

16.0 Definitions

Definitions

General Definitions

Accessibility

The ability to approach, enter, use and/or occupy buildings and spaces by persons with physical or sensory disabilities.

Adaptable Housing

Housing that is designed and built with features that do not affect the traditional look or function of the housing unit but add considerable utility to an occupant with mobility challenges (e.g., entry, one bedroom and one washroom doors and doorways; corridor widths and floor surfaces; window hardware and sill height in one bedroom and one living area; outlets and switches; one accessible washroom with toilet, sink and tub areas; kitchen counters, cupboards and plumbing; one bedroom and closet; patios and balconies; task lighting at sink, stove and key working areas; easy to reach and grasp handles on cupboards; floor surfaces to be slip resistant).

Aging in Place

Housing that is designed and built so that some accessibility features are provided now and so that others can be added more easily and inexpensively after construction (e.g., stairwell handrails; lever type handles for plumbing fixtures and door handles; solid blocking in washroom walls for future grab bars beside toilet, bathtub and shower).

Barrier Free Housing

Housing that is designed and built for universal access at the time of construction for an occupant/owner with mobility challenges (e.g., wheel-in shower stall in one bathroom; grab bars in washroom(s); lower countertops; kitchen work surfaces with knee space below; accessible appliances and cupboards; wider corridors and circulation areas; adaptable/convertible features).

Convertible Housing

Housing that is designed and built to look like traditional housing but has features that are constructed or installed for easy modification and adjustment to suit the needs of an occupant with mobility challenges (e.g., vertical circulation such as a wider staircase or the ability to install an elevator using stacked storage space; doors and doorways to entry, main living area, one bedroom and one washroom; corridor widths of hallways; one accessible parking space in the garage and wider door to living area; one accessible washroom with toilet; adequate turning diameter in kitchen; one window in living room and bedroom; outlets and switches; patios and balconies; wall reinforcement at top of staircase for future gate).

Greenways

Significant city-wide pedestrian, rolling and cycling linear corridors that link multiple destinations such as parks, natural areas, historic sites, community facilities and amenities, residential, and commercial areas. Greenways have a higher standard of amenity such as wider sidewalks, landscaped boulevards, unique paving materials, designated cycling lanes or wide off-street paths shared with pedestrians, gathering/rest areas and special features (e.g., gateways, public art). Greenways, in some cases, may also function as ecological corridors.

Major Street Bike Route

Designated cycling facility with signs and pavement markings on an arterial or collector road where cyclists have either an exclusive space (e.g., bike lane) or a shared space with vehicles (e.g., wide curb lane).

Neighbourhood Links

Neighbourhood pedestrian and cycling routes along local streets and off-street pathways that provide safe and convenient physical connection to local destinations such as schools, parks, community facilities or neighbourhood shopping centres.

Enhanced neighbourhood links have pedestrian facilities (e.g., path or sidewalk) on at least one side of the street, pavement markings and wayfinding signage for cyclists, and wider off-street pathways that are shared between pedestrians and cyclists.

Unenhanced neighbourhood links do not have any enhanced treatments for pedestrians and cyclists, do not have pavement markings and wayfinding signage for cyclists, may or may not have pedestrian facilities (e.g., path or sidewalk), and have substandard off-street pathways (e.g., narrow width).

Future unenhanced neighbourhood links are proposed future off-street pathways through and between developments that do not have any enhanced treatments for pedestrians and cyclists.

Trails

City-wide recreational corridors that accommodate a wide variety of pedestrian, rolling, cycling and other non-motorized uses (e.g., equestrian) that are typically off-road and provide access to, or are in proximity to the City's major natural areas (e.g., the waterfront and natural areas like the Richmond Nature Park). With restoration and enhancement, some of the corridors have the potential to function as ecological corridors, linking natural areas in Richmond's Ecological Network.

Visitability

Housing that is designed and built to enable a visitor with mobility challenges to enter the unit, visit with the occupant and easily use one bathroom (e.g., one entrance with no steps and flush threshold; wider door and space at this one entrance; one accessible washroom on the visiting floor, with wider door and space).

