public right-of-way nearest to the property for which the application is being made; and
 - c. written notification to the applicant and to owners of all properties adjoining the property subject to development, without regard to public rights-of-way, which includes a description of the proposed project, information that clearly informs the recipient where additional information may be obtained, and that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.
 2. The applicant shall be responsible for providing proof of notification of adjoining property owners, as determined from the municipal grand list, with the application. Proof of notification shall include a list of current landowners and proof of mailing provided by the U.S. Postal Service or a signed notice of service certifying that the applicant or the applicant's agent has notified the adjoining landowners.
 3. No defect in the form or substance of any required public notice under this section shall invalidate the action of the Development Review Board where reasonable efforts have been made to provide adequate posting and notice. However, the action shall be invalid when the defective posting or notice was materially misleading in content. If an action is ruled to be invalid by the Environmental Court, the action shall be remanded to the Board to provide new posting and notice, hold a new hearing, and take a new action.
 4. Public hearings concerning proposed amendments to these regulations shall be noticed and warned in accordance with the Act [§§ 4441, 4444].
- E. **Recording Requirements.** The Administrative Officer shall keep on file and available to the

public during regular business hours, a full and accurate record of all applications received, permits issued, plats approved, and notices of violation issued during his or her term of office.

1. Pursuant to the Act [§4449(c)], within 30 days after the issuance of a municipal land use permit or notice of violation, the Administrative Officer shall deliver either the original, a legible copy, or a notice of the permit or violation to the Town Clerk for recording in municipal land records as provided in 24 V.S.A. §1154(a). The applicant may be charged the cost of the recording fees as required by law.
2. For development within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District (Special Flood Hazard Areas), the Administrative Officer shall also maintain a record of:
 - a. All permits issued within this district.
 - b. Elevation Certificates with the as-built elevation (consistent with the datum of the elevation on current Flood Insurance Rate Maps) of the lowest floor, including basement, of all new or substantially improved buildings, excluding small accessory structures (under Section 5.03(E)19).
 - d. Floodproofing Certificates and other certifications required for development in this district.
 - e. All decisions, including variance actions and violations, and supporting findings of fact, including justification for their issuance.
3. For development within the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District, the Administrative Officer shall also maintain a record of:
 - a. All permits issued for development in this district, and
 - b. All variance actions, including justification for their issuance.

F. **Administrative Review.** The Administrative Officer may review applications for, and act to approve or deny, minor amendments to conditional use permits, subdivision plats and plans, and planned unit developments previously approved by the Development Review Board, in accordance with the Act [§4464(c)], and, in the case of subdivision plats and plans, recorded in the Waitsfield Land Records in accordance with the Act [§4463] and the following requirements:

1. The following types of amendments shall be considered eligible for administrative review and approval by the Administrative Officer:
 - i. Relocation of site improvements and/or accessory structures that have been previously approved, provided such relocations are located within or do not alter any previously approved rights-of-way, building envelopes, setbacks, or coverage requirements for the site;
 - ii. Approval of as-built plans that deviate from approved plans, only to the extent that such deviations do not require an amendment of any condition of approval;
 - iii. Minor alterations to approved landscaping or screening plans, for example to allow for the substitution of landscaping or screening materials, that do not violate or alter the conditions of previous approvals;
 - iv. An increase in building area and/or impervious coverage totaling no more than 3% of the overall site coverage, or 1,000 square feet, whichever is less, and the total coverage is less than or equal to the maximum allowable lot coverage in the zoning district;
 - v. A change in use from an approved conditional or permitted use to another conditional or permitted use allowable within the district that does not alter or have the effect of altering the conditions of any previous approval. This could include a change in building ownership or tenancy or use, including within a mixed use building, which does not result

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- in any increased demand for parking or wastewater, unless those parking or wastewater demands are met; and
- vi. Other types of revisions or amendments, as specified in the Board's findings and conditions, if the decision clearly specifies the thresholds and conditions under which administrative review and approval shall be allowed.
2. No new development shall be approved that results in a substantial impact under any of the standards of these regulations or the conditions of approval; and no amendment issued as a result of an administrative review shall have the effect of substantially altering the findings of fact of the Board's applicable approval(s).
3. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the issuance of an administrative amendment:
- a. Notice of an application for an administrative amendment shall be posted in three (3) or more public places in the municipality, including posting within view of the public right(s)-of-way nearest to the property for which the application is being made;
 - b. Written notification of the application shall be mailed by the applicant to the owners of all properties adjoining the property subject to subdivision or development, without regard to public rights-of-way, to every person or body appearing and having been heard in related proceedings before the Development Review Board, and to the Development Review Board members. The applicant shall also demonstrate proof of delivery to those persons listed above, either by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by written notice hand-delivered or mailed to the last known address, supported by a signed, sworn statement of service;
 - c. Prior to the issuance of the administrative amendment, any interested person, including any Development Review Board member, may file a written request that the application be heard by the Development Review Board, rather than being acted upon by the Administrative Officer. Such request shall be filed with the Secretary of the Development Review Board, or the Town Clerk if no Secretary has been elected, and by filing a copy of the request with the Administrative Officer. A request filed with the Development Review Board under this section shall be in writing and shall include:
 - i. The name and address of the requesting party;
 - ii. A brief description of the property with respect to which the request is made;
 - iii. A reference to applicable provisions of these regulations;
 - iv. The request that the application be heard by the Development Review Board, rather than being acted upon by the Administrative officer; and
 - v. The alleged grounds for why such application should not be acted upon by the Administrative Officer by rather heard by the Development Review Board. The matter shall then be scheduled and heard by the Development Review Board in its ordinary course of business.
4. Administrative approvals shall be issued by the Administrative Officer in the same manner as zoning permits under Section 6.01(c), and may be appealed to the Development Review Board in accordance with Section 6.04(B). The Administrative Officer shall create a written decision and copies of the decision shall also be sent, within three (3) days of issuance, to the owners of all properties adjoining the property subject to subdivision or development, without regard to public rights-of-way, and to every person or body appearing and having been heard in prior related proceedings before the Development Review Board.

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- a. The Administrative Officer shall report on all administrative approvals to the Development Review Board at the next regular meeting of the Board following the date of approval.
 - b. Administrative approvals shall be recorded in the same manner as other permits and approvals, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.07(E). Administrative amendments to an approved subdivision plat shall also meet plat recording requirements under Section 2.6 of the Subdivision Regulations.

ARTICLE VII. DEFINITIONS

Section 7.01 Terms & Usage

- A. Except where specifically defined herein or in the Act, or unless otherwise clearly required by the context, all words, phrases and terms in these regulations shall have their usual, customary meanings.
- B. In the interpretation of words and terms used, defined, or further described herein, the following shall apply:
 - 1. the particular controls the general;
 - 2. the present tense includes the future tense;
 - 3. the word "shall" is mandatory; the word "may" is permissive; the term "generally shall" indicates that it is mandatory unless the Development Review Board or other applicable body deems otherwise in accordance with these regulations;
 - 4. the word "structure" includes "building;" and
 - 5. the word "lot" includes "parcel."
- C. For the purposes of flood hazard area management and regulation within the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, National Flood Insurance Program definitions contained in 44 CFR Section 59.1 are hereby adopted by reference and shall be used to interpret and enforce these regulations. Common federal and state program definitions are provided under Subsection 7.03.
- D. Any interpretation of words, phrases or terms by the Administrative Officer may be appealed to the Development Review Board under Section 6.04. In such cases, the Board shall base its decision upon the following definitions, state statute, and the need for reasonable and effective implementation of these regulations. The Board shall publish and update from time to time such written interpretation, to ensure consistent and uniform application of the provisions of these regulations.

Section 7.02 General Definitions

ACCEPTED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (AMPs): Accepted practices for silviculture (forestry) as currently defined by the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

ACCESSORY AGRICULTURAL USE: Customary on-farm accessory use that is directly related and subordinate to the agricultural practices. Such activities need not be subordinate to the agricultural operation in terms of revenue, but shall be subordinate in terms of overall land use (e.g. land area, structures utilized). Includes corn maze, petting zoo, farm tours, classes, scientific research, trails for non-motorized recreation, composting, u-pick operations, and product tasting. Retail is included if greater than 50% of sales are attributable to on-farm production (e.g. selling baked foods at a farm stand, brick oven pizzas).

ACCESSORY DWELLING: A separate, complete housekeeping unit that is contained within or attached to a single-family dwelling, Multi-Family Dwelling (Maximum Two Dwelling Units), or within an accessory building, in which the title is inseparable from the primary dwelling. An accessory dwelling may be a mobile home only with the approval of the Development Review Board pursuant to Section 5.03. Only one accessory apartment may be created within or attached to a single-family structure, Multi-Family Dwelling (Maximum Two Dwelling Units) structure, or in an accessory structure. (See Specific

Use Standards, Section 4.01.)

ACCESSORY USE OR STRUCTURE A use or structure which is incidental to and subordinate to the principal use of a lot or parcel of land and is located on the same lot.

ADAPTIVE REUSE: A change in use of an existing historic barn, farmstead, or former commercial lodging establishment for another allowed use as specified under Table 2.04, Section 4.02, or Section 4.03 in this bylaw. (See also **HISTORIC BARN** and **FARMSTEAD**.)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: The Zoning Administrator appointed in accordance with Section 6.07.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Housing that is either (1) owned by its inhabitants, whose gross annual household income does not exceed 80 percent of the area median income, as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Washington County, VT, and the total annual cost of the housing, including principal, interest, taxes and insurance, is not more than 30 percent of the household's gross annual income; or (2) rented by its inhabitants whose gross annual household income does not exceed 65 percent of the area median income, as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Washington County, VT, and the total annual cost of the housing, including rent, utilities, and condominium association fees, is not more than 30 percent of the household's gross annual income.

AGRICULTURE: Land or structures primarily used for cultivating soils, producing crops, or raising livestock; orchards and maple sugar production; the storage, processing or sale of products raised on the premises; or as otherwise defined by the Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. Structures which are customarily accessory to agricultural uses and are located on the same parcel as an agricultural use, with the exception of residential dwellings, shall be included in this definition. (See also **REQUIRED AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**, **FARM STRUCTURE**.)

AIR LANDING STRIP: Any area of land or water designed and set aside for the take-off and landing of aircraft. (See **AIRPORT**.)

AIRPORT: A place where aircraft can land and takeoff, which may also include general aviation and commercial services, aircraft storage hangars, and administrative facilities. (See **AIR LANDING STRIP**.)

ALTERATION: Structural change, change of location, or addition to a building or structure, but excluding ordinary repairs to a building, or modification of building equipment.

APPENDAGE SIGN: A subsidiary sign attached to or hung from a principal sign.

ARTIST STUDIO: Work space for artists or artisans, including individuals engaged in the application, teaching or performance of one of the fine or applied arts or crafts. (See **GALLERY**.)

