

Planning Commission Study Session

Housing Element Implementation Program – Objective Design Standards

March 6, 2024

Background: Certified Housing Element

- 6th Cycle Housing Element (2021-2029) certified by the State in October 2022
- Provides policies and programs to maintain, improve, and accommodate housing needs in the City
- Includes **Housing Action Plan** with identified implementation strategies





IMPLEMENTING THE HOUSING ACTION PLAN

Goal

Provide adequate sites that are properly planned, zoned, and available for residential and mixed-use development.

Action 1: Create and Apply a Housing Overlay

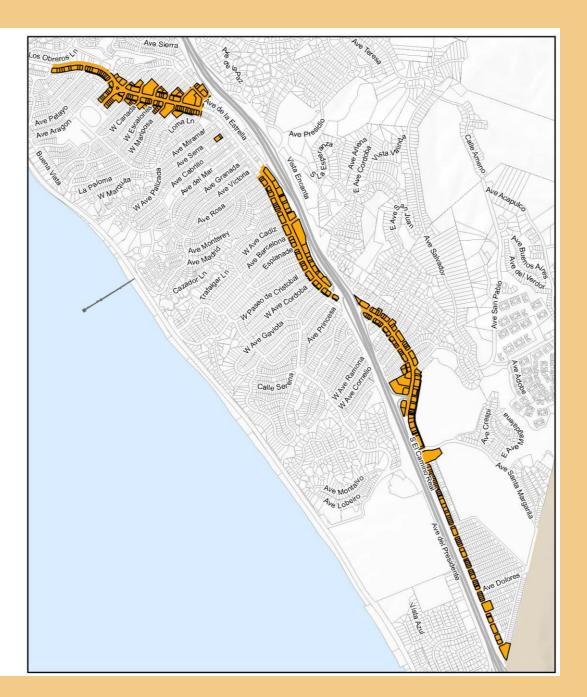
Action 2:

Develop and Codify Objective Design Standards for Housing Overlay Sites



Affordable Housing Overlay - EXISTING

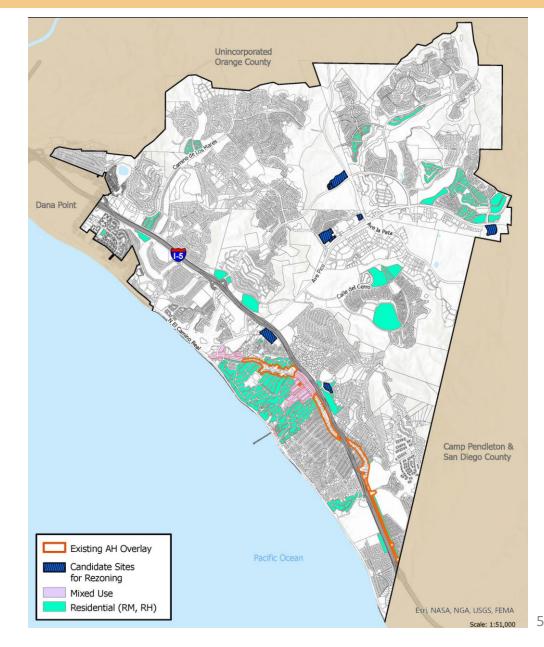
- Adopted in 2006 (mod. 2011, 2018)
- Applies to Mixed-Use & Neighborhood Commercial zoned properties located along El Camino Real
- Purpose is to encourage affordable housing in the commercial corridor
- Allows housing, subject to special requirements in the Zoning Ordinance





Housing Overlay - PROPOSED

- Modifications proposed to Affordable Housing Overlay
- Will change the name of the overlay
- Will add sites to the overlay
- Continue to allow residential uses in non-residential districts within overlay
- Will allow a streamlined process if project complies with certain standards (Objective Design Standards)





What is an Overlay Zone?

An Overlay Zone is a zone district that is layered on top of another existing zone district that implements additional regulations.





WHAT ARE OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS?

Objective Design Standards (ODS) provide a clear set of design requirements for new development that are measurable and definitive as opposed to subjective guidelines that require interpretation.

| Guidelines | Standards |
|--|--|
| Subjective - preferences, opinions, interpretations | Objective - facts, verified, decisions |
| Recommendations (not enforceable) | Requirements (enforceable) |
| Open to interpretation, difficult to measure or verify | Measurable and verifiable, take the guesswork out |
| Use words like "should" or "may" | Use language like "shall," "must," or "is required to" |







ELEMENTS OF OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS

Building Design

Site Elements

- 1. Massing and Articulation
- 2. Roof Design
- 3. Character Defining Features
- 4. Building Details
- 5. Optional Architectural Elements

- 1. Landscaping
- 2. Parking Location and Design
- 3. Outdoor Lighting
- 4. Building Equipment and Service Areas



Elements of ODS – Building Design

Massing and Articulation: feeling and logic of shape and space.

Roof Design

Pitched or Flat / Color / Material





Elements of ODS – Building Design

Massing and Articulation: feeling and logic of shape and space.

Roof Design

• Pitched or Flat / Color / Material

Character Defining Features: public spaces

• Courtyards / Paseo / Patio / Plaza





Elements of ODS – Building Design

Building Details

- Doors
- Windows
- Wall Surfaces
- Ground Paving
- Colors

Optional Architectural Elements

- Awnings / Balconies
- Decorative Elements
- Pedestrian Walkways





ground paving



Elements of ODS – Site Elements

| Landscaping: greenery | | |
|---|--|--|
| Parking Location and Design Covered / Uncovered Publicly Visible / Nonvisible | | |
| Outdoor Lighting | | |
| Building Equipment and Service Areas | | |
| Mechanical equipment: meters / wiresSolar energy systems | | |

ODS revised following community participation and two DRSC reviews



ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of San Clemente is seeking feedback on the community's design preferences to help the City develop **Objective Design and Development Standards ("ODDS")** that guide the design of future multi-family and mixed-use development. Thank you for helping us maintain the unique character of our community!

TAKE THE SURVEY

Survey Open from 2/10/23 - 3/10/23 https://tinyurl.com/san-clemente-odds



How will the ODS be implemented?

- Through the normal planning review process
 - Applicant completes checklist on objective design standards and qualifying housing components and submits pre-application or regular application
 - Iterative review with planning staff, generally applications must be acted upon within 60 days if they meet objective design standards and include a qualifying number of affordability housing units or are within Housing Overlay







Next Steps

- Planning Commission review of objective Design Standards at future meeting
- Planning Commission/City Council review of zoning ordinance to change Affordable Housing Overlay to Housing Overlay consistent with Housing Action Plan
- Potential Planning Commission/City Council re-zoning of specific "candidate sites" where housing development was anticipated in Housing Element

comments / questions

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