

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-P004

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF  
3 CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL  
4 APPROVAL OF ZONING CODE AMENDMENT P2018-0124-ZCA, AMENDING  
5 CULVER CITY MUNICIPAL CODE (CCMC), TITLE 17 – ZONING (ZONING  
6 CODE), SECTION 17.300.025 – HEIGHT MEASUREMENT AND HEIGHT  
7 LIMIT EXCEPTIONS, AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT “A” ATTACHED HERETO.

8 (ZONING CODE AMENDMENT, P2018-0124-ZCA)

9 WHEREAS on July 11, 2018 the Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed  
10 public hearing on a City-initiated Zoning Code Amendment (P2018-0124-ZCA) amending  
11 Culver City Municipal Code (CCMC), Title 17 – Zoning (Zoning Code), Section 17.300.025 –  
12 Height Measurement and Height Limit Exceptions, fully considering all reports, studies,  
13 testimony, and environmental information presented; and

14 WHEREAS, following conclusion of the public discussion and thorough  
15 deliberation of the subject matter, the Planning Commission determined, by a vote of \_\_\_ to  
16 \_\_\_, to recommend to the City Council approval of Zoning Code Amendment P2018-0124-  
17 ZCA, as set forth herein below.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF  
19 CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:  
20

21 **SECTION 1.** Pursuant to the foregoing recitations and the provisions of the  
22 CCMC, the following required findings for an amendment to the Zoning Code, as  
23 outlined in CCMC Section 17.620.030.A, are hereby made:  
24

25 **1. The proposed amendment ensures and maintains internal consistency**  
26 **with the goals, policies and strategies of all elements of the General Plan and**  
27 **will not create any inconsistencies.**  
28  
29

1 The proposed Zoning Code Amendment is intended to address the inconsistencies  
2 between the practical construction industry standards and practices and the Zoning  
3 Code standards and requirements, and to address the challenges and constraints  
4 of applying the current Zoning Code standards to actual construction situations as  
5 they relate to the height and placement of roof-mounted structures for housing  
6 mechanical equipment, elevators, stairways, tanks, towers, or similar equipment  
7 required to operate and maintain the structure. This in turn is intended in order to  
8 improve the implementation and enforcement of the Zoning Code, which  
9 implements the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The existing  
10 Zoning Code language provides allowances for projections of specified  
11 architectural features and equipment rooms above specified building heights,  
12 including parapets, stairwells, mechanical equipment, elevator shafts, and similar  
13 features. The proposed amendment will simply increase the height projection  
14 allowance for a specified group of features, which includes elevators, stairways,  
15 and mechanical equipment/rooms, and allow greater flexibility in the placement of  
16 such structures in relation to the building. The proposed amendment will create  
17 Zoning Code provisions and guidelines consistent with General Plan Land Use  
18 Element Objective 4, *Neighborhood Conditions*, by maintaining the quality design  
19 and living environment throughout the City through the implementation of  
20 development standards that are realistic and practical, and in line with industry  
21 standards. Therefore the proposed Zoning Code Amendment does not conflict  
22 with the goals, policies and strategies of any elements of the General Plan, nor  
23 create any inconsistencies.

24 **2. The proposed amendment would not be detrimental to the public  
25 interest, health, safety, convenience or welfare of the City.**

26 The proposed Zoning Code Amendment will modify the allowable height  
27 projections above the building height and the associated placement standards for  
28 specified roof-mounted structures in multi-family residential and non-residential  
29 zones, and provide standards that continue to allow such structures but with height  
and placement standards that are consistent with industry standards. The

1 amendment will serve to improve the implementation of the Zoning Code with  
2 regard to these types of structures which are already allowed multi-family  
3 residential and non-residential zones in the City. Further, the proposed  
4 amendment will continue to apply specific necessary development standards and  
5 restrictions (new height limit) to ensure these types of structures on rooftops are  
6 allowed and approved in a manner consistent with the orderly and character  
7 desired for the City, and in support of the public interest, health, safety,  
8 convenience and welfare of the City.

9 **3. The proposed amendment is in compliance with the provisions of the**  
10 **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).**

11 Pursuant to Sections 15162 and 15168 of the California Environmental Quality Act  
12 (CEQA), Zoning Code Text Amendment (P2018-0124-ZCA) is within the scope of the  
13 Culver City General Plan Update Program EIR approved on September 24, 1996  
14 (PEIR 1) and the Culver City Redevelopment Plan Amendment and Merger Program  
15 Subsequent EIR approved on November 16, 1998 (PEIR 2). The circumstances  
16 under which PEIR 1 and PEIR 2 were prepared have not significantly changed and no  
17 new significant information has been found that would impact either PEIR 1 or PEIR 2;  
18 therefore, no new environmental analysis is required.

**SECTION 2.** Pursuant to the foregoing recitations and findings, the Planning Commission of the City of Culver City, California, hereby recommends to the City Council approval of Zoning Code Amendment P2018-0124-ZCA, as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part thereof.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 11th day of July, 2018.

