

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-38

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,  
AMENDING RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 23.22.040  
ESTABLISHING THE COLUMBIA POINT NORTH DISTRICT OF  
THE WATERFRONT ZONING DISTRICT AND INCREASING  
BUILDING HEIGHT LIMITS THEREIN.

WHEREAS, the City has need, from time to time, to amend the Richland Municipal Code (RMC) to align it with best practices; and

WHEREAS, the City has identified the Columbia Point North District to be an area for significant employment and residential opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the existing building height limit does not meet the goal of providing significant employment and residential opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Richland as follows:

Section 1. Richland Municipal Code Section 23.22.040, entitled Site requirements and development standards for commercial use districts, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 28-05, and last amended by Ordinance No. 15-21, is hereby amended to read as follows:

23.22.040 Site requirements and development standards for commercial use districts.

In the following chart, development standards are listed on the vertical axis. Zoning districts are listed on the horizontal axis. The number appearing in the box at the intersection of the column and row represents the dimensional standard that applies to that zoning district.

Standard	C-LB	C-1	C-2	C-3	CBD	WF	CR	CW
Minimum Lot Area	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Maximum Density – Multifamily Dwellings (units:square feet)	1:1,500	N/A	N/A	N/A	None	1:1,000	N/A	N/A
Minimum Lot Width – One-Family Attached Dwellings	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30 feet	N/A	N/A
Minimum Front Yard Setback <sup>14</sup>	20 feet	45 feet <sup>1</sup>	0 feet <sup>2</sup>	0 feet <sup>2</sup>	CBD, Parkway, Uptown Districts: 0 feet min. – 20 feet max. <sup>3,11,13</sup> Medical District: 0 feet min.	Note 4,5	Note 4	20 feet
Minimum Side Yard Setback	0 feet <sup>6</sup>	0 feet <sup>7</sup>	None	None	0 feet <sup>6,8</sup>	0 feet <sup>5,9</sup>	0 feet	0 feet <sup>6,8</sup>

Standard	C-LB	C-1	C-2	C-3	CBD	WF	CR	CW
Minimum Rear Yard Setback	0 feet <sup>6,8</sup>	0 feet <sup>7</sup>	None	None	0 feet <sup>6,8</sup>	0 feet <sup>5,8,10</sup>	0 feet	0 feet <sup>6,8</sup>
Maximum Building Height <sup>14,15</sup>	55 feet	30 feet	80 feet	80 feet	CBD: 110 feet Medical: 140 feet Parkway: 50 feet Uptown: 50 feet	<del>35</del> /55 feet <sup>12</sup>  <a href="#">Columbia Point North: 100 feet</a>	35/55 feet <sup>12</sup>	35 feet
Minimum Dwelling Unit Size (in square feet, excluding porches, decks, balconies and basements)	500 feet	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	500 feet	N/A	N/A

1. Each lot shall have a front yard 45 feet deep or equal to the front yards of existing buildings in the same C-1 district and within the same block.

2. No setback required if street right-of-way is at least 80 feet in width. Otherwise, a minimum setback of 40 feet from street centerline is required.

3. Unless a greater setback is required by Chapter 12.11 RMC, Intersection Sight Distance.

4. Front and Side Street. No building shall be closer than 40 feet to the centerline of a public right-of-way. The setback area shall incorporate pedestrian amenities such as increased sidewalk width, street furniture, landscaped area, public art features, or similar features.

5. In the case of attached one-family dwelling units, setback requirements shall be as established for attached dwelling units in the medium-density residential small lot (R-2S) zoning district. Refer to RMC 23.18.040.