AUTO REPAIR SERVICE: Establishments primarily engaged in furnishing automotive repair services to the general public and including as an accessory use limited automobile sales, providing that not more than 8 automobiles are displayed for sale at any given time, or such other number as determined under conditional use review criteria.

BANK: An establishment providing a variety of financial services to the public, which may include drive-through facilities. For the purposes of these regulations this definition also includes savings and loans, and similar financial institutions (e.g., Credit Union).

BAR/TAVERN: An establishment used primarily for the sale or dispensing of alcoholic beverages by the drink for on-site consumption, where the sale of prepared food is secondary to the consumption of such beverages.

BASEMENT: Any area of the building having 3 sides or 60% of its walls subgraded (below ground level), whichever is less. (See also STORY. See also BASEMENT as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.)

BED & BREAKFAST: A single-family dwelling occupied by the owner or operator, in which not more than eight (8) rooms within the dwelling and/or in an accessory structure located on the same lot are rented out to provide overnight accommodations to transient guests. Individual cooking and eating facilities shall not be provided; breakfasts shall be the only meals served and shall be limited to overnight guests. Guest rooms may not occupy greater than 2 accessory structures.

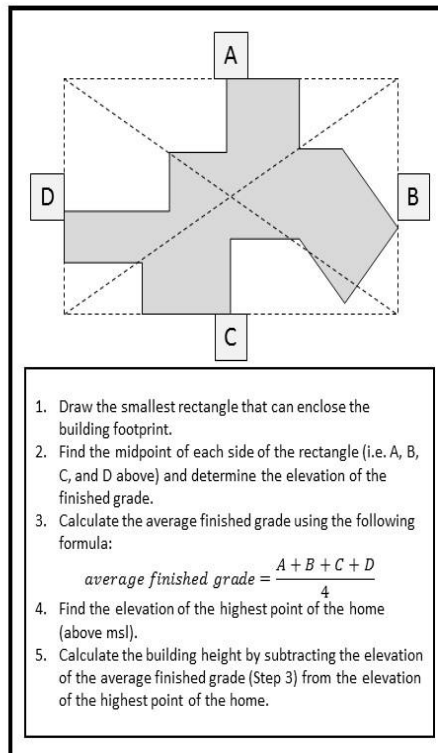
BUFFER: Any space between adjoining land uses or between a land use and a natural feature, which is intended and designed to reduce the impact of one use on the other use or feature. Buffers may include open space, woodland, landscaped areas, undisturbed vegetated areas, or other types of physical, visual or sound barriers.

BUILDING: A walled and roofed structure.

BUILDING FOOTPRINT: The square footage of any floor space, measured from the outside of exterior walls or column, including porches, balconies, and cantilevered portions of a building, but but excluding the edge of roofs that overhang exterior walls that are intended to prevent rain, snow, and other debris from spilling directly down the side of the building (e.g., roof eave).

BUILDING FRONT LINE: Line parallel to the front lot line transecting that point in the building face which is closest to the front line.

BUILDING HEIGHT: The height of a building or structure as measured according to the diagram and formula below; and/or, where specified, the number of stories within a building, excluding a basement or attic.



BUILDING SUPPLY STORE: Lumberyard and/or building supply yard which offers goods utilized in construction or alteration or improvement of buildings.

CAMPER: Any vehicle used as temporary sleeping, camping or living quarters, which is mounted on wheels, a truck or a camper body, or towed by a motor vehicle. This definition includes recreation vehicles and travel trailers, but specifically excludes mobile homes (see MOBILE HOME).

CAR SALES: The use of any building, land area or other premise for the display and sale of new or used automobiles.

CEMETERY: Land used or dedicated to the burial of the dead, including as accessory structures mausoleums, columbariums, or maintenance facilities, but excluding crematoriums. An individual burial site on private land, registered with the Waitsfield Town Clerk in accordance with state law, is exempted from this definition.

CHANGE OF USE: The transfer of use of land or building from one category of use, as listed in zoning district regulations or defined in this section, to another category of use. (See Section 3.03 Conversion and Change of Use.)

CHILD CARE FACILITY: Any place operated as a business or service on a regular or continuous basis, whether for compensation or not, which provides child care for periods of less than 24 hours, including family child care homes. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.04. See also HOME CHILD CARE.)

COMMERCIAL BED: An overnight accommodation, offered on a nightly, weekly, seasonal, or other short term basis, in units, whether singly or separately owned, which may have a management entity

operating the structure and/or facilities and may provide such services as maid service, a central switchboard, or dining facilities. Where units in the facility are under separate ownership, a rental and management contract between the unit owner and a rental and management agent are required. For purposes of this definition, separate ownership includes timeshare or interval ownership in fee or leasehold, condominium ownership and cooperative ownership with proprietary lease. For purposes of calculating density, two commercial beds per bedroom shall be assumed.

COMMERCIAL WATER EXTRACTION: The extraction, collection, storage, and transport of groundwater from one or more wells or springs by means of pipelines, channels, trucking, or other similar mechanisms, for the bulk wholesale or retail sale of potable drinking water. Exempted from this definition will be water extraction and distribution systems designed to provide a primary water supply to no more than 10 off site dwelling units. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.05.)

COMMON LAND: Land within a development or subdivision that is not individually owned or dedicated for public use, but which is designed to be held in common, for use, enjoyment, management and maintenance by the residents of the development or subdivision. Such land may include but not be limited to open space areas, parking lots, pedestrian walkways, recreation areas, utility and road rights-of-way.

COMMUNITY [RESIDENTIAL] CARE FACILITY: A facility licensed by the state which provides primarily non-medical residential care services to seven or more individuals in need of personal assistance essential for sustaining the activities of daily living, or for the protection of the individual, excluding members of the resident family or persons employed by the facility, on a 24-hour a day basis.

COMMUNITY CENTER: A building used for recreational, social, educational and/or cultural activities, open to the general public, owned and operated by a public or nonprofit group or agency.

COMMUNITY SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY: A community sewage treatment facility is any community wastewater treatment system, including treatment plant and associated structures, collection lines, disposal fields, or expansion thereof, which meet either of the following criteria: (1) any treatment plant or collection system with a capacity greater than 6500 gallons per day; or (2) any treatment plant or collection system in which connections or capacity are sold.

CONDOMINIUM: Single or multi-unit dwelling or dwellings, including detached, semi-detached, or multi-story structures, or any combination thereof, each of whose residents (unit owners) enjoys exclusive ownership of his individual apartment or unit while retaining an undivided interest as a tenant in common in the common facilities and areas of the condominium property.

CONTRACTOR'S YARD: A parcel of land with or without buildings thereon to be used for the storage of equipment, materials, and/or vehicles used in the operation of construction and related trades

COOPERATIVE: Single or multi-unit dwelling or dwellings similar to a condominium, including detached, semi-detached or multi-story structures, or any combination thereof, in which each owner has a lease entitling him or his tenants to occupy a particular unit, and such owner owns stock in the cooperative organization owning the property.

COTTAGE: A one-family dwelling unit with a maximum gross living area of one thousand, five hundred square feet (1,500 sq. ft.) and a maximum footprint of one thousand square feet (1,000 sq. ft.). Spaces with a ceiling height of six feet or less measured to the exterior walls, such as in a second-floor area under the slope of the roof, shall be excluded when calculating the total floor area of a cottage. Cottages may be detached or also be attached horizontally in blocks of no more than three (3) units.

COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT: A development on a single lot having shared open space intended to serve cottages that interact together as a small community.

COTTAGE INDUSTRY: Light industry that occurs only within a historic barn in accordance with Section 4.2 and which involves not more than five employees on site at any one time.

CRISIS SHELTER: A facility providing temporary protective sanctuary for victims of crime or abuse, including emergency housing during crisis intervention for individuals, such as victims of rape or domestic violence.

CULTURAL FACILITY: A theater, concert hall, or other similar establishment offering programs, performances, or exhibits of cultural, educational, historic, or scientific interest including museums but excluding movie theaters.

DEGREE OF NONCOMPLIANCE: The extent to which a structure encroaches upon, or otherwise violates, one or more dimensional standard of these regulations. The extension of a structure which results in an additional encroachment of the noncomplying feature/element, including the expansion of the volume or area of a structure within a building setback, would increase the degree of noncompliance.

DEVELOPMENT: See LAND DEVELOPMENT; see also DEVELOPMENT as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.

DRIVEWAY: A minor, private travel way serving up to three adjoining parcels, which provides access for vehicles to a parking space, garage, dwelling or other structure.

DRIVE-THROUGH: A business establishment which includes a driveway approach or parking spaces for motor vehicles to serve patrons in their motor vehicles rather than within the building or structure.

DWELLING UNIT: One or more rooms designed, occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters with cooking, sleeping and sanitary facilities provided within the dwelling unit for the exclusive use of a single family maintaining a household. The term "dwelling unit" shall not include guest accommodations provided by a hotel, motel, boarding house or similar structure. Each dwelling unit shall constitute a separate unit for purposes of calculating density.

DWELLING, MULTI-FAMILY: A building containing two or more dwelling units, excluding ACCESSORY DWELLINGS.

DWELLING, SINGLE-FAMILY: A building containing only one dwelling unit.

ELDERLY HOUSING: A multiple dwelling in one or more buildings, each unit of which is specifically designed and intended for occupancy by at least one person who is retired and 55 years of age or older. Such housing may include, as accessories, congregate dining and recreational facilities, and assisted living services.

EXTRACTION OF EARTH RESOURCES: The on-site removal of surface and/or subsurface materials, including soil, sand, gravel, stone, rock, minerals or similar materials. Typical uses include sand and gravel pits and quarries, and related operations such as the crushing, screening, and temporary storage of materials on-site. Specifically excluded from this definition is the grading and removal of dirt which is associated with and incidental to an approved site plan or subdivision, or an excavation associated with an accepted agricultural practice. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.06.)

FAMILY: A single person or group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, adoption or civil

union, or a group of not more than 5 persons, living together as a household.

FARM CAFÉ: An on-farm restaurant which serves no more than 40 members of the public at any one time, for consumption primarily on the premises food and/or beverages that include but are not exclusively created from agricultural products grown on the farmstead on which it is located. This definition specifically excludes Bar/Tavern.

FARM STRUCTURE: A building for housing livestock, raising horticultural or agronomic plant, or carrying out other practices associated with accepted agricultural or farming practices, as defined by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Markets, as exempt from these regulations. Dwellings are specifically excluded from this definition. (See ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES.)

FARMSTEAD: A farm and its adjacent service areas, farm structures, and accessory structures, including a dwelling. Visual characterization is typified by the appearance of a principal structure and a mix of agricultural buildings (e.g. barns, outbuildings) located within a compact area surrounded by agricultural land. This term includes historic farm properties and vacant agricultural properties which are adjacent to a parcel with a dwelling if the two parcels are held in common ownership.

FINISHED GRADE: Completed surface of grounds, lawns, walks, paved areas, and roads which have been brought to grades as shown in associated plans after site clearing, filling, or excavating work is performed.

