

Section 17.05.040 Design Standards

The following design standards apply to new construction, substantial repair or rehabilitation of the exterior façade of an existing structure meant to remedy damage or deterioration, and additions to an existing structure in the commercial districts, with the exception of the C-D, C-V, and C-E Districts. Design standards for development in the C-D, C-V, and C-E Districts are found in Sections 17.05.050, 17.05.060, and 17.05.070 respectively, below. Only those standards that relate to the specific repair, rehabilitation action, or addition apply. These standards do not apply to interior remodeling.

New construction of any new dwelling shall meet either the Design Standards in Table 17.05-2 or the Use Standards for the applicable dwelling type in Section 17.080.030.

A. Commercial Districts Design Standards

Table 17.05-2: Commercial Districts Design Standards establishes the design standards for the commercial districts. In the table, a “•” indicates that the standard is applicable in the district indicated. The absence of a “•” indicates that the standard does not apply to the district.

Table 17.05-2: Commercial Districts Design Standards					
	C-T	C-1	C-2	C-3	C-OP
Façade Design					
Building façades that face a public right-of-way, excluding alleys, must not contain blank wall areas that exceed 40 linear feet, measured parallel to the street.	•	•	•	•	
Building façades in excess of 100 linear feet that face a public right-of-way, excluding alleys, must include a repeating pattern with no less than two of the following elements: color change, texture change, building material change, or a wall articulation change of no less than 2 feet in depth or projection, such as a reveal, pilaster, or projecting rib. All elements must repeat at intervals of no more than 40 linear feet.	•	•	•	•	
Buildings with façades over 150 feet in length must incorporate wall projections or recesses, or changes in wall plane a minimum of two feet in depth a maximum of every 75 linear feet.					•
All buildings must have a public entrance from the sidewalk along the primary building frontage. Public entrances must be visually distinctive from the remaining portions of the façade.	•	•	•	•	
Building materials and visual elements used on the façade of the primary building frontage must continue on all building façades that face a public right-of-way (excluding alleys) and/or the lot line of a residential district.	•	•	•	•	
Large expanses of highly reflective wall surface material and mirror glass on exterior walls are prohibited.	•	•	•	•	•
Fenestration Design					
The ground floor of a façade facing a public right-of-way (excluding alleys) must maintain a minimum transparency of 50%, measured between two and ten feet in height from grade.		•	•		
The ground floor of a façade facing a public right-of-way (excluding alleys) must maintain a minimum transparency of 35%, measured between two and ten feet in height.				•	
Upper floors of a façade facing a public right-of-way (excluding alleys) must maintain a minimum transparency of 15% of the wall area of the story.	•	•	•		
Roof Design					
Rooflines over 100 linear feet in building length must contain variation, and incorporate a major focal point feature, such as a dormer, gable, or projected wall feature. An element of variegation on the roofline must occur at intervals of no more than 75 linear feet.	•	•	•	•	
Parapet walls must feature three-dimensional cornice treatments or other shadow-creating details along their tops to provide visual interest.	•	•	•	•	
Any roof that is visible from a public right-of-way must be shingle or colored standing seam metal roofing.	•	•	•	•	
Green roof, blue roof, and white roof designs are encouraged.	•	•	•	•	•
Reflective roof surfaces that produce glare are prohibited, except for solar panels or white roofs intended to radiate absorbed or non-reflected solar energy and reduce heat transfer to the building.	•	•	•	•	•
Entrance Design					
Public entrances and primary building elevations must be oriented toward a public street. Main entrances to the buildings must be well defined.					•
Entries to office or guest facilities must address the street, with direct access to office or guest facilities from street frontages and parking areas.					•