DANA SAYLES, AICP, CHAIRPERSON  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

Attested by:

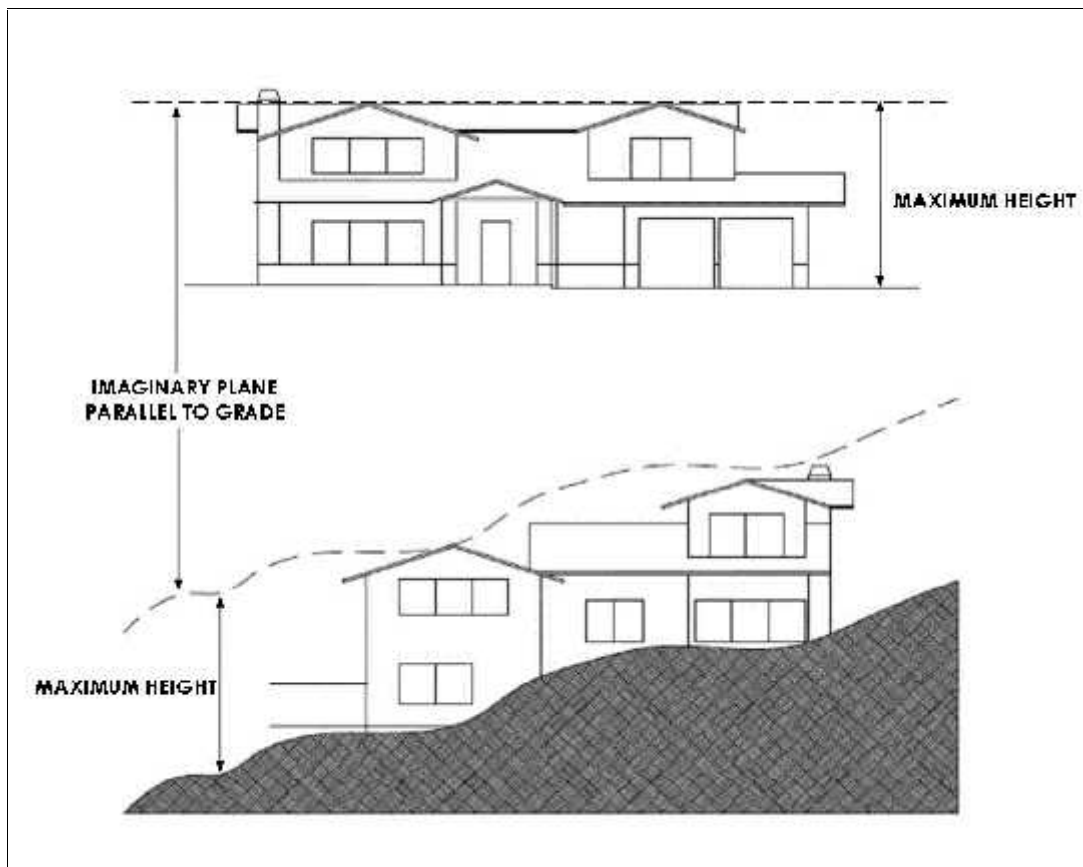
Susan Yun, Senior Planner

### 17.300.025 - Height Measurement and Height Limit Exceptions

All structures shall meet the following standards relating to height, except for fences and walls, which shall comply with Section 17.300.030 (Fences, Hedges, and Walls), and the allowable exceptions identified in Subsection 17.300.025.C. (Exceptions to Height Limits), below.

- A. **Maximum Height.** The height of structures shall not exceed the standard established by the applicable zoning district in Article 2 (Zoning Districts, Allowable Land Uses and Zone-Specific Standards).
- B. **Height Measurement.** The maximum allowable height shall be measured as the vertical distance from the existing grade of the site to an imaginary plane located the allowed number of feet above and parallel to the grade. See Figure 3-3 (Height Measurement), below. “Existing Grade” shall be established by the Director, consistent with parcels in the immediate vicinity, and shall not be, nor have been artificially raised to gain additional building height.

**Figure 3-3  
Height Measurement**



**C. Exceptions to Height Limits.** Exceptions to the height limits identified in this Title shall apply in the following manner

1. Notwithstanding any other regulation of this Title, the Council, after consideration of recommendation by the Commission, may by resolution establish a maximum building height for new construction in the Redevelopment Project Area Component Areas 1 through 3, consistent with the Design for Development established by the Redevelopment Agency.
2. In multiple-family residential zones and non-residential zones roof-mounted structures for the housing of mechanical equipment, antennas, elevators, stairways, tanks, towers, ventilating fans, or similar equipment required to operate and maintain the structure, shall be allowed, up to a maximum of 139 feet 6 inches above the height of a building. ~~Any roof mounted structure shall be set back from the edge of the structure a minimum of 1 foot for every foot in height above the roof of which they are situated.~~
3. Fire or parapet walls may extend up to 5 feet above the building height limit of the structure, and as may otherwise be required by the California Building Code.
4. In non-residential zones, architectural features that are non-habitable design elements such as spires, turrets, bell towers, clock towers, cupolas and similar design elements as determined by the Director, shall be allowed, up to a maximum of 13 feet 6 inches above the height of a building and are limited to 15% of the total roof area. Trellis and carport-style structures installed on a parking structure roof deck for the purpose of supporting solar panels and solar equipment shall be exempt from the 15% roof coverage limitation.
5. Chimneys may project up to 4 feet above the height of the building.