

EXHIBIT A
Chapter I, Article 2
Definitions

§ 13-5. Purpose.

The intent of this article is to define certain words and phrases which are used in this Zoning Code. Additional definitions may also be given in conjunction with the special regulations contained in Chapter IX, Special Land Use Regulations, and Chapter XII, Special Fee Assessments.

(Ord. No. 97-11, § 2, 5-5-97)

§ 13-6. Definitions.

Abutting. Sharing a common boundary, of at least one point contiguous to, having district boundaries or lot lines in common (i.e., not separated by an alley, public or private right-of-way, or street).

Accessory building. A building or part of a building which is subordinate to, and the use of which is incidental to that of the main building or use on the same lot.

Accessory dwelling unit (ADU). See Chapter V, Article 2, section 13-35.

Accessory use. A use incidental and subordinate to and devoted exclusively to the main use of the land or building thereon that does not change the character of the structure or use.

Accessory use, residential. A use that is a part of, and clearly incidental and secondary to, a residence; located on the same lot as a residence; and that does not change the character of the residential use such as:

- (a) Accessory dwelling unit (ADU)
- (b) Home occupations
- (c) Personal property sales (i.e., garage or yard sales).

Active Entertainment. A commercial use that provides interactive, participant-based amusement, recreation, or game-oriented activities for individual or group participation and is limited to a maximum of 15,000 square feet. Active Entertainment does not include spectator-oriented uses, live performance theaters, adult entertainment businesses, physical fitness facilities, or event centers.

Adjacent. Same as abutting, but also includes properties which are separated by a public right-of-way, not exceeding 120 feet in width.

Adult business. See Chapter IX, Special Land Use Regulations, Article 1, Adult Businesses, for specific definitions and terms.

Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facility. Adult alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities that are licensed pursuant to section 11834.01 of the California Health and Safety Code. Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities are a subset of residential care facilities.

Alteration (structure). Any construction, addition or physical change in the internal arrangement of rooms or the supporting members of a structure, or change in the appearance of any structure, except paint.

Ambient noise level. The all-encompassing noise level associated with a given environment, being a composite of sounds from all sources, excluding the alleged offensive noise, at the location and approximate time at which a comparison with the alleged offensive noise is to be made.

Amusement Center. A commercial use that provides interactive, participant-based amusement, recreation, or game-oriented activities for individual or group participation and is larger than 15,000 gross square feet. Amusement Center does not include spectator-oriented uses, live performance theaters, adult entertainment businesses, physical fitness facilities, or event centers.

Antenna. Any structure, including, but not limited to, a monopole, tower, parabolic and/or disk shaped device in single or multiple combinations of either solid or mesh construction, intended for the purpose of receiving or transmitting communication to or from another antenna, device or orbiting satellite, as well as supporting equipment necessary to install or mount the antenna.

Antenna, amateur radio. An antenna array and its associated support structure, such as a mast or tower, that is used for the purpose of transmitting and receiving radio signals in conjunction with an amateur radio station licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.

Antenna, communication. All types of receiving and transmitting antennas, except satellite dish antennas and amateur radio antennas. Communication antenna includes, but is not limited to, cable television antennas, cellular radiotelephone cell antennas, FM digital communication antennas, microwave telephone communication antennas, and shortwave communication and other similar antennas.

Antenna height. The distance from the property's grade to the highest point of the antenna and its associated support structure when fully extended.

Antenna, satellite dish. An antenna intended for the purpose of receiving or transmitting communication to or from an orbiting satellite.

Antenna, whip. An antenna and its support structure consisting of a single, slender, rod-like element which is supported only at or near its base.

Apartment. A rental or lease dwelling having kitchen facilities in a structure designed or used to house at least one family, as the term "family" is defined in this Zoning Code.

Artisan Studio. A workspace for the creation, display, and retail sale of artwork and hand crafted goods, including custom woodworking and furniture making, where products are primarily created by the artist or artisan on-site; excluding automotive repair and food related production. Examples include, but are not limited to, artist studios and workshops, photography studios and commercial photography, recording studios, music studios, galleries, and showrooms.