FLAG LOT: A lot not fronting on or abutting a public roadway and where access to the public roadway is limited to a narrow private or shared right-of-way.

FLOOR AREA: The sum of the gross square foot area of all the floors of a building. All dimensions shall be measured between interior faces of walls.

FORESTRY: The growing and harvesting of trees or timber under proper forest management for purposes other than their fruit. For the purposes of these regulations, the term “Forestry” shall also include the temporary use of processing equipment such as chippers and portable sawmills, which are used in association with harvesting operations for a period not exceeding one year, and are removed from the site once harvesting operations are complete. This definition specifically excludes permanent sawmills, lumber yards and other similar facilities used for the processing, manufacturing and/or storage of wood and wood products. (See also SMALL SCALE PROCESSING.)

FRONT FACADE: The wall of a building that most directly faces and parallels a road and/or contains the main entry.

FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT: A place of business devoted to the care and preparation for burial, disposal, or transportation of dead human bodies, including the selling of funeral services or merchandise.

GALLERY: An establishment engaged in the display and sale of art and craft work, excluding cultural facilities (See ARTIST STUDIO, CULTURAL FACILITY).

GAS STATION: Any building, land area or other premises or portion thereof used or intended to be used for the retail dispensing or sales of vehicular fuels; which may include as an accessory use the sale or installation of lubricants, tires, batteries, and similar accessories.

GROUP HOME: A state licensed residential care home serving not more than 6 persons who are developmentally disabled or handicapped. For the purposes of these regulations, a group home shall constitute a single-family dwelling.

HALF STORY: A habitable portion of a building with a ceiling a minimum of 7½ feet high above the floor, and a total floor area of at least 40% of the total area of the floor directly beneath.

HEADWATER STREAM: Any permanent or intermittent stream channel located above an elevation of 1,500 feet mean sea level.

HISTORIC BARN: Any barn structure within the Town of Waitsfield that has been certified in writing by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, or the Mad River Valley Rural Resource Commission (certified local government) to meet the following conditions: (1) the barn shall be more than 50 years old; and (2) the barn is deemed a significant structure as a part of the town's historic fabric and a reflection of the town's rural and agricultural heritage.

HOME BUSINESS: A business conducted by the resident(s) of a single-family dwelling, and not more than 4 non-resident employees, which is carried on within the principal dwelling and/or an accessory structure, and otherwise meets the requirements of these regulations (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.07. See also HOME OCCUPATION.)

HOME CHILD CARE: A state registered or licensed family child care home, operated as an accessory to a single-family dwelling, in which up to 6 full-time and 4 part-time children are provided day care. (See also CHILD CARE FACILITY.)

HOME OCCUPATION: Any use conducted entirely within a dwelling and carried on by the occupants thereof, and not more than two nonresidents, which is incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling for dwelling purposes and does not change the character thereof. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.07.)

HOTEL: A grouping of rooms which do not contain cooking facilities, offering overnight accommodations. The hotel may provide such services as maid service, a central switchboard or central dining facilities for the occupants. Each hotel room shall constitute a separate unit for purposes of calculating density.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Facilities and services required to support residential, commercial, industrial and civic land development, which may include but not be limited to roads, sidewalks and other transportation facilities; water, wastewater, and stormwater management systems; communications, electrical and other utilities; and public facilities such as fire houses, parks, and schools. For purposes of these regulations, infrastructure is considered and regulated as land development, which may be principal, accessory or incidental to other types of land development. (See also LAND DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC FACILITY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.)

JUNK: Any old or scrap copper, brass, iron, steel and other old or scrap or nonferrous material, including but not limited to rope, rags, batteries, glass, rubber debris, waste, trash or any discarded, dismantled, wrecked, scrapped or ruined motor vehicles or parts thereof.

JUNK MOTOR VEHICLE: A discarded, dismantled, wrecked, scrapped or ruined motor vehicle or parts thereof, or one other than an on-premise utility vehicle which is allowed to remain unregistered for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of discovery.

KENNEL: The boarding, grooming, or training of four or more dogs, cats, or other household pets of any age.

LAND DEVELOPMENT: The construction, reconstruction, expansion, conversion, structural alteration,

relocation or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation or landfill, and any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land, or extension of use of land. The subdivision of land, including the division of a parcel into two or more parcels, is regulated under the Town of Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations, as most recently amended. (See also DEVELOPMENT as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.)

LEVEL OF SERVICE: The operating conditions that a driver will experience while traveling on a particular street or highway, including frequency of stops, operating speed, travel time, traffic density.

LEVEL OF SERVICE C: An operating condition that a driver will experience while traveling on a particular street or highway in which there is stable flow, but speed and maneuvering are more closely controlled by higher traffic volumes.

LEVEL OF SERVICE D: An operating condition that a driver will experience while traveling on a particular street or highway which approaches unstable flow, with tolerable operating speeds being maintained though considerably affected by changes in operating conditions.

LIGHT INDUSTRY: The manufacturing, compounding, processing, packaging, assembly and/or treatment of finished or semi-finished products, including but not limited to agricultural products, timber products and food products.

LOFT: An area not to exceed one third of the area of the floor level below it, and open to that lower floor.

LOT: Land having not less than the minimum area, width, and depth required in the district in which such land is situated and having frontage on a street or other means of access, as may be determined by the governing unit with jurisdiction, to be adequate as a condition of a permit. Land separated by a road right-of-way owned by the same person is considered to be two lots.

LOT AREA: Total area within the property line, excluding any part thereof lying within the boundaries of a public road.

LOT COVERAGE: The total ground area covered by all structures, parking areas, walkways, driveways, and other impervious surfaces.

LOT FRONTAGE: Distance measured across the width of the lot along the edge of a streetline.

MAJOR SUBDIVISION: See Waitsfield Subdivision Regulations.

MANUFACTURING: Any process whereby the nature, size, or shape of articles or raw materials are changed, or articles are assembled and/or packaged. Processing of produce where raised shall not be considered "manufacturing."

MEDICAL CENTER: A building or portion of a building containing offices and facilities for providing medical, dental and/or psychiatric services for outpatients only.

MIXED USE BUILDING: A structure containing two or more use types which are otherwise allowed as permitted or conditional uses within the district in which the structure is located. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.08.)

MOBILE HOME: A manufactured dwelling unit which is designed for long term and continuous residential occupancy; is designed to be moved on wheels as a whole or in sections; on arrival at the site, is complete and ready for occupancy except for incidental unpacking, assembly, connections to utilities and placing on support or permanent foundation or installation as a unit in a prepared structure; and utilizes the same water supply and waste disposal as immovable housing. (See also MANUFACTURED HOME as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.)

MOBILE HOME LOT: A site or portion of a parcel of land within a mobile home park that is set aside for and designated for occupancy by one single-family mobile home.

MOBILE HOME PARK: A parcel of land under single or common ownership or control which contains or is designed, laid out or adopted to accommodate three or more mobile homes. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.09. See also MANUFACTURED HOME PARK as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.)

MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING: See DWELLING, MULTI-FAMILY.

MUNICIPAL FACILITY: A building or other facility owned, leased, held, used, and/or controlled exclusively for public purposes by the Town of Waitsfield.

MUNICIPAL PERMIT: As defined in the Act [§4303(24)] to include, as issued by the municipality: (1) final zoning, subdivision, site plan, or building permits or approvals relating to subdivision and land development; (2) septic or sewage system permits; (3) final official minutes of meetings which relate to permits or approvals, which serve as the sole evidence of such permits or approvals; (4) certificates of occupancy, compliance, or similar certificates; and (5) any amendments to the previously listed, permits, approvals and/or certificates.

MUSEUM: A building serving as a repository for collections of natural, scientific, or historic objects of interests, or works of art, which is designed for public viewing, and may include as accessory uses preservation, interpretive and educational services, and the retail sale of museum-related goods. (See also CULTURAL FACILITY.)

NONCONFORMING STRUCTURE: A structure or part thereof not in compliance with the provisions of this bylaw, relating to building height, area, yard, setback, or parking facilities, but which was in all respects lawful prior to the effective date of these regulations.

NONCONFORMING USE: A use of land, building, or premises not permitted by this bylaw in the district in which said land, building, or premises is located, but which use was in all respects lawful prior to enactment of this bylaw.

NURSERY: An enterprise which conducts the retail and/or wholesale distribution of plants, shrubs and trees and associated landscaping or gardening products. A nursery may be permitted as a retail establishment and/or agricultural operation in designated districts, providing it meets the definition of these respective uses (See RETAIL, AGRICULTURE).

OFFICE: A room, suite of rooms or building used for conducting a business, profession, service industry or government. The on-premise retail sale of goods is specifically excluded from this definition.

OPEN SPACE: The undeveloped portion of any development parcel which is not occupied by buildings, streets, rights-of-way, driveways, parking spaces, commercial recreation facilities, or yard areas, and which is set aside, dedicated, or designated, or for the use and enjoyment of owners and occupants of land

adjoining or neighboring such open space.

PARKING FACILITY: An area or structure used for the short-term storage of registered motor vehicles.

PARKING SPACE: Off-street space, not including access driveways, used for temporary location of one licensed motor vehicle, which space shall be at least 9 feet wide and 18 feet long, and shall have direct access to a street or approved right of way.

PERSON: An individual, a corporation, a partnership, an association, and any other incorporated or unincorporated organization or group.

PERSONAL SERVICE: An establishment primarily engaged in providing services involving the care of a person or his or her apparel, including but not limited to laundry and dry cleaning, beauty shops, barber shops, shoe repair, funeral services, and photographic studios.

PLACE OF WORSHIP: A building or structure, or group of buildings or structures that, by design and construction, are primarily intended for conducting organized religious services and associated accessory uses.

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD): A tract of land to be developed as a single entity for residential, educational, industrial or commercial uses. Other characteristics of the planned unit development include common open space for use of residents, unitary design of building arrangement, a harmonious pattern of street, density, lot size and building bulk, any or all of which may not correspond to the regulations established in any one or more districts created in this Bylaw.

POST OFFICE: A facility operated by the U.S. Postal Service and used for the collection and distribution of mail.

PRIMITIVE CAMP: Structures, such as cabins, yurts, shelters, or tents, which are less than 1,500 square feet, are occupied and/or used on a temporary basis on their own individual lots, and which have no interior plumbing consisting of no more than a sink with water. Temporary basis shall be defined by the durational limits for state wastewater and potable supply permit exemptions in the State Wastewater Rules Section 1-304(a)(4), and such structures shall comply at all times with the exemption granted prior to obtaining a zoning permit.

PRIVATE CLUB: A building and related facilities operated by a corporation, association, or group of individuals established for the fraternal, social, educational, recreational, or cultural enrichment of its members and not primarily for profit and whose members meet certain prescribed qualifications for membership.

PRIVATE ROAD: Any road or street serving four or more lots, and associated right-of-way, which is not publicly owned and maintained. The word “road” shall mean the entire right-of-way (see also DRIVEWAY).