Land Use Map Definitions

Agricultural Land Reserve Boundary

Land within the Agricultural Land Reserve established pursuant to the provisions of the Agricultural Land Commission Act.

Agriculture

Those areas of the City where the principal use is agricultural and food production, but may include other land uses as permitted under the Agricultural Land Commission Act.

Airport

Those areas of the City where the principal uses are airport terminals and facilities, runways and airport-related businesses.

Apartment Residential

Those areas of the City where the principal uses are multiple family housing in the form of townhouses and apartments, which can include housing for seniors (e.g., congregate care; intermediated care; assisted living; etc.).

Commercial

Those areas of the City where the principal uses provide for retail, restaurant, office, business, personal service, arts, culture, recreational, entertainment, institutional, hospitality and hotel accommodation. Marina uses are permitted on the waterfront, in which case retail sales are limited to boats, boating supplies and equipment, and related facilities and services for pleasure boating and the general public. Commercial areas exclude residential uses, except for caretaker accommodation.

Community Institutional

Those areas of the City which are intended for institutions engaged in religious, educational or cultural activities, and may include other uses as permitted under Official Community Plan policies.

Conservation Area

Those natural and semi-natural areas of the City with important environmental values whose protection has been secured by federal, provincial or municipal ownership or legal conservation designation and by a long-term policy commitment by a senior level of government. They include municipal parks with high conservation values, provincial Wildlife Management Areas, the federally managed Sea Island Conservation Area and Metro Vancouver regional parks. Conservation Areas may also be subject to the City's Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) Development Permit Guidelines and may be used for recreational, park, agricultural and food production purposes or alternatively have no or limited public access.

Downtown Mixed Use

Those areas in the downtown of the City where high-rise and high density development provides for residential, commercial, industrial, office and institutional uses.

Industrial

Those areas of the City where the principal uses provide for the production, manufacturing, processing, assembling, fabrication, storing, transporting, distributing, testing, cleaning, servicing or repair of goods, materials or things. Industrial includes the operation of truck terminals, docks and railways, and wholesale business activities. Ancillary offices are only permitted to administer the industrial uses. Industrial areas exclude hazardous wastes, retail sales and residential uses, except for caretaker accommodation.

Limited Mixed Use

Those areas of the City which provides a mix of residential, as the predominant use, and limited commercial, industrial, office, institutional or community and pedestrian-oriented uses, as the minority use, intended to enhance the public amenity and livability of the area.

Mixed Employment

Those areas of the City where the principal uses are industrial and stand-alone office development, with a limited range of support services. In certain areas, a limited range of commercial uses are permitted such as the retail sale of building and garden supplies, household furnishings, and similar warehouse goods.

Mixed Use

Those areas of the City which provides for residential, commercial, industrial, office and institutional uses. Marina uses and waterborne housing are permitted on the waterfront, in which case the retail sales is limited to boats, boating supplies and equipment, and related facilities and services for pleasure boating and the general public.

Neighbourhood Residential

Those areas of the City where the principal uses are single family, two-family and multiple family housing (specifically townhouses). Sites abutting section line roads are deemed suitable for institutional uses such as fire halls and other emergency/communication services (e.g., ambulance station; telephone facilities).

Neighbourhood Service Centre

Those areas of the City which are intended to accommodate the retail, restaurant, office, personal service, business, arts, culture, entertainment, recreational, institutional and community facility and service needs of area residents, and may include residential uses.

Park

Those areas of the City where the principal use is public or private recreation, sports, public open space and natural areas, and may include agricultural and food production, recreational/social/cultural facilities and activities or public administration, City works/utilities, emergency services such as fire halls, and school facilities. Parks exclude residential uses, except for caretaker accommodation.

School

Those areas of the City where the principal use is education, such as kindergarten to grade 12, a post secondary college or university and related offices/facilities for school purposes. Schools exclude residential uses, except for caretaker accommodation and dormitories for the specific use of the School buildings only.