Assembly use. A use conducted in a structure or outdoor venue for the purpose of gathering of persons for a civic, education, political, religious, or social function, or

for the consumption or receipt of food and/or beverages. ~~Assembly use includes, but is not limited to, churches and other places of religious assembly, mortuaries, primary and secondary schools, trade and vocational schools, colleges, amusement centers, billiards parlors, bowling centers, establishments where food or beverages are served, motion picture theaters, physical fitness facilities, skating rinks, and dance, martial arts, and music studios. Assembly use does not include sexually oriented businesses.~~

Association (homeowners'). The organization of persons who own a lot, parcel, area, airspace, or right of exclusive occupancy in a common interest development and who have interests in the control of common areas of such project.

Attached (structure). Any structure that has a wall or roof in common with another structure.

Attic. Any non-habitable area immediately below the roof and wholly or partly within the roof framing.

Awning. A roof-like cover that projects from the wall of a building for the purpose of shielding the sun or providing an architectural accent.

Basement. A space wholly or partially underground and having more than 1/2 of its height, measuring from floor to ceiling, below the average grade. If the finished floor level directly above the basement is more than four feet above grade at any point, the basement shall be considered a story.

Boardinghouse. A dwelling unit, other than a hotel, wherein rooms are rented under two or more separate written or oral rental agreements, leases or subleases or combination thereof, whether or not the owner, agent or rental manager resides within the dwelling unit. Boardinghouse, small means two or fewer rooms being rented to a maximum of three occupants per dwelling unit. Boardinghouse, large means three to six rooms being rented to a maximum of six occupants per dwelling unit. Boardinghouses renting two or fewer rooms and having more than three occupants, or renting more than six rooms and/ or having more than six occupants, per dwelling unit are prohibited.

Building. Any structure having roof and walls and requiring permanent location on the ground, built and maintained for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels or property of any kind.

Building height. The distance from the finished grade (as defined in this section) to the highest point on the roof, including roof-top mechanical equipment and screening.

Building, main. The building or buildings within which the principal use permitted on the lot is conducted.

Carport. A permanent, roofed structure, not completely enclosed which is used for vehicle parking.

Central administrative office. An establishment primarily engaged in management and general administrative functions performed centrally for other establishments of the same company.

Churches and other places of religious assembly. A type of assembly use which has the principal purpose of religious worship and for which the primary space is a

sanctuary. Religious activities and services held in the sanctuary are conducted at scheduled times. The use may also include accessory facilities in the same or separate building that includes classrooms, assembly rooms, restrooms, kitchen, and a library. Other uses such as, but not limited to, day care facilities, nursery schools, schools, retail sales, and services to businesses, are not considered a primary function of churches and other places of religious assembly.

Cigar bar. See Smoking lounge.

City. City of Costa Mesa.

Commercial Kitchen. A food preparation facility used by one or more food operators for the preparation, cooking, processing, packaging, and storage of food or beverages for off-site consumption, distribution, catering, wholesale, or other commercial purposes, with no on-site dining, retail sales, customer pick-up, or delivery service to the general public. A commercial kitchen may include catering kitchens, commissary kitchens, shared-use kitchens, and food production facilities, but does not include a restaurant, ghost kitchen, food hall, or other food service establishment where food orders are accepted from customers and fulfilled directly from the premises.

Common area. Those portions of a project area which are designed, intended or used in common and not under the exclusive control or possession of owners or occupants of individual units in planned development projects or common interest developments.

Common interest development. A development as defined in State Civil Code section 1350, containing two or more common interest units, as defined in Civil Code section 783; a community apartment project, as defined in State Business and Professional Code section 11004, containing two or more rights of exclusive occupancy; and a stock cooperative, as defined in Business and Professional Code section 11003.2, containing two or more rights of exclusive occupancy.

Community Development Department. Refers to the Community Development Department of the City of Costa Mesa on or after July 1, 2026, and the Economic and Development Services Department and/or Development Services Department of the City of Costa Mesa prior to July 1, 2026.

Community Development Director. The director of the Community Development Department of the City of Costa Mesa, or his or her designee.

Conditional use permit. A discretionary approval usually granted by the planning commission which allows a use or activity not allowed as a matter of right, based on specified findings.

Convenience stores, mini-markets. A retail store, generally less than 10,000 square feet in area, that sells a variety of convenience foods, beverages and non-food items. Fresh dairy products, produce and/or meat may be offered on a limited basis.

County. County of Orange.

Covered parking space. A garage, carport or parking space which is completely covered by a roof.

Density bonus. A minimum increase of 25% over the allowable residential dwelling unit density as specified by the zoning classification.