PRINCIPAL BUILDING: A building in which the principal use of a parcel is conducted, as differentiated from an accessory building or structure (see Section 3.07).

PRINCIPAL USE: The primary or predominant use of a lot or parcel as differentiated from an accessory use (see Section 3.07).

PUBLIC FACILITY: A building or other facility owned, leased, held, used, and/or controlled

exclusively for public purposes by a municipal or state government. Such facilities include municipal buildings, garages, and water and wastewater facilities. Post offices and schools are specifically excluded from this definition. (See Specific Use Standards Section 4.11.)

PUBLIC ROAD: A road or street which is constructed within the boundaries of an officially deeded and accepted public right-of-way. The word “road” shall mean the entire right-of-way.

PUBLIC SCHOOL: A facility that provides a curriculum of elementary and/or secondary academic instruction, including kindergartens, elementary schools, junior high schools, and high schools principally supported by public taxation or tuition payments received from public funds.

RECONSTRUCT: To rebuild or replace a building or structure which has been destroyed, damaged or demolished from any cause.

RECREATION FACILITY, OUTDOOR OR INDOOR: Any facility used for recreation, including but not limited to tennis courts, golf courses, ski areas, skating rink, skateboard park, athletic fields, bowling alleys, spas, and swimming pools, except those facilities which are accessory to dwelling units.

RECREATION VEHICLE SALES & SERVICE: An establishment for the sale and servicing of recreation vehicles, which may include the outdoor display of such vehicles. (See also CAMPER, TRAVEL TRAILER.)

REQUIRED AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (RAPs): Accepted practices for agriculture, including farm structures other than dwellings, as currently defined by the Commissioner of Vermont Department of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

RESTAURANT: An establishment where food and drink is prepared, served, and consumed primarily within the principal building.

RETAIL: Establishment engaged in selling goods or merchandise to the general public for personal, business, or household consumption. Wholesale and services may be an accessory use of retail and shall be included in this definition. For the purposes of this bylaw, the following uses are excluded from the definition of retail: restaurant, gasoline sales and/or motor vehicle repair station, car sales and service, trailer and mobile home sales and service, and building supplies.

ROAD CENTERLINE: The center of the traveled way.

SCHOOL: A public, private or parochial institution certified by the State of Vermont to provide educational instruction to students. Such facilities may also include accessory recreational and dining facilities, and be used as officially designated, temporary emergency shelters.

SALVAGE YARD: Any place of outdoor storage or deposit for storing, keeping, processing, buying, or selling junk or as a scrap metal processing facility. “Salvage yard” also means any place of outdoor storage or deposit, not in connection with a business which is maintained or used for storing or keeping three or more junk motor vehicles which are visible from any portion of a public highway or navigable water, as that term is defined in Section 1422 of Title 10. It does not mean a garage where wrecked or disabled motor vehicles are stored for less than 90 days for inspection or repairs.

SILVICULTURE: See FORESTRY.

SETBACK: The horizontal distance from the road centerline, other lot boundary, or other delineated feature (e.g., a stream bank or channel centerline or wetland boundary) to the nearest part of a building or

structure on the premises.

SIGN: Any structure, display, device or representation which is designed or used to advertise or call attention to or direct a person to any business, association, profession, commodity, product, institution, service, entertainment, person, place, thing or activity of any kind, and is intended to be visible from a public or private road. In computing the area of a sign, not including the supporting structure, the area shall be the area of the smallest geometric shape with a level base line which can contain a sign, including the panel and frame, if any.

SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING: See DWELLING, SINGLE-FAMILY.

SMALL SCALE PROCESSING OF RAW AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST PRODUCTS: The processing of raw agricultural or forestry products involving not more than 4 on-site employees. This includes sawmills and specialty food manufacturers.

SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION: Licensed organizations providing assistance to persons in such areas as child care, residential care and counseling for psychological problems, employment, learning disabilities, and physical disabilities.

SPECIAL EVENT: A temporary or occasional use that extends beyond the usual and customary activities associated with the permitted principal use of a parcel. Special events are those functions that (1) occur for a limited number of days, and (2) are intended to, or are likely to, attract at least 75 attendees, if that is a greater number of attendees than otherwise associated with the principal use of the property.

STORY: A story is that portion of a building, other than a basement, included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the next floor or ceiling above it. For the purposes of these regulations, a basement shall be counted as a story if the front exterior wall of the basement is a minimum of 50% above the finished grade.

STREAM: Any surface water course in the Town of Waitsfield as depicted on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, Vermont Base Map orthophotos, official zoning maps, Vermont Center for Geographic Information System (VCGI) Vermont Hydrography Dataset (VHD) for surface water resources, and as identified through site investigation; excluding artificially created irrigation and drainage channels.

STREAM BANK: Physiographic feature that contains a stream, within a stream channel under normal flow conditions. Stream banks are distinct from the streambed, which is normally wetted and provides a substrate that supports aquatic organisms. For purposes of measuring stream setback and buffer distances under these regulations, measurements shall be taken horizontally from: (1) the “Top of Bank,” defined as the vertical point along a stream bank where an abrupt change in slope is evident, and where the stream is generally able to overflow the banks and enter the adjacent floodplain only during flows at or exceeding the average annual high water stage; or (2) the “Top of Slope,” defined as a break in the slope adjacent to steep-banked streams that have little or no floodplain; or (3) where no stream bank is discernable, measurements shall be taken from the channel centerline. (See also STREAM, STREAM CHANNEL.)

STREAM CHANNEL: The area that contains continuous or periodic (intermittent) flowing water that is confined by banks and a streambed. This may include but not be limited to bedrock channels, gravel beds, sand and silt beds, and swales. A stream bank may define the usual boundaries, but not the flood boundaries, of a stream channel. Artificially created water courses such as agricultural irrigation and drainage ditches are specifically excluded from this definition. For purposes of these regulations, the “Channel (Bankfull) Width” is the width of the stream channel when flowing at a bankfull discharge—the stage in which water first overtops natural stream banks. This flow occurs, on average, once over one to

two years. (See also STREAM, STREAM BANK, STREAM SLOPE.)

STREAM SLOPE: a steep bank adjacent to a stream that has little or no floodplain; the stream channel may be incised or deeply cut, creating a condition in which the floodplains have been abandoned or are undergoing abandonment. In this scenario, the slope refers to the steep sides of the abandoned floodplains or side terraces.

STREETLINE: Edge of right of way of a street, either public or private, as dedicated by a deed of record. Where width of street is not established, the street line shall be considered to be 25 feet from the centerline of the traveled way.

STRUCTURE: An assembly of materials for occupancy or use, including but not limited to a building, a manufactured or mobile home or trailer, sign, storage shelter, wall or fence, except a wall or fence on an operating farm. (See also STRUCTURE as defined for purposes of flood hazard area regulation under Section 7.03.)

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY: A support structure which is primarily for communication or broadcast purposes to transmit or receive communication signals for commercial, industrial, municipal, county, state or other governmental purposes, and associated ancillary facilities that provide access and/or house equipment (see Specific Use Standards Section 4.12).

TIMESHARE: One or more dwelling units in which the possession or occupancy of such dwelling unit(s) circulates among the various owners or lessees thereof in accordance with a fixed time schedule on a periodically recurring basis.

TRAIL: Section of land made of dirt, crushed stone, or gravel, which is no larger than 6' wide for non-motorized use.

TRANSFER STATION: A facility serving as an intermediate destination for solid waste, which may include separation and recycling stations.

TRAVEL TRAILER: Includes any vehicle used as sleeping or camping or living quarters mounted on wheels or a camper body, usually mounted on a truck or customarily towed by a motor vehicle. (See also CAMPER, RECREATIONAL VEHICLE.)

USE: The purpose or activity for which land or structures are designed, arranged, or intended, or for which land or structures are occupied or maintained.

VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTION: Production activities that enhance or improve the overall value of local agricultural or forestry products, including processing and packaging activities. This may include the limited on-site sale of goods produced on the premises, and directly related products, but shall not include general retail sales. For purposes of this definition, "local" means grown or raised within the state of Vermont. (See also SMALL SCALE PROCESSING.)

VIOLATION: The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with this bylaw or conditions of permit approval.

WAREHOUSE: A building used primarily for the storage of goods and materials.

WILDLIFE REFUGE: An area maintained in a natural state for the preservation of animal and plant life.

WHOLESALE TRADE: The sale of merchandise and equipment to retailers or industrial, commercial, or

professional business users, or acting as agents to buy and sell merchandise to such companies. Wholesale trade establishments are not involved in the sale of merchandise directly to the general public.

YARD: Space on a lot not occupied by a building or structure. Porches, whether enclosed or unenclosed, shall be considered as part of the main building and shall not project into a required yard.

YARD SALE: The temporary sale of personal property open to the general public and generally denoted by the terms “garage sale,” “attic sale,” “lawn sale,” “flea market,” “barn sale” or similar phrase. This definition only includes sales operated in compliance with the Town of Waitsfield Garage Sale Ordinance.

Section 7.03 Flood Hazard and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Regulation Definitions

ADMINISTRATOR: The Federal Insurance Administrator.

AREA OF SHALLOW FLOODING: A designated AO or AH zone on a community’s FIRM with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

BASE FLOOD: The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (BFE): The elevation of the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a 1 percent chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year. On the Flood Insurance Rate Map the elevation is usually in feet, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929, the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, or other datum referenced in the Flood Insurance Study report, or the average depth of the base flood, usually in feet, above the ground surface. Base flood elevations are shown at selected intervals on maps of Special Flood Hazard Areas that are determined by detailed methods. Base flood elevations have not been determined in Zone A where the flood risk has been mapped by approximate methods.

BASEMENT: Any area of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

COMMON PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT: An approved plan for scheduled or phased development, under which a structure will be improved or refurbished over a period of time. Such work might be planned unit by unit.

CONSTRUCTION/NEW: (1) For purposes of determining insurance rates pertaining to flood hazard area regulation, structures that commenced on or after September 10, 1976, the effective date of the initial floodplain management regulations adopted by the town, and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures. (2) For floodplain management purposes, new construction means structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the floodplain management regulation adopted by the town of Waitsfield and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

CRITICAL PUBLIC FACILITY: Facilities critical to the health and safety of the public and the environment, such as hospitals and nursing homes, emergency operations centers (particularly police, fire, and rescue), vital data storage centers, power generation and other utilities (including related infrastructure such as principal points of utility systems) and any facilities that produce, use or store toxic

pollutants as defined under the Clean Water Act and other state and Federal statutes. New critical public facilities are prohibited within floodplains that is subject either to a one percent (1%) or greater annual chance of flooding (the "100-year" floodplain) or a two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) or greater annual chance of flooding (the "500-year" floodplain).

DEVELOPMENT: Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials within the Special Flood Hazard Area, identified on the most current Federal Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

FLOOD: (a) a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from: the overflow of inland or tidal waters; the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source; and mudslides which are proximately caused by flooding and are akin to a river of liquid and flowing mud on the surfaces of normally dry land areas, as when earth is carried by a current of water and deposited along the path of the current; (b) the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as flash flood or abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding.