6. In any commercial limited business (C-LB), central business (CBD) or in any commercial winery (CW) zoning district that directly abuts a single-family zoning district, the following buffer, setback and building height regulations shall apply to all structures:

a. Within the commercial limited business (C-LB), the central business district (CBD) and the commercial winery (CW) districts, buildings shall maintain at least a 35-foot setback from any property that is zoned for single-family residential use. Single-family residential zones include R-1-12 – single-family residential 12,000, R-1-10 – single-family residential 10,000, R-2 – medium-density residential, R-2S – medium-density residential small lot, or any residential planned unit development that is comprised of single-family detached dwellings.

b. Buildings that are within 50 feet of any property that is zoned for single-family residential use in commercial limited business (C-LB) and the commercial winery (CW) districts and buildings that are within 50 feet of any property that is zoned for and currently developed with a single-family residential use in the central business district (CBD) (as defined in footnote (6)(a)) shall not exceed 30 feet in height. Beyond the area 50 feet from any property that is zoned for single-family residential use, building height may be increased at the rate of one foot in building height for each

additional one foot of setback from property that is zoned for single-family residential use to the maximum building height allowed in the C-LB, CW and CBD zoning districts, respectively.

c. A six-foot-high fence that provides a visual screen shall be constructed adjacent to any property line that adjoins property that is zoned for single-family residential use, or currently zoned for and developed with a single-family residential use in the CBD district. Additionally, a 10-foot landscape strip shall be provided adjacent to the fence. This landscape strip may be used to satisfy the landscaping requirements established for the landscaping of parking facilities as identified in RMC 23.54.140.

d. In the C-LB and CW districts, a 20-foot setback shall be provided for any side yard that adjoins a street.

7. Side yard and rear yard setbacks are not required except for lots adjoining a residential development, residential district, or a street. Lots adjoining either a residential development or residential district shall maintain a minimum 15-foot setback. Lots adjoining a street shall maintain a minimum 20-foot setback. Required side or rear yards shall be landscaped or covered with a hard surface, or a combination of both. No accessory buildings or structures shall be located in such yards unless otherwise permitted by this title.

8. No minimum required, except parking shall be set back a minimum of five feet to accommodate required landscape screening as required under RMC 23.54.140.

9. Side Yard. No minimum, except parking shall be set back a minimum of five feet, and buildings used exclusively for residences shall maintain at least one foot of side yard for each three feet or portion thereof of building height. Side yards adjoining a residential district shall maintain setbacks equivalent to the adjacent residential district.

10. No minimum, except parking shall be set back a minimum of five feet. Rear yards adjoining a residential district shall maintain setbacks equivalent to the adjacent residential district.

11. Commercial developments such as community shopping centers or retail centers over 40,000 square feet in size and typically focused around a major tenant, such as a supermarket grocery, department store or discount store, and supported with smaller “ancillary” retail shops and services located in multiple building configurations, are permitted front and street side maximum setback flexibility for the largest building. Maximum setback standards on any other new buildings may be adjusted by the planning commission as part of the alternative design review as set forth in the performance standards and special requirements of RMC 23.22.020(E)(9).

12. All buildings that are located in both the waterfront (WF) district and that fall within the jurisdictional limits of the Shoreline Management Act shall comply with the height limitations established in the Richland shoreline master program (RMC Title 26). Buildings in the WF district that are not subject to the Richland shoreline master program shall not exceed a height of ~~35~~ 55 feet unless located within the Columbia Point North District established by footnote no. 15 (below) and depicted on Plate No. 4.; ~~unless the planning commission authorizes an increase in building height to a maximum height of 55 feet, based upon a review of the structure and a finding that the~~

~~proposed building is aesthetically pleasing in relation to buildings and other features in the vicinity and that the building is located a sufficient distance from the Columbia River to avoid creating a visual barrier.~~

13. Physical additions to existing nonconforming structures are not subject to the maximum front yard setback requirements.