Development. The division of land into two or more lots; the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any structure; any mining, excavation, landfill, or land disturbance; and any use or extension of the use of land.

Development review. The processing of a development plan when authority for approval is vested in the planning division.

Development services department. See Community Development Department. ~~means the Development Services Department of the City of Costa Mesa.~~

Development services director. See Community Development Director. ~~The director of development services of the City of Costa Mesa, or his or her designee.~~

Disabled shall have the same meaning as handicapped.

Dormer. A vertical window in a projection built out from a sloping roof.

Driveway, common. A paved area for vehicle circulation and parking purposes which features joint use between two or more parties.

Driveway, individual. The paved area strictly leading to the garage/carport of a residence. This paved area serves vehicle parking purposes and does not extend beyond the garage/carport unless a curvilinear design is necessary for the turning radius.

Dwelling, single-family. "Dwelling, single-family" or "single-family dwelling" is a building of permanent character placed in a permanent location which is designed or used for residential occupancy by one family. A single mobile home on a foundation system on a single lot is a single-family dwelling. (See Manufactured housing).

Dwelling, multi-family. "Dwelling, multi-family" or "multi-family dwelling" is a building or buildings of permanent character placed on one lot which is designed or used for residential occupancy by two or more families.

Dwelling unit. One or more rooms in any building designed for occupancy by one family, and containing one kitchen unit, including manufactured housing. (See Manufactured housing).

Easement. A grant of one or more property rights by the owner for use by the public, a corporation or another person or entity.

Efficiency unit. A dwelling unit for occupancy by no more than two persons conforming to California's Health and Safety Code § 17958.1 with a minimum floor area of 150 square feet that provides bathroom facilities and a partial kitchen equipped with a sink, cooking appliance, and refrigerator.

Electronic cigarette. An electronic and/or battery-operated device used to provide an inhalable dose of nicotine by delivering a vaporized solution. The term includes any such device manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an electronic cigarette, an electronic cigar, an electronic cigarillo, an electronic pipe, an electronic hookah, or any other product name or descriptor. The term does not include any medical inhaler prescribed by a licensed doctor.

Electronic game machine. Any electronic or mechanical device which upon insertion of a coin, slug, or token in any slot or receptacle attached to the device

or connected therewith, operates, or which may be operated for use as a game, contest, or amusement through the exercise of skill or chance.

Electric vehicle charging station. As defined by Government Code Section [65850.7](#).

Electric vehicle supply equipment. The hardware, including connectors, fixtures, devices, and other components required to charge an electric vehicle.

Emergency shelters. A facility that provides immediate and short-term housing for homeless persons that is limited to occupancy of six months or less. Supplemental services may include counseling and access to social programs. No individual or household may be denied to emergency shelter because of an inability to pay.

Employee housing. Shall have the same meaning as “employee housing” described in California Health and Safety Code Section 17021.5, and as set forth in California Health and Safety Code Section 17008 for farmworkers.

Entertainment (live). Any act, play, revue, pantomime scene, dance act, musical performance, or any combination thereof, performed by one or more persons whether or not they are compensated for the performance.

E-Sports or Electronic Sports. Means a participant-based organized competitive playing of video games using digital gaming platforms.

E-Sports Arena. A facility designed and operated primarily for organized E-sports competitions, tournaments, exhibitions, broadcasts, live-streaming events, or similar events where spectator viewing and attendance are the principal activities.

Establishment where food or beverages are served. Any commercial use that sells prepared food and/or beverages for consumption on site or off site, either solely or in conjunction with an ancillary or complementary use. Excluded from this definition are grocery stores, convenience stores, movie theaters, and other such uses, as determined by the development services director, where the sale of food or beverages is clearly incidental to the primary use. All establishments selling alcoholic beverages for consumption on-site are included within this definition

Event Center. A facility designed for assembly use and to accommodate organized events, competitions, ceremonies, meetings, entertainment, spectator viewing, or similar group activities. Event Centers are also referred to as Banquet Facilities, Assembly Halls, and Arenas.

Fair housing laws. The Federal Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, as each statute may be amended from time to time, and each statute's implementing regulations.

Family. One or more persons occupying one dwelling unit and living together as a single housekeeping unit.

Family day care home, large. A home which provides family day care to seven to 14 children as defined in section 1596.78 of the State Health and Safety Code.

Family day care home, small. A home which provides family day care to eight or fewer children as defined in section 1596.78 of the State Health and Safety Code.

