



Draft Land Development Regulations

Category: Stand-Alone Amendments

Spotlight on Solar Ready Roofs, Solar Canopies, and Solar Orientation

Summary: Proposed amendments would: require new building subject to the Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES) to provide a “Solar Ready Roof” as enabled and defined in Appendix CA of the CBES; modify landscaping standards within parking lot areas to enable solar canopies; and (within subdivision standards) foster street and block layouts designed to maximum solar gain for new buildings.

What’s in the Current Regulations: The City currently requires all new buildings to meet the “stretch” standards of the CBES and its companion, the Residential Building Energy Standards. There is general reference to support for solar access to properties otherwise.

What’s in the Proposed Changes: (1) New buildings subject to the CBES would be required to design a minimum portion of their roof to accommodate solar power generation; the standards contain certain specific exemptions. Parking lots over a certain size are required to include interior landscaping and shade trees; the solar canopy amendment would exempt areas with installed solar canopies over parking areas from this requirement. The layout of new subdivisions, blocks, and lots should endeavor to maximize solar potential associated with new buildings.

What is the purpose of this change?

The changes are intended to address the energy reduction objectives of the Comprehensive Plan and Climate Change resolution adopted by the City.

Where can I find the proposed changes?

Draft [Regulations](#) Solar Read Roofs - Section 3.18; Solar Canopies – Section 13.04; Solar Orientation – Sections 15.A.14, 15.A.16, and 15.A.18.

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