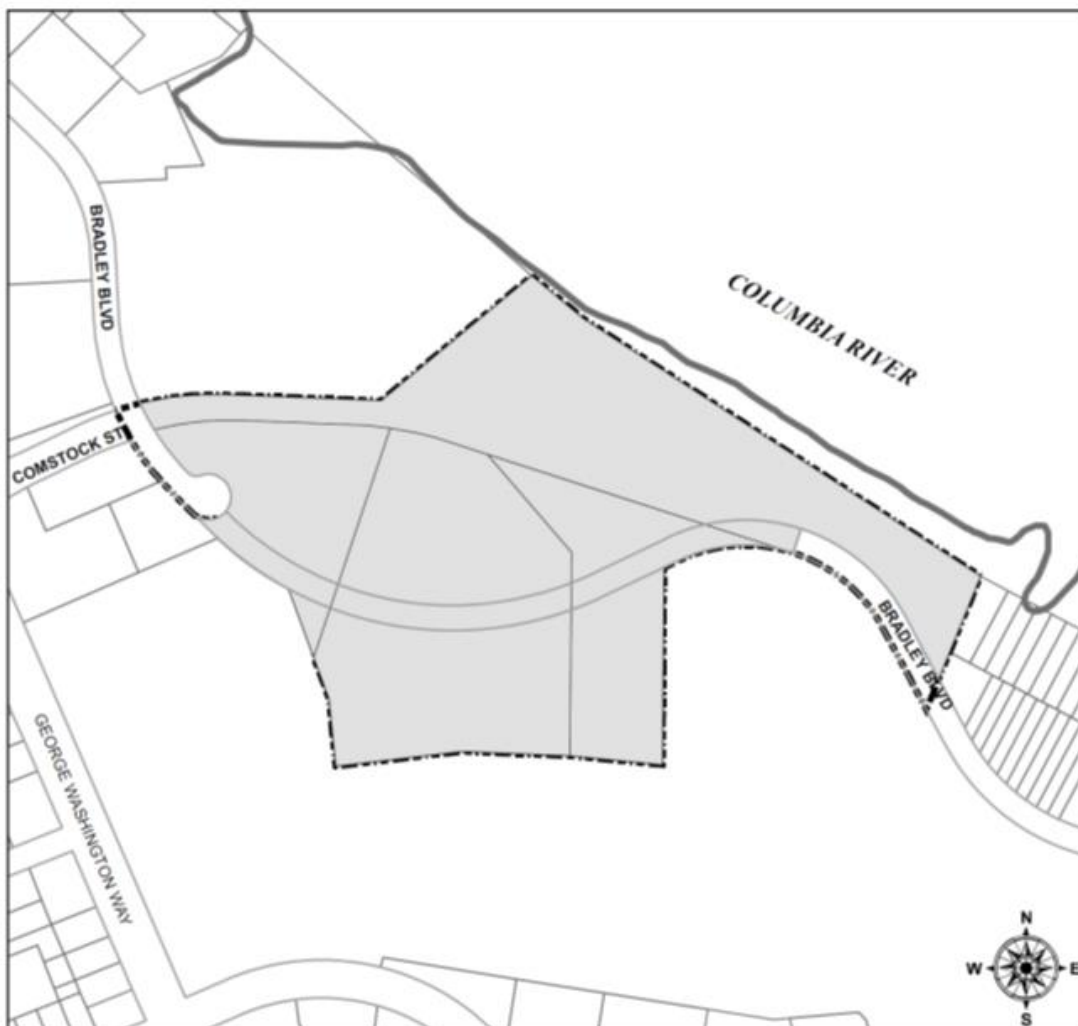
14. The medical, uptown and parkway districts of the CBD zoning district are established as shown by Plates 23.22.040(1), (2) and (3).

15. The Columbia Point North District of the Waterfront Zoning District is established as shown by Plate 23.22.040(4).

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# PLATE NO.4 - 23.22.040

## PLATE 4



## WF - COLUMBIA POINT NORTH

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect the day following its publication in the official newspaper of the City of Richland.

Section 3. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.


Section 4. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including but not limited to the correction of scrivener's errors/clerical errors, section numbering, references, or similar mistakes of form.

**PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2024.



Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

  
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

  
Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

First Reading: November 19, 2024  
Second Reading: December 3, 2024  
Date Published: December 8, 2024