Fitness studios. Means an indoor commercial use of more than 5,000 square feet but less than 15,000 square feet that provides instructor-led instruction, training, or structured physical activity, either in a group setting or one-on-one, including, but

not limited to: dance, martial arts, yoga, Pilates, high-intensity interval training (HIIT), circuit training, and similar small-group fitness activities. These uses are characterized by scheduled classes or training sessions and are limited in scale and intensity. This use does not include large health clubs, commercial gyms, indoor sports training facilities, or uses greater than 15,000 square feet of gross floor area.

Floor area ratio. The gross floor area of a building or project divided by the project lot area upon which it is located.

Food Hall. A single, integrated food and beverage establishment, or restaurant, containing three or more independently operated food or beverage vendors or counters within a shared building or tenant space, with common customer seating, shared circulation, and shared amenities. A food hall may include accessory alcohol service, entertainment, retail, or event programming when allowed by applicable permits, but does not include ghost kitchen or commercial kitchen.

Garage. An accessory or attached enclosed building with doors, designed and/or used for vehicle parking.

Garage sale. An event for the purpose of selling or trading personal property. Garage sale includes yard sale.

General plan. The City of Costa Mesa General Plan as adopted or amended from time to time by the city council.

Ghost Kitchen. A food preparation facility used by one or more food operators for the preparation of meals or beverages for off-site consumption through delivery, mobile ordering, or customer pick-up, with no dine-in restaurant service. A ghost kitchen may include multiple virtual restaurant brands, shared order fulfillment areas, delivery driver staging, and limited pick-up lobby areas, but does not include a catering kitchen, commercial kitchen, or food hall.

Grade. The lowest point of the finished surface elevation of either the ground, paving or sidewalk within the area between the building and the property line, or when the property line is more than five feet from the building, between the building and a line five feet from the building.

Grade, finished. The surface of the ground at a stated location as it exists after completion of precise grading.

Grade, natural. The unaltered natural surface of the ground at a stated location.

Gross acreage. The total area within the lot lines of a lot of land before public streets, easements or other areas to be dedicated or reserved for public use are deducted from such lot, and not including adjacent lands already dedicated for such purposes.

~~*Gross floor area.* The area of all floors within the walls of a structure except elevator and other vertical shafts (including stairwells) and elevator equipment areas.~~

Gross floor area. The total horizontal area of all floors within the exterior walls of a structure. The following areas do not contribute to the building's occupancy or intensity of use and shall be excluded from the gross floor area calculation: garages or carports used for parking, elevator and stair shafts, mechanical shafts, pipe chases, equipment and mechanical rooms, electrical rooms, and other accessory

storage, utility or service spaces, that are devoted exclusively to development operations and maintenance.

Gross leasable area. The total floor area designed for tenant occupancy and exclusive use, including both owned and leased areas.

Group home. A facility that is being used as a supportive living environment for persons who are considered handicapped under state or federal law. A group home operated by a single operator or service provider (whether licensed or unlicensed) constitutes a single facility, whether the facility occupies one or more dwelling units. Group homes shall not include the following: (1) residential care facilities; (2) any group home that operates as a single housekeeping unit; (3) any group home without an operator.

Guestroom. A room occupied or intended, arranged, or designed for occupancy by one or more guests.

Handicapped. As more specifically defined under the fair housing laws, a person who has a physical or mental impairment that limits one or more major life activities, a person who is regarded as having that type of impairment, or a person who has a record of that type of impairment, not including current, illegal use of a controlled substance.

Hazardous materials. Any material of quantity, concentration, physical or chemical characteristics, that poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the work place or environment; or any material requiring a Material Safety Data Sheet according to Title 8, section 339 of the State Code of Regulation.

Health Club. See Physical Fitness Facility.

Height. See Building height and Antenna height.

Home occupation. Any business or commercial use conducted within a dwelling unit.

Hookah lounge. See Smoking lounge.

Hotel. Any building or combination of buildings generally three or more stories in height containing six or more guest rooms offering transient lodging accommodations to the general public and providing incidental guest services such as food and beverage service, recreation facilities, retail services and banquet, reception and meeting rooms. Typically, room access is provided through a main or central lobby.

Household includes all the people occupying a dwelling unit, and includes people who live in different units governed by the same operator.