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP (FHBM): An official map of the town, issued by the Federal Insurance Administrator, where the boundaries of the flood, mudslide (i.e., mudflow) and related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated as Zones A, H, and/or E.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM): An official map of the town, issued by the Federal Insurance Administrator, on which both the areas of special flood hazard and the applicable risk premium zones have been delineated. (See also SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA.)

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY (FIS): An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations.

FLOODPLAIN or FLOOD-PRONE AREA: Any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (see also FLOOD).

FLOODWAY, REGULATORY, TOWN OF WAITSFIELD: The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point. *Please note, where floodways have been determined, they may be shown on separate map panels from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.*

FLOODPROOFED/FLOODPROOFING: Any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes or adjustments to structures that reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

FLUVIAL EROSION HAZARD AREA: The area including and adjacent to stream or river channels necessary to accommodate the slope requirements of a physically stable channel, and is subject to fluvial erosion hazards from stream channel migration and adjustment, as delineated on current Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Map for the municipality and documented in related studies.

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE: A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE: Any structure that is: (a) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; (b) certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; (c) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or (d) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either: (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

LETTER OF MAP AMENDMENT (LOMA): A letter issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency officially removing a structure or lot from the flood hazard zone based on information provided by a certified engineer or surveyor. This is used where structures or lots are located above the base flood elevation and have been inadvertently included in the mapped special flood hazard area.

LOWEST FLOOR: The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area, including basement, except an unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of 44 CFR 60.3.

MANUFACTURED (MOBILE) HOME: A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling unit with or without a permanent foundation when connected to required utilities. For purposes of flood hazard area regulation the term "manufactured home" also includes recreational vehicles that are not fully licensed and ready for highway use. For flood insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include recreational vehicles, park trailers, campers or other similar vehicles.

MANUFACTURED (MOBILE) HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION: A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

MANUFACTURED (MOBILE) HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION/EXISTING: A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before September 10, 1976, the effective date of the initial floodplain management regulations adopted by the town.

MANUFACTURED (MOBILE) HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION/EXISTING, EXPANSION OF: The preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufacturing homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).

MANUFACTURED (MOBILE) HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION/NEW: A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after September 10, 1976, the effective date of the initial floodplain management regulations adopted by the town.

MEAN SEA LEVEL: The National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD), or other datum to which base flood and other surface elevations are referenced.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE: For purposes of flood hazard area regulation, a vehicle which is: (a) built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and (d) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. (See also CAMPER, MOBILE HOME, TRAVEL TRAILER.)

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA (SFHA): The floodplain within a community subject to a one percent (1.0 %) or greater chance of flooding in any given year. For purposes of these regulations, the term “area of special flood hazard” is synonymous in meaning with the phrase “special flood hazard area.” This area is usually labeled Zone A, AO, AH, AE, A1-30, or A99 in the most current flood insurance studies and on the maps published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. (See also BASE FLOOD ELEVATION, FLOODWAY.)

START OF CONSTRUCTION: For purposes of flood hazard area regulation, determines the effective maps or bylaw that regulated development in the Special Flood Hazard Area. The “start of construction” includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footing, piers, or foundation or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or shed not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, regardless whether that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

STRUCTURE: A walled and roofed building, that is principally above ground. Manufactured (mobile) homes and gas or liquid storage tanks are included in this definition.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE: Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT: Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which, over three years, or over a period of a common plan of development, cumulatively equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure either (a) before the improvement or repair is started or (b) if the structure has been damaged, and is being restored, before the damage occurred. The term does not, however, include either (a) any project for improvement of the structure to comply with existing state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which are necessary to assure safe living conditions; or (b) any alteration of a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a state inventory of historic places.

VIOLATION: The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with this bylaw or conditions of permit approval. With respect to the flood hazard regulation, a structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in 44 CFR 60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

APPENDIX A: NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF ZONING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, 2023

- A. **Village Residential District:** This District shall comprise the area located within the following boundaries, as depicted on the Waitsfield Zoning Map [Note: parcel numbers correspond with the Waitsfield Parcel (Tax) map numbers.]
1. **West of the Mad River:** The northern boundary shall be the dividing boundary between the Waitsfield Elementary School parcel (parcel #99051.000) and the Waits Way parcel (99046.101), so called.. Such boundary shall extend westerly to include parcels 99048.000 and 99049.000 as the northwestern boundary of the district ; shall then turn in a southerly direction parallel to Route 100 at a distance of 1,000 feet from the centerline to a point where the boundary intersects with the north fork of Tributary 15, as described in the Town Flood Insurance Rate Map; shall turn east to follow the center of the stream until its confluence with the Mad River excluding Parcel #99117.000 which shall now be in the Irasville Village District; then shall turn north following the center of the River across Bridge Street (TH#1) and shall then follow the boundary line of the 100 year floodplain as described on the Town Flood Insurance Rate Map, to the northern boundary line. Excluded within this district, as described herein, are those parcels included in the Historic Waitsfield Village District described in (C) and in the Village Business District listed in (B), below.
 2. **East of the Mad River:** The district shall encompass parcels 01007.000, 01008.500, 01011.000, and 01010.000 on the north side of Bridge Street, and parcels 01006.000, 01012.000, 01013.000, and the portion of parcel 01015.000 between Bridge Street and a line running in an easterly direction parallel to the rear boundary of parcel 01012.000 to the Mad River.
- B. **Village Business District:** This District shall comprise the area encompassing the following parcels, as identified in the Waitsfield Grand List: parcels 01003.000, 01002.000, 01001.000, 99072.000, 99068.000, 99068.100, 99069.000, 99070.000, 99071.000, 99101.000, 99104.000, 99105.000, 99107.000, 99109.100, 99110.000, 99108.000, [99108.100, 99108.200, 99108.300, 99108.400], 01004.000, and 01005.000, and as depicted on the Waitsfield Zoning Map. [Note: Parcel numbers correspond with the Waitsfield Parcel (Tax) Map numbers.]
- C. **Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay District:** Boundaries coincide with the Waitsfield Village Historic District as listed on the National Register of Historic Places and depicted on the sketch map included with the historic district nomination to the National Register of Historic Places dated May 1983.
- D. **Irasville Village District:** This District shall comprise the area located within the following boundaries: The Mill Brook running out of South Fayston and emptying into the Mad River on the south; the Mad River from the point of the Mill Brook, so-called, on the east to a point on the Mad River where it intersects with Tributary 15, as described on the Town Flood Insurance Rate Map and to include parcel #99117.000; Tributary 15 to its north fork, then along its north fork to its intersection with the Waitsfield/Fayston Town line to the point of beginning.
- E. **Agricultural-Residential District:** All lands not within the Village Residential, Village Business, Historic Waitsfield Village Overlay, Irasville Village, Forest Reserve, Limited Business, and Industrial Districts as delineated on the Zoning Map.

- F. **Forest Reserve District:** All lands situated at or above an elevation of 1,500 feet above mean sea level (or more) and all lands within the Camel's Hump State Forest; but excluding those lands within the Ski Valley Acres Development, which pre-dated Waitsfield Zoning Regulations, as depicted on a survey map entitled "Ski Valley Acres, Waitsfield, Vermont" as prepared by Webster-Martin, Inc. and dated Dec. 1964, and recorded in the Waitsfield Land Records at Map Slide #76 and also Map Box #1 sleeve #6.
- G. **Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District:** The first portion of the Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District is described as follows: beginning at the intersection of Route 100 and the Waitsfield/Warren Town line to a point southeasterly 3,000 feet along the Town line, then left northeasterly parallel to Route 100 to the intersection of the Rolston Road; then northwesterly along the Rolston Road to a point that is 1,000 feet southeasterly from the intersection of the Rolston Road and Route 100; then northeasterly to a point that is 1,000 feet southeasterly on a compass heading of 132 degrees from the intersection of a point on Route 100, 262 feet south of the intersection of Route 100 and TH 30; then northeasterly on a compass heading 42 degrees for 1,800 feet; then left 90 degrees northwesterly on a compass heading of 312 degrees to the intersection of this heading and the 800 foot contour line; then northerly along the 800 foot contour line to the intersection of the extension of Mill Brook and the 800 foot contour line; then southwesterly along the extension of Mill Brook to the intersection of Route 100; then southerly along Route 100 to the point of beginning.
- Excluded from the preceding portion of the Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District are those parcels of land described as being in the Limited Business District (H, below).
- The second portion of the Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District is described as follows: beginning at the point where Mill Brook crosses the Waitsfield/Fayston Town line, and following the Brook southeasterly to its intersection with Route 100, then south-southeasterly along Route 100 to its intersection with the Mad River, thence southerly along the Mad River to its confluence with Tributary #5 (as designated on the Waitsfield Flood Insurance Rate Map), thence westerly on a straight line of 2,000 feet from the point of confluence to the northeastern-most corner of the Camel's Hump State Forest property in Waitsfield, thence along said property boundary to its northern-most intersection with the Waitsfield/Fayston Town line, and thence northerly along said Town line to the point of origin.
- H. **Limited Business Zone:** The Limited Business Zone as described is excluded from the Adaptive Redevelopment Overlay District. Beginning at a point on Route 100, 262 feet south of the intersection of Route 100 and TH 30; then on a compass heading of 132 degrees for 1,000 feet; then left 90 degrees northeasterly on a compass heading 42 degrees for 1,800 feet; then left 90 degrees on a compass heading of 312 degrees to the intersection of this heading and Route 100; then southerly along Route 100 to the point of beginning.
- I. **Industrial District:** The Industrial District is described as follows: beginning at a point on Airport Road 275 feet northwesterly from its intersection with Route 100; then northeasterly to a point on the North Fayston Road located 960 feet westerly from its intersection with Route 100; then northwesterly along North Fayston Road to the property line of parcel 02007.000; then southwesterly along the side property line of parcel 02007.000; then northwesterly along the rear property lines of parcels 02007.000, 02009.000, 02011.000, 02013.000, 02015.000 and 02017.000 to the Fayston Town line (and meant to exclude that portion of parcel 06001.000 laying between parcels 02015.000, 02017.000, and North Fayston Road); then southwesterly

along the Waitsfield/Fayston Town line to the property line of parcel 06005.000; then southeasterly along the rear property line of parcel 06005.000; then southwesterly along the side property line of parcel 06005.000 to the intersection with Airport Road; then southeasterly along Airport Road to property line of parcel 06003.000; then northeasterly along the side property line of parcel 06003.000 then southeasterly along the rear property lines of parcels 06003.000 and 06002.000; then southwesterly along the side property line of parcel 06002.000 to the intersection with Airport Road; then southeasterly along Airport Road to the point of beginning. [Note: Parcel numbers correspond with the Waitsfield Parcel (Tax) Map numbers.]

