

ORDINANCE NO. FINAL ADOPTION (CM)

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
WATSONVILLE AMENDING SECTION 14-40.060 (CLEAR CORNER
TRIANGLES) OF CHAPTER 14-40 (GENERAL PROVISIONS,
EXCEPTIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS) OF TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE
WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE**

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WHEREAS, Chapter 14-40.060 (Clear Corner Triangles) is meant to maintain pedestrian, bike, and vehicular safety by providing clear sight-distances from driveways and intersections; and

WHEREAS, the Clear Corner Triangle regulations require that any structure located within a certain distance from a front property line and near a street or intersection provide a minimum setback to ensure that pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles can maintain a clear line of sight when exiting a driveway or intersection;

WHEREAS, Chapter 14-40-060 (Clear Corner Triangles) was last updated in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 14-40-060 (Clear Corner Triangles) has been updated with additional clarifying language and diagram to explain the intent of the regulation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments are consistent with and further implement the goals and policies of the City's General Plan; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2022, the Planning Commission of the City of Watsonville adopted Resolution No. 17-22 (PC), recommending the City Council adopt an Ordinance amending the Watsonville Municipal Code by amending Chapter 14-40.060; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to implement modern and objective sign regulations to enhance the character of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed Chapter 14-40-060, held a public hearing thereon, and found the request to be consistent with the Findings required for a zoning text amendment pursuant to Section 14-12.807 of the Watsonville Municipal Code, attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A".

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. ENACTMENT.

Chapter 14-40 (General Provisions, Exceptions and Modifications) of Title 14 (Zoning) of the Watsonville Municipal Code is hereby amended by amending Section 14-40.060 (Clear Corner Triangles) to read in words and figures as follows:

CHAPTER 14-40 GENERAL PROVISIONS, EXCEPTIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS

Sec. 14-40.060 Clear corner triangles.

(a) Vision Triangle Required. In zoning districts which require a front and street side setback for primary structures, all corner parcels shall provide and maintain a clear vision triangle at the intersection of the streets' right-of-way and adjacent to driveways for the purpose of traffic safety.

(b) Vision Triangle Defined.

(1) Intersections. The intersection vision triangle shall be the area formed by measuring thirty feet along the major street front property line and twenty feet along the minor street property line from the point of intersection, and diagonally connecting the ends of the two lines. See Figure 14-40.060-1.

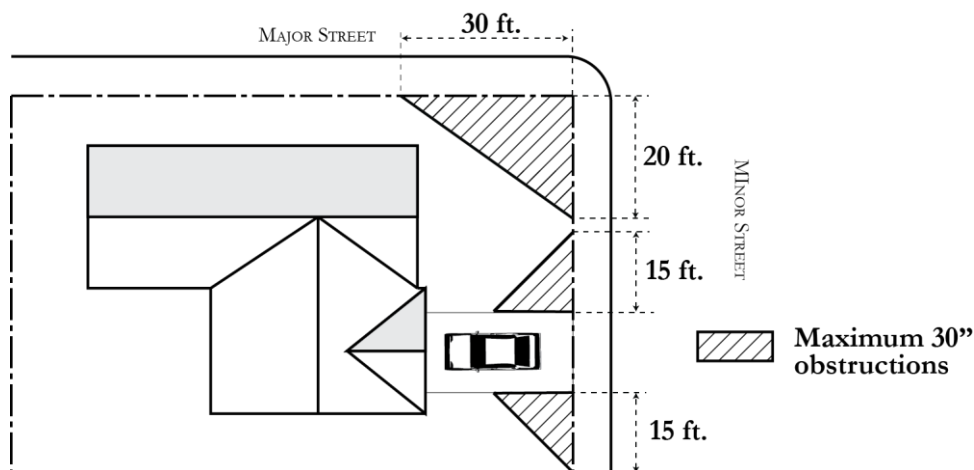
(2) Driveways. The driveway vision triangle is the area formed by measuring fifteen feet along the driveway and the street from the point of intersection, and diagonally connecting the ends of the two lines. See Figure 14-40.060-1.

(c) Maintenance of Sight Lines.

(1) No structure, vehicle, object, or landscaping over thirty inches in height may be placed within a vision triangle, except as allowed by subsection (C)(2) of this section.

(2) Trees pruned at least eight feet above the established grade of the curb so as to provide clear view by motor vehicle drivers are permitted within a vision triangle.

Figure 14-40.060-1: Vision Triangles



SECTION 2. RECITALS.

The City Council finds and determines the foregoing recitals to be true and correct

and hereby makes them a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

The City Council finds that this Ordinance is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and is not a "project," as defined in Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance, or its application to any other person or circumstance. The City Council declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable.

SECTION 5. PUBLICATION.

This ordinance shall be published in the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian and/or Santa Cruz Sentinel in compliance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Watsonville.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be in force and take effect thirty (30) days after its final adoption.