Integral facilities. Any combination of two or more group homes which may or may not be located on the same or contiguous parcels of land, that are under the control and management of the same owner, operator, management company or licensee or any affiliate of any of them, and are integrated components of one operation shall be referred to as integral facilities and shall be considered one facility for purposes of applying federal, state and local laws to its operation. Examples of such integral facilities include, but are not limited to, the provision of housing in one facility and recovery programming, treatment, meals, or any other

service or services to program participants in another facility or facilities or by assigning staff or a consultant or consultants to provide services to the same program participants in more than one licensed or unlicensed facility.

Integral uses. Any two or more residential care programs commonly administered by the same owner, operator, management company or licensee, or any affiliate of any of them, in a manner in which participants in two or more care programs participate simultaneously in any care or recovery activity or activities so commonly administered. Any such integral use shall be considered one use for purposes of applying federal, state and local laws to its operation.

Intersection. The general area where two or more roadways join or cross.

Kitchen. Any room, all or part of which is designed and/or used for storage, refrigeration, cooking and preparation of food.

Landscaping. Plant materials such as lawn, groundcover, trees and shrubs.

Loft. An intermediate floor placed within a room, where the clear height above and below the loft is not less than seven feet, and where the aggregate area of the loft does not exceed 1/3 of the area of the room in which it is located.

Lot.

- (a) A parcel of real property when shown as a delineated parcel of land with a number or designation on a subdivision map or parcel map recorded in the office of the county recorder, and created in conformance with the Subdivision Map Act and applicable local ordinances.
- (b) A parcel of real property when shown on a record of survey map or deed filed in the office of the county recorder, when such map or deed was filed as the result of and was made a condition of a lot division approved under the authority of prior ordinances.

Lot area. The total land area of a project after all required dedications or reservations for public improvements, including, but not limited to, streets, parks, schools, and flood control channels. This phrase does not apply in the planned development zones where the phrase "site area," as defined in Chapter V, Development Standards, is used.

Lot, corner. A lot abutting on and at the intersection of two or more streets which intersect at an angle that is equal to or less than 135 degrees.

Lot, depth. The average of the horizontal distance between the front and the rear lot lines.

Lot, development. The master lot or project site upon which a development will be constructed.

Lot, individual dwelling unit. An individual building site or lot within a development intended for construction of a single attached or detached dwelling unit.

Lot, interior. A lot abutting only one street, or a lot abutting two streets which intersect at an angle greater than 135 degrees.

Lot, width. The horizontal distance between the side lot lines measured at right angles to the lot depth at the front building setback line.

Low barrier navigation center. Shall have the same meaning as “low barrier navigation center” as set forth in Government Code Section 65660.

Major modification. A discretionary entitlement, usually granted by the zoning administrator, which permits limited deviation from the strict application of the development standards contained in this Zoning Code, based on specified findings.

Manufactured housing. Detached housing that is built to the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, including structures known as manufactured homes and mobile homes. For the purpose of this Zoning Code, a factory- built single-family structure that is manufactured under the authority of 42 U.S.C. section 5401, the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act, transportable in one or more sections, built on a permanent chassis and used as a place of human habitation, shall be considered a single-family home and shall be reviewed under the same standards as a sitebuilt structure.

Marijuana. Has the same definition as that set forth in California Health and Safety Code section 11018.

Marijuana cultivation and/or medical marijuana cultivation. The planting, growing, harvesting, drying or processing of marijuana plants or any part thereof for any purpose, including medical marijuana, and shall include both indoor and outdoor cultivation.

Master plan. The overall development plan for a parcel or parcels which is depicted in both a written and graphic format.

Master plan of highways. The graphic representation of the city's ultimate circulation system contained in the general plan. It illustrates the alignment of the major, primary, secondary and collector highways.

Median. A paved or planted area separating a parking area, street, or highway, into two or more lanes or directions of travel.

Medical marijuana. Marijuana used for medical purposes in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section 11362.5.

Medical marijuana dispensary. A facility or location where medical marijuana is cultivated or by any other means made available to and/or distributed by or to three or more of the following: a primary caregiver, a qualified patient, or a person with an identification card in strict accordance with State Health and Safety Code sections 11362.5 et seq., and 11362.7 et seq., which shall include, but not be limited to, any facility or location engaging in the retail sale, dispensation, or distribution of marijuana for medical purposes that does not have an active role in the cultivation of the marijuana product that it sells, dispenses, or distributes, or when its cultivation of the marijuana product is off-site from the facility or location for retail sale, dispensation, or distribution.