J. Flood Hazard Area Overlay District: With respect to the Flood Hazard Area Overlay District, refer to the most recent Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the Town of Waitsfield published by the National Flood Insurance Program to identify the boundary line of the regulated inundation floodplain (i.e., the flood event with a one percent annual chance of occurring or 100 year floodplain) as described on the FIRM.

K. Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District: With respect to the Fluvial Erosion Hazard Area Overlay District, refer to the most recent Fluvial Erosion Hazard Maps produced for and adopted by the Town of Waitsfield to identify the boundary line of the area of floodplain reserved as the fluvial erosion hazard area.

The Vermont Statutes Online

The Statutes below include the actions of the 2025 session of the General Assembly.

NOTE: The Vermont Statutes Online is an unofficial copy of the Vermont Statutes Annotated that is provided as a convenience.

Title 24 : Municipal and County Government

Chapter 117 : Municipal and Regional Planning and Development

Subchapter 007 : BYLAWS

(Cite as: 24 V.S.A. § 4412)

§ 4412. Required provisions and prohibited effects

Notwithstanding any existing bylaw, the following land development provisions shall apply in every municipality:

(1) Equal treatment of housing and required provisions for affordable housing.

(A) No bylaw nor its application by an appropriate municipal panel under this chapter shall have the effect of excluding housing that meets the needs of the population as determined in the housing element of its municipal plan as required under subdivision 4382(a)(10) of this title or the effect of discriminating in the permitting of housing as specified in 9 V.S.A. § 4503.

(B) Except as provided in subdivisions 4414(1)(E) and (F) of this title, no bylaw shall have the effect of excluding mobile homes, modular housing, or prefabricated housing from the municipality, except upon the same terms and conditions as conventional housing is excluded. A municipality may establish specific site standards in the bylaws to regulate individual sites within preexisting mobile home parks with regard to distances between structures and other standards as necessary to ensure public health, safety, and welfare, provided the standards do not have the effect of prohibiting the replacement of mobile homes on existing lots.

(C) No bylaw shall have the effect of excluding mobile home parks, as defined in 10 V.S.A. chapter 153, from the municipality.

(D) Bylaws shall designate appropriate districts and reasonable regulations for multiunit or multifamily dwellings. No bylaw shall have the effect of excluding these multiunit or multifamily dwellings from the municipality. In any district that allows year-round residential development, duplexes shall be an allowed use with dimensional standards that are not more restrictive than is required for a single-unit dwelling, including no additional

land or lot area than would be required for a single-unit dwelling. In any district that is served by municipal sewer and water infrastructure that allows residential development, multiunit dwellings with four or fewer units shall be a permitted use on the same size lot as single-unit dwelling, unless that district specifically requires multiunit structures to have more than four dwelling units.

(E) Except for flood hazard and fluvial erosion area bylaws adopted pursuant to section 4424 of this title, no bylaw shall have the effect of excluding as a permitted use one accessory dwelling unit that is located within or appurtenant to a single-family dwelling on an owner-occupied lot. A bylaw shall require a single-family dwelling with an accessory dwelling unit to be subject to the same review, dimensional, or other controls as required for a single-family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit. The criteria for conversion of an existing detached nonresidential building to habitable space for an accessory dwelling unit shall not be more restrictive than the criteria used for a single-family dwelling without an accessory dwelling unit.

(F) Nothing in subdivision (1)(E) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) a bylaw that is less restrictive of accessory dwelling units; or
- (ii) a bylaw that regulates short-term rental units distinctly from residential rental units.

(G) A residential care home or group home to be operated under State licensing or registration, serving not more than eight persons who have a disability as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4501, or a recovery residence serving not more than eight persons, shall be considered by right to constitute a permitted single-family residential use of property. This subdivision (G) does not require a municipality to allow a greater number of residential care homes or group homes on a lot than the number of single-family dwellings allowed on the lot. As used in this subdivision, “recovery residence” means a shared living residence supporting persons recovering from a substance use disorder that:

- (i) Provides tenants with peer support and assistance accessing support services and community resources available to persons recovering from substance use disorders.
- (ii) Is certified by an organization approved by the Department of Health and that is either a Vermont affiliate of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences or another approved organization or is pending such certification. If certification is pending beyond 45 days, the municipality shall retain its right to consider the residence pursuant to zoning bylaws adopted in compliance with 24 V.S.A. § 4411.

(H) No bylaw shall have the effect of prohibiting or penalizing a hotel from renting rooms to provide housing assistance through the State of Vermont’s General Assistance program, or to any person whose room is rented with public funds. In this subsection, the term “hotel” has the same meaning as in 32 V.S.A. 9202(3).

(2) Existing small lots. Any lot that is legally subdivided, is in individual and separate and nonaffiliated ownership from surrounding properties, and is in existence on the date of enactment of any bylaw, including an interim bylaw, may be developed for the purposes permitted in the district in which it is located, even though the small lot no longer conforms to minimum lot size requirements of the new bylaw or interim bylaw.

(A) A municipality may prohibit development of a lot not served by and able to connect to municipal sewer and water service if either of the following applies:

(i) the lot is less than one-eighth acre in area; or

(ii) the lot has a width or depth dimension of less than 40 feet.

(B) The bylaw may provide that if an existing small lot subsequently comes under common ownership with one or more contiguous lots, the nonconforming lot shall be deemed merged with the contiguous lot. However, a nonconforming lot shall not be deemed merged and may be separately conveyed if all the following apply:

(i) The lots are conveyed in their preexisting, nonconforming configuration.

(ii) On the effective date of any bylaw, each lot was developed with a water supply and wastewater disposal system.

(iii) At the time of transfer, each water supply and wastewater system is functioning in an acceptable manner.

(iv) The deeds of conveyance create appropriate easements on both lots for replacement of one or more wastewater systems, potable water systems, or both, in case there is a failed system or failed supply as defined in 10 V.S.A. chapter 64.

(C) Nothing in this subdivision (2) shall be construed to prohibit a bylaw that is less restrictive of development of existing small lots.

(3) Required frontage on, or access to, public roads, class 4 town highways, or public waters. Land development may be permitted on lots that do not have frontage either on a public road, class 4 town highway, or public waters, provided that access through a permanent easement or right-of-way has been approved in accordance with standards and process specified in the bylaws. This approval shall be pursuant to subdivision bylaws adopted in accordance with section 4418 of this title, or where subdivision bylaws have not been adopted or do not apply, through a process and pursuant to standards defined in bylaws adopted for the purpose of assuring safe and adequate access. Any permanent easement or right-of-way providing access to such a road or waters shall be at least 20 feet in width.

(4) Protection of home occupations. No bylaw may infringe upon the right of any resident to use a minor portion of a dwelling unit for an occupation that is customary in residential areas and that does not have an undue adverse effect upon the character of the residential area in which the dwelling is located.

(5) Child care. A “family child care home or facility” as used in this subdivision means a home or facility where the owner or operator is to be licensed or registered by the State for child care. A family child care home serving six or fewer children shall be considered to constitute a permitted single-family residential use of property. A family child care home serving no more than six full-time children and four part-time children, as defined in 33 V.S.A. § 3511(7), shall be considered to constitute a permitted use of property but may require site plan approval based on local zoning requirements. A family child care facility serving more than six full-time and four part-time children may, at the discretion of the municipality, be subject to all applicable municipal bylaws.

(6) Heights of renewable energy resource structures. The height of wind turbines with blades less than 20 feet in diameter, or rooftop solar collectors less than 10 feet high on sloped roofs, any of which are mounted on complying structures, shall not be regulated unless the bylaws provide specific standards for regulation. For the purpose of this subdivision, a sloped roof means a roof having a slope of more than five degrees. In addition, the regulation of antennae that are part of a telecommunications facility, as defined in 30 V.S.A. § 248a, may be exempt from review under this chapter according to the provisions of that section.

(7) Nonconformities. All bylaws shall define how nonconformities will be addressed, including standards for nonconforming uses, nonconforming structures, and nonconforming lots.

(A) To achieve the purposes of this chapter set forth in section 4302 of this title, municipalities may regulate and prohibit expansion and undue perpetuation of nonconformities. Specifically, a municipality, in its bylaws, may:

(i) Specify a time period that shall constitute abandonment or discontinuance of that nonconforming use, provided the time period is not less than six months.

(ii) Specify the extent to which, and circumstances under which, a nonconformity may be maintained or repaired.

(iii) Specify the extent to which, and circumstances under which, a nonconformity may change or expand.

(iv) Regulate relocation or enlargement of a structure containing a nonconforming use.

(v) Specify the circumstances in which a nonconformity that is destroyed may be rebuilt.

(vi) Specify other appropriate circumstances in which a nonconformity must comply with the bylaws.

(B) If a mobile home park, as defined in 10 V.S.A. chapter 153, is a nonconformity pursuant to a municipality’s bylaws, the entire mobile home park shall be treated as a nonconformity under those bylaws, and individual lots within the mobile home park shall in

no event be considered nonconformities. Unless the bylaws provide specific standards as described in subdivision (1)(B) of this section, where a mobile home park is a nonconformity under bylaws, its status regarding conformance or nonconformance shall apply to the parcel as a whole, and not to any individual mobile home lot within the park. An individual mobile home lot that is vacated shall not be considered a discontinuance or abandonment of a nonconformity.

(C) Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the authority of a municipality to abate public nuisances or to abate or remove public health risks or hazards.

(8) Communications antennae and facilities.

(A) Except to the extent bylaws protect historic landmarks and structures listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places, no permit shall be required for placement of an antenna used to transmit, receive, or transmit and receive communications signals on that property owner's premises if the area of the largest face of the antenna is not more than 15 square feet, and if the antenna and any mast support do not extend more than 12 feet above the roof of that portion of the building to which the mast is attached.

(B) If an antenna structure is less than 20 feet in height and its primary function is to transmit or receive communication signals for commercial, industrial, institutional, nonprofit, or public purposes, it shall not be regulated under this chapter if it is located on a structure located within the boundaries of a downhill ski area and permitted under this chapter. For the purposes of this subdivision, "downhill ski area" means an area with trails for downhill skiing served by one or more ski lifts and any other areas within the boundaries of the ski area and open to the public for winter sports.

(C) The regulation of a telecommunications facility, as defined in 30 V.S.A. § 248a, shall be exempt from municipal approval under this chapter when and to the extent jurisdiction is assumed by the Public Utility Commission according to the provisions of that section. This exemption from obtaining approval under this chapter shall not affect the substantial deference to be given to a plan or recommendation based on a local land use bylaw under 30 V.S.A. § 248a(c)(2).

(D) A municipality may regulate communications towers, antennae, and related facilities in its bylaws provided that such regulations do not have the purpose or effect of being inconsistent with subdivisions (A) through (C) of this subdivision (8).

(9) De minimis telecommunications impacts. An officer or entity designated by the municipality shall review telecommunications facilities applications, and upon determining that a particular application will impose no impact or de minimis impact upon any criteria established in the bylaws, shall approve the application.