Minor conditional use permit. A discretionary approval granted by the zoning administrator which allows a use or activity not allowed as a matter of right, based on specified findings.

Minor modification. A discretionary entitlement granted by the planning division, which permits limited deviation from the strict application of the development

standards contained in this Zoning Code, based on specified findings.

Mixed use development. The development of lot(s) or structure(s) with two or more different land uses such as, but not limited to a combination of residential, office, manufacturing, retail, public, or entertainment in a single or physically integrated group of structures.

Mobile home. See Manufactured housing.

Mobile home park. Any area or tract of land where two or more mobile home lots are rented or leased, held out for lease or rent, or were formerly held out for rent or lease and later converted to a subdivision, cooperative, condominium, or other form of resident ownership, to accommodate manufactured homes or mobile homes. A mobile home park also means a mobile home development constructed according to the requirements of Part 2.1 (commencing with section 18200) of Division 13 of the State Health and Safety Code, and intended for use and sale as a mobile home condominium or cooperative park, or as a mobile home planned unit development.

Motel. Any building or combination of buildings of one to three stories in height having six or more guest rooms with parking located convenient to the guest rooms and providing temporary lodging for automobile tourists and transient visitors. Typically, guest rooms have direct access to available parking without passing through a common lobby area. Motels also include auto courts, tourist courts, motor lodges, motor inns and motor hotels.

Municipal Code. City of Costa Mesa Municipal Code.

Open space. An area that is intended to provide light and air, and is designed for either environmental, scenic or recreational purposes. Open space may include, but is not limited to, lawns, decorative planting, walkways, active and passive recreational areas, playgrounds, fountains, swimming pools, wooded areas; first floor decks; unenclosed patios with solid or lattice roofs; water courses; and surfaces covered by not more than five feet in depth by projections which are at least eight feet above grade.

Open space shall not include the following: driveways; parking lots; other surfaces designed or intended for vehicular travel; and upper floor decks, balconies or areas under projections which are less than eight feet above grade.

Open space, common. An area of land reserved primarily for the leisure and recreational use of all residents of a planned development or common interest development and owned in common by them, generally through a homeowners' association.

Open space, private. An area of land located adjacent to an individual dwelling unit, owned or leased and maintained by its residents, and reserved exclusively for their use.

Operator means a company, business or individual, including an in-house manager, who provides residential services, i.e., the placement of individuals in a residence, setting of house rules, and/or governing behavior of the residents as residents. Operator does not include a property owner or property manager that exclusively handles real estate contracting, property management and leasing of the property and that does not otherwise meet the definition of operator.

Organizational documents. The declaration of restrictions, articles of incorporation, bylaws, and any contracts for the maintenance, management or operation of all or any part of a project.

Parcel. Same as Lot.

Parkway. The area of a public street that lies between the curb and the adjacent property line or physical boundary definition, which is used for landscaping and/or passive recreational purposes.

Paved area. Ground surface covered with cobblestone, clay-fired bricks, concrete precast paver units, poured concrete with or without decorative surface materials, or asphaltic or rubber mixture which may include sand, stone, or gravel as an ingredient to create a hard surface. A graded natural surface or one covered with rolled stone or overlaid with loose gravel is not considered paved area.

Peak hour. The hour during the AM peak period (typically 7:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.) or the PM peak period (typically 3:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.) in which the greatest number of vehicle trips are generated by a given land use or are traveling on a given roadway.

Permitted use. Any use allowed in a land use zoning district without requiring a discretionary approval, and subject to the provisions applicable to that district.

Personal Services. A commercial use that provides personal care, grooming, wellness, aesthetic, or convenience services directly to individuals. This category does not include group fitness uses, medical offices, or other uses involving medical diagnosis or clinical treatment.

Personal Services, Group. A commercial use that provides personal care, grooming, wellness, aesthetic, or convenience services directly to individuals that include group instruction or group setting. This category does not include group fitness uses, medical offices, or other uses involving medical diagnosis or clinical treatment.

Physical Fitness Facility. Means a facility, building, or portion thereof designed and operated for physical fitness, athletic training, sports instruction, exercise, recreation, or wellness activities conducted individually or in groups, with a gross floor area of 15,000 square feet or greater. Such facilities may include exercise equipment, fitness classes, courts, fields, training areas, locker rooms, spectator seating accessory to the primary use, and related support amenities. Also see Health Club.