(10) Planting projects; flood hazard and similar areas. A bylaw under this chapter shall not require the filing of an application or the issuance of a permit by the municipality for a planting project considered to have a permit by operation of subsection 4424(c) of this title.

(11) Accessory on-farm businesses. No bylaw shall have the effect of prohibiting an accessory on-farm business at the same location as a farm.

(A) Definitions. As used in this subdivision (11):

(i) “Accessory on-farm business” means activity on a farm, the revenues of which may exceed the revenues of the farming operation, and comprises one or both of the following:

(I) The storage, preparation, processing, and sale of qualifying products, provided that the qualifying products are produced on a farm; the sale of products that name, describe, or promote the farm or accessory on-farm business, including merchandise or apparel that features the farm or accessory on-farm business; or the sale of bread or baked goods.

(II) Educational, recreational, or social events that feature agricultural practices or qualifying products, or both. Such events may include tours of the farm, farm stays, tastings and meals featuring qualifying products, and classes or exhibits in the preparation, processing, or harvesting of qualifying products. As used in this subdivision (II), “farm stay” means a paid, overnight guest accommodation on a farm for the purpose of participating in educational, recreational, or social activities on the farm that feature agricultural practices or qualifying products, or both. A farm stay includes the option for guests to participate in such activities.

(ii) “Farm” means a parcel or parcels owned, leased, or managed by a person, devoted primarily to farming, and subject to the RAP rules. For leased lands to be part of a farm, the lessee must exercise control over the lands to the extent they would be considered as part of the lessee’s own farm. Indicators of such control include whether the lessee makes day-to-day decisions concerning the cultivation or other farming-related use of the leased lands and whether the lessee manages the land for farming during the lease period.

(iii) “Farming” shall have the same meaning as in 10 V.S.A. § 6001.

(iv) “Qualifying product” means a product that is:

(I) an agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, or dairy commodity, or maple syrup;

(II) livestock or cultured fish or a product thereof;

(III) a product of poultry, bees, an orchard, or fiber crops;

(IV) a commodity otherwise grown or raised on a farm; or

(V) a product manufactured on one or more farms from commodities wholly grown or raised on one or more farms.

(v) “RAP rules” means the rules on required agricultural practices adopted pursuant to 6 V.S.A. chapter 215, subchapter 2.

(B) Eligibility. For an accessory on-farm business to be eligible for the benefit of this subdivision (11), the business shall comply with each of the following:

(i) The business is operated by the farm owner, one or more persons residing on the farm parcel, or the lessee of a portion of the farm.

(ii) The farm meets the threshold criteria for the applicability of the RAP rules as set forth in those rules.

(C) Use of structures or land. An accessory on-farm business may take place inside new or existing structures or on the land.

(D) Review; permit. Activities of an accessory on-farm business that are not exempt under section 4413 of this title may be subject to site plan review pursuant to section 4416 of this title. A bylaw may require that such activities meet the same performance standards otherwise adopted in the bylaw for similar commercial uses pursuant to subdivision 4414(5) of this title.

(E) Less restrictive. A municipality may adopt a bylaw concerning accessory on-farm businesses that is less restrictive than the requirement of this subdivision (11).

(F) Notification; training. The Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall provide periodic written notification and training sessions to farms subject to the RAP rules on the existence and requirements of this subdivision (11) and the potential need for other permits for an accessory on-farm business, including a potable water and wastewater system permit under 10 V.S.A. chapter 64.

(12) In any area served by municipal sewer and water infrastructure that allows residential development, bylaws shall establish lot and building dimensional standards that allow five or more dwelling units per acre for each allowed residential use. Density and minimum lot size standards for multiunit dwellings shall not be more restrictive than those required for single-family dwellings.

(13) In any area served by municipal sewer and water infrastructure that allows residential development, bylaws shall permit any affordable housing development, as defined in subdivision 4303(2) of this title, including mixed-use development, to exceed density limitations for residential developments by an additional 40 percent, which shall include exceeding maximum height limitations by one floor, provided that the structure complies with the Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code.

(14) No zoning or subdivision bylaw shall have the effect of prohibiting unrelated occupants from residing in the same dwelling unit. (Added 2003, No. 115 (Adj. Sess.), § 95; amended 2005, No. 172 (Adj. Sess.), § 5, eff. May 22, 2006; 2007, No. 79, § 15; 2007, No. 79, § 15, eff. June 9, 2007; 2009, No. 54, § 45, eff. June 1, 2009; 2011, No. 53, § 14e, eff. May 27, 2011; 2011, No. 137 (Adj. Sess.), § 7, eff. May 14, 2012; 2011, No. 155 (Adj. Sess.), § 14; 2011, No. 170 (Adj. Sess.), § 16e, eff. May 18, 2012; 2013, No. 16, § 5, eff. May 6, 2013; 2013, No. 96 (Adj. Sess.), § 162; 2013, No. 131 (Adj. Sess.), § 127, eff. May 20, 2014; 2015, No. 130 (Adj. Sess.), § 5b, eff. May 25, 2016; 2017, No. 4, § 2, eff. March 6, 2017; 2017, No. 130 (Adj. Sess.),

§ 17; 2017, No. 143 (Adj. Sess.), § 2; 2019, No. 179 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. Oct. 12, 2020; 2021, No. 174 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. July 1, 2022; 2023, No. 22, § 9, eff. May 25, 2023; 2023, No. 47, § 2, eff. July 1, 2023; 2023, No. 181 (Adj. Sess.), § 17, § 52, eff. June 17, 2024.)

- (1) Residential:
 - (a) Accessory dwelling unit (see section 5.9).
 - (b) Detached garage or carport.
 - (c) Shed.
 - (d) Barn.
 - (e) Gazebo.
 - (f) Pergola.
 - (g) Animal house – e.g., chicken coop, horse run-in, etc.
 - (h) Greenhouse.
 - (i) Swimming pool, hot tub, etc.
 - (j) Pond.
 - (k) Tennis court.
 - (l) Satellite dish, antenna, etc.
 - (2) Non-Residential:
 - (a) Garage.
 - (b) Shed.
 - (c) Gazebo.
 - (d) Fountain or other water feature.
 - (e) Dumpster enclosure.
 - (f) Heating, ventilation, air conditioning units.
- 5.8.4 **Utilities Uses/Structures:** These accessory uses/structures may not be directly related to the principal use. For example: utility poles/wires, utility boxes/cabinets, renewable energy technologies (rooftop or ground-mounted), transmission lines, railroads, etc. For small wind energy systems, see Section 5.22. For wireless telecommunication facilities, see Article 7.
- 5.8.5 **Lots Without a Principal Structure:** The types of accessory structures noted above may be constructed on a lot without a principal structure as long as the use of the structure is the same or closely aligned to how it would be customarily used per an allowed principal use. For example, a shed could be built on an undeveloped lot without a house if used for customary shed purposes (e.g., personal storage).

Section 5.9 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS

- 5.9.1 An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) means a distinct dwelling unit that is clearly subordinate to a one-unit dwelling and has facilities and provisions for independent living, including sleeping, food preparation, and sanitation. An accessory dwelling unit must meet the following provisions.
- (1) Be located within or appurtenant to a one-unit dwelling on an owner-occupied lot. The property owner may reside in either the one-unit dwelling or the ADU. Only one ADU is allowed per one-unit dwelling.
 - (2) The size of the accessory dwelling unit (livable floor area) is partially tied to the size (livable floor area) of the primary dwelling unit, and shall not exceed the greater of:
 - 900 square feet
 - 75% of the livable floor area of the primary dwelling unit, if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is less than 1,600 square feet.
 - 1,200 square feet if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is between 1,600-4,000 square feet.
 - 30% of the livable floor area of the primary dwelling unit, if the primary dwelling unit's livable floor area is greater than 4,000 square feet.

- (3) Have at least one off-street parking space for the ADU, in addition to the parking required for the one-unit dwelling, pursuant to Section 5.5.
- 5.9.2 A zoning permit is required for all accessory dwelling units.
- 5.9.3 An accessory structure, which contains an accessory dwelling unit, shall meet the applicable setback standards for a principal structure.
- 5.9.4 ADU floor area that does not meet the definition of livable floor area (e.g., garage, deck, porch, unheated basement/attic) does not count toward the ADU size limit above.
- 5.9.5 An existing one-unit dwelling with an ADU in the same structure may be converted to a two-unit dwelling with a zoning permit. The two-unit dwelling status may be more advantageous since it does not limit livable floor area or require owner occupancy.

Section 5.10 NON-CONFORMING USES AND NON-COMPLYING STRUCTURES

The following provisions shall apply to all structures and uses existing on the effective date of this Regulation which do not conform to the requirements set forth in this Regulation, and to all structures and uses that in the future do not conform by reason of any subsequent amendment to this Regulation.

- 5.10.1 Non-conforming uses or non-complying structures shall not be moved, enlarged, altered, extended, reconstructed, or restored (except as provided below). Any external evidence of such use shall not be increased by any means whatsoever without conditional use approval of the Development Review Board, and only if the Board finds that the proposed use is no more nonconforming than the previous use and conforms to the standards of Section 5.12 of these regulations.
- 5.10.2 **Non-conforming Uses:** Any non-conforming use of structures or land, except those specified below, may be continued indefinitely, except such non-conforming uses shall conform with the following provisions:
 - (1) It shall not be changed to another non-conforming use without conditional use approval of the Development Review Board, and then only to a use, which in the opinion of the Board, is of the same or of a more restricted nature.
 - (2) It shall not be re-established if such use has been discontinued for any reason, except damage, for a period of six (6) months, or has been changed to, or replaced by, a conforming use.
 - (3) It shall not be restored to other than a conforming use after damage from any cause, unless the non-conforming use is reinstated within one year of such damage. If reinstatement is not completed within the said one year, the non-conforming use shall be considered to have been discontinued, unless such non-conforming use has been carried on without interruption in the undamaged portion of such structure.
 - (4) Residential use of previously converted buildings in the Village District may be restored any time.
- 5.10.3 **Maintenance and Expansion of Non-complying Structures:** A non-complying structure may continue to be occupied, or maintained and expanded subject to the following provisions:
 - (1) Nothing in these regulations shall be construed as permitting the use of a structure declared unsafe by an appropriate governmental authority nor the continuation of a condition declared to be a health hazard by an appropriate governmental authority.
 - (2) A non-complying structure which is damaged or destroyed by fire, collapse, explosion or other similar cause may be reconstructed, repaired or restored, provided that the reconstruction or repair results in a structure that is no more non-complying than the original structure and that the work is commenced within twelve (12) months

Article 4. Specific Use Regulations

Section 4.1 Accessory Dwelling

(A) There shall be only one principal dwelling per single-family residential lot. An accessory dwelling or apartment is not permitted on any lot containing two-family or multi-family dwellings. An accessory dwelling may, however, be approved on a residential lot with one single-family dwelling, subject to the following provisions, which are also intended to meet statutory requirements pertaining to accessory dwellings included in 24 V.S.A. 4412 (1) (E):

(1) One accessory dwelling may be approved for a lot on which a single-family dwelling is the principal use. Accessory dwellings shall satisfy the following requirements:

a) The accessory dwelling shall be located within or appurtenant to the principal dwelling on an owner-occupied lot.

b) The accessory dwelling shall meet all setback and other dimensional requirements for the district in which it is located; or, for an existing non-complying structure, the accessory dwelling shall in no way increase the degree of noncompliance under Section 3.8.

c) ADU Size Limitations:

Square feet of Livable Floor area of Single-Family Dwelling	4000+	1600-4000	Less than 1600
Maximum Accessory Dwelling Size in square feet.	30% of principle dwelling or 2000 whichever is larger.	2000	75% of principle dwelling or 900 whichever is larger.

d) It shall be demonstrated to the Administrative Officer that adequate water supply, septic system, and off-street parking capacity exist to accommodate residents of the accessory dwelling

e) The permit for the accessory dwelling shall clearly state that the dwelling is an accessory structure to the single-family residence and shall be retained in common ownership. An accessory dwelling may only be subdivided and/or converted for sale or use as a single or multi-family dwelling if it meets all current local and state regulations applying to such dwellings, including all density, dimensional and other requirements for the district in which it is located.

[Statutory reference. 24 VSA Chapter 117 §4412(1)(E)]

Section 4 SPECIFIC USE STANDARDS

4.1 Accessory Dwellings

- A. One (1) attached or detached dwelling unit, which is accessory to a single-family dwelling, may be permitted in any district subject to the following requirements:
1. The maximum habitable floor area of an accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 900 square feet for single-family dwellings under 1,800 square feet of habitable floor area.
 2. The maximum habitable floor area of an accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 50% of the square feet of habitable floor area for single-family dwellings over 1,800 square feet of habitable floor area. However, in no case, shall the maximum accessory dwelling unit habitable floor area exceed 2,500 square feet or 30% of the total habitable floor area of the single-family dwelling, whichever is greater.
 3. Habitable floor area means the space in the building used for living, sleeping, eating, and cooking. Utility spaces, unfinished basements, attics, garages, and other similar unfinished areas are not considered habitable floor area.
 4. The accessory dwelling unit shall contain no more than two bedrooms.
 5. Applicable dimensional requirements specified in these regulations are met.
 6. On-site parking shall be provided for the residents of the accessory dwelling unit in accordance with Table 14.2.
 7. The accessory dwelling unit shall be served by the same access and driveway as the primary single-family dwelling.

4.2 Childcare Facilities

- (1) A state-registered or licensed childcare home serving no more than six (6) full-time children and four (4) part-time children, as defined in 33 V.S.A. §4902(3)A, which is conducted within a single-family dwelling by a resident of that dwelling, shall be considered a permitted use of the single-family residence.
- (2) Commercial childcare facilities and those facilities operated from a dwelling, which serve more than six (6) full-time and four (4) part-time children, may be permitted in designated zoning districts as a conditional use.

3204.B A rooming and boarding house must:

- (1) Be located within the dwelling and/or accessory building(s) to the dwelling;
- (2) Be operated by a resident of the dwelling;
- (3) Provide each tenant with a private, secured bedroom for their exclusive use;
- (4) House not more than two unrelated adults per rental room;
- (5) Rent rooms for a fixed period of not less than 30 days; and
- (6) Provide 1 additional parking space for each rental bedroom in accordance with Section 3104.

3204.C A rooming and boarding house may have not more than 1 sign and must conform to all applicable standards of Section 3107.

3204.D A rooming and boarding house in which three or more rooms are rented will require site plan approval.

3204.E The applicant must certify that the dwelling meets all applicable state health and safety codes.

3204.F A rooming and boarding house will be considered a multi-family dwelling under these regulations if the rental rooms have provisions for independent living, including separate sleeping, food preparation and sanitation facilities, in accordance with Section 3009.A(8).

3205 ACCESSORY DWELLING

3205.A An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) must:

- (1) Be located within or appurtenant to a single-family dwelling on an owner-occupied lot.
- (2) Be retained in common ownership with the principal (primary) single-family dwelling on the lot;
- (3) Be clearly subordinate to the primary dwelling;
- (4) Share a driveway with the primary dwelling, unless located in an existing accessory structure that is accessed from a separate driveway;
- (5) Have provisions for independent living, including sleeping, food preparation and sanitation facilities, in accordance with Section 3009.A(8);
- (6) Meet the minimum parking requirement for residential uses under Section 3104;
- (7) Meet zoning district dimensional standards applicable to the single-family dwelling; and
- (8) Meet the water supply and wastewater disposal standards of Section 3025.

3205.B Only one ADU is allowed per single-family dwelling.

3205.C An ADU located within or attached to the primary dwelling must not exceed 900 square feet or 30% of the habitable floor area of the primary dwelling prior to the creation of the ADU, whichever is greater. A detached ADU must not exceed 900 square feet or 40% of the habitable area of the primary dwelling unit, whichever is greater.

3205.D An ADU will be considered an accessory use of residential property and will not require site plan approval, but the applicant must certify that the dwelling meets all applicable state health and safety codes. Applicants should be aware that if the proposed ADU is larger than provided for under state statute (30% of the floor area of the primary dwelling), or if the primary dwelling will not be owner-occupied, the ADU may not be exempt from state code and wastewater regulations.

3205.E Alternatively, per statute, the conversion of an existing single-family dwelling into a duplex (two-family dwelling) may be allowed, subject to the same requirements under these regulations as applicable to a single-family dwelling. If a proposed dwelling unit does not conform to ADU requirements under this section, the applicant may apply to create a duplex, or to subdivide the property in conformance with these regulations, allowing for another single family dwelling on an adjoining lot.

3206 PRIMITIVE CAMP

3206.A A primitive camp must:

- (1) Not be occupied for more than 150 days in any calendar year and must not be the primary residence of the inhabitants.
- (2) Have a means of access to a maintained public road that meets the minimum requirements for driveways in Section 3008 unless occupancy will be limited to 3 consecutive weeks in any calendar year and a total of 60 days in any calendar year.
- (3) Meet the water supply and wastewater disposal standards of Section 3025 or qualify for an exemption to state water and wastewater regulations as certified by the applicant. Primitive camps must meet the standards below to qualify for that exemption:
 - (a) Occupancy of a primitive camp must be limited to 3 consecutive weeks in any calendar year and a total of 60 days in any calendar year.
 - (b) A primitive camp must not have interior plumbing other than one sink with water and a composting or incinerating toilet that does not yield a liquid provided that its contents are disposed of in accordance with state rules.
- (4) Not be rented out as a dwelling unit or a short-term rental.
- (5) Meet all dimensional standards for principal structures in the applicable zoning district.

3206.B A camping unit (RV, travel trailer, tiny house, etc.) may be used as a primitive camp.

3206.C Not more than the following number of primitive camps may be developed on a parcel:

Parcel Size		
<10 acres	10 - <25 acres	25 or more acres
1 camp	2 camps	3 camps

2026 WAITSFIELD PLANNING COMMISSION WORK PLAN

	Tasks	Project	Timeline
		Village Master Planning	
1	Irasville Master Planning	This project will incorporate the updated wetland maps and include a review of the history of planning in Irasville. Segue from the By-Laws Modernization Grant work and Wastewater project.	Completed January 2026
2	Post-Plan	- Creation of Subcommittee to analyze use of CHIP Program to promote and accomplish goals of Master Plan - Other?	
		Zoning and By-Laws	
1	River Corridor Bylaws OR tighten up FEH	River Corridor Bylaws – Adopt model ordinance or similar OR maintain FEH bylaws with some adjustments (i.e., increase minimum standard of development to 2 feet above BFE)	2026 - pending
2	Limited Business District	Reviewing standards and purpose. Two landowners have approached the PZA with regard to developing housing in this area. As it stands, residential development is deterred in this area. However, given the proximity to the Town's future disposal field, future phasing of the wastewater system could allow for connections in this area.	2026-2027
3	ADU restrictions	Review and update the 30% threshold for ADUs as this restriction is less common; PZA has email into counsel as to status of this standard in the post-HOME ACT era. Per SE Group: CU for ADU above 900sqft/30% makes little sense now that 2-4 units are allowed outright w/ no size limit.	2026 - pending
4	Section 6.02 (F) – Exemption for garage/yard sales	Town Garage Sale Ordinance repealed 8/11/25; Section 6.02 (F) must be revised to accord to intent and removal of ordinance mention *Cleanup only	2026 - pending

6	Act 250/LURB/Act 181 Tiers	Assess impacts of changes to Act 250 in addition to Act 181's tiered framework and discuss whether updates to the Zoning Bylaws are necessary or required	2026 - pending
7	Performance Standards of Section 5.03	Ensure that Performance Standards can be applicable to all uses to avoid argument that they only apply to CU or Industrial District/LBD *Focus on NOISE standards/ordinance	2026-2027
		Town Plan Update	
1	Childcare	Update Childcare language and goals/policies per CVRPC feedback	In Process – SB hearing September 14, 2026; CVRPC review August 17, 2026 w/ formal approval in September
		Town Ordinances	
1	STRs	Work with the Selectboard to draft a framework for registering/regulating short-term rentals	In Process – final draft SB review September 14, 2026
2	Rentals	Town ordinance concerning ALL rental properties with regard to Fire Safety inspections.	2026-2027

Other:

- 1) Invite Eric Friedman (Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce) to a meeting to discuss the needs and concerns of business community (January 6, 2025). Complete

8/31/2026

- 2) Invite Ned Swanberg to a meeting to discuss the changes in flood regulation and mapping. **Complete**
- 3) Invite Brian Voigt/Niki Sabado (CVRPC) to a meeting for further clarity on Act 181's tiered framework and the application processes thereto. **Complete**



TOWN OF WAITSFIELD

Whereas In accordance with Vermont Statute, 10 V.S.A. Section 6033 a municipality may request Tier 1B status for the purposes of Act 250 jurisdiction.

Whereas The municipality has a duly adopted and approved plan and a planning process that is confirmed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4350.

Whereas The municipality has adopted permanent zoning and subdivision bylaws in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §§ 4414, 4418, and 4442.

Whereas The municipality has adopted flood hazard and river corridor bylaws applicable to the entire municipality that are consistent with the necessary standards.

Whereas The municipality has water supply, wastewater infrastructure, or soils that can accommodate a community system for compact housing development in the area proposed for Tier 1B.

Whereas The municipality has municipal staff, municipal officials, or contracted capacity adequate to support development review and zoning administration in the Tier 1B area.

Now, therefore be it resolved that

The municipality hereby requests to have the Irasville village district, village residential district, and village business district as designated in the Waitsfield Zoning bylaws, mapped for Tier 1B status.

Adopted at a duly noticed public meeting held on August 24, 2026

Attest:

Signature

Name

Title

Brian Singh
Brian Singh
Seaboard Chair