Planned development. A land area which is developed as an integrated unit under single ownership or control and having planned development zoning designation.

Planning application. A broad term for any development project or land use which requires the discretionary review and approval of either the planning division, zoning administrator, planning commission, or city council. Planning applications include major modifications, conditional use permits, development reviews, variances, etc.

Planning division. The planning division of the ~~development services~~ Community Development Department of the City of Costa Mesa.

Project. See Development.

Property line. A line of record bounding a lot which divides one lot from another lot or from a public or private street or any other public space.

Property line, front. For interior lots, the narrowest property line of a lot abutting a public or private street. If two or more equal property lines are narrowest, the front shall be that property line across which the development takes its primary access (if the primary access is determined to be equal, there shall be two front property lines). However, for non-residentially zoned property, any property line abutting a public street designated as a secondary, primary or major street on the master plan of highways shall be deemed a front property line. A non-residentially zoned property shall have more than one front property line when it abuts more than one street designated as secondary, primary, or major on the master plan of highways.

For R-1 zoned property located on corner lots, the front property line may be the property line towards which the front of the dwelling unit is oriented.

Property line, rear. The property line opposite the front property line. A corner lot with more than one front property line shall have more than one rear property line. Irregularly shaped lots may also have more than one rear property line.

Property line, side. Any property line which is not a front or rear property line.

Property line, ultimate. The boundary of a lot after the dedication of land for use as public right(s)-of-way, whether dedicated in fee or by easement. A setback is measured from the ultimate property line.

Public area. Establishments where food or beverages are served. That portion of an establishment reserved for the exclusive use of the public for the receipt or consumption of food and/or beverages. For the purpose of this Zoning Code, public area shall not include restrooms, kitchens, hallways or other areas restricted to employees only.

Public hearing. A public proceeding conducted for the purpose of acquiring information or evidence which may be considered in evaluating a proposed action, and which affords to any affected person or persons the opportunity to present their views, opinions, and information on such proposed applications. "Mandatory hearings" are those required to be held by law, and "discretionary hearings" are those which may be held within the sole discretion of the hearing body.

Public right-of-way. A strip of land acquired by reservation, dedication, prescription or condemnation and intended to be occupied by a road, trail, water line, sanitary sewer and/or other public uses.

Recyclable materials. Reusable materials, including, but not limited to, metals, glass, plastic and paper which are intended for reuse, remanufacture or reconstruction. Recyclable materials do not include refuse, hazardous materials or hazardous waste.

Recycling. The process by which waste products are reduced to raw materials and transformed into new products.

Recycling and collection facility. A building or enclosed space used for the collection and processing of recyclable materials for preparation for shipment, or to an end user's specifications, by such means as baling, briquetting, compacting, flattening,

grinding, crushing, mechanical sorting, shredding, cleaning or remanufacturing.

Referral facility. A residential care facility or a group home where one or more person's residency in the facility is pursuant to a court order or directive from an agency in the criminal justice system.

Residential care facility. A residential facility licensed by the state where care, services, or treatment is provided to persons living in a supportive community residential setting. Residential care facilities include, but may not be limited to, the following: intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled (Health & Safety Code §§ 1267.8, 1267.9); community care facilities (Health & Safety Code § 1500 et seq.); residential care facilities for the elderly (Health & Safety Code § 1569 et seq.); residential care facilities for the chronically ill (22 C.C.R. § 87801(a)(5); Health & Safety Code § 1568.02); alcoholism and drug abuse facilities (Health & Safety Code §§ 11834.02—11834.30); pediatric day health and respite care facilities (Health & Safety Code § 1760 et seq.); residential health care facilities, including congregate living health facilities (Health & Safety Code §§ 1265—1271.1, 1250(i), 1250(e), (h)); family care home, foster home, group home for the mentally disordered or otherwise handicapped persons or dependent and neglected children (Wel. & Inst. Code §§ 5115—5120).

Residential, multi-family. Apartments, common interest developments, townhouses and similar multiple-family residential developments, including detached single-family homes where there is more than one primary dwelling unit on a lot.

Residential, single-family. Detached single-family home where there is no more than one primary dwelling unit on a lot.

Room, bedroom. A fully-enclosed room designed or intended to be used for sleeping purposes within a residence that typically includes a closet and is separated from the other living spaces with a door.

Room, home office. A room designed and intended to be used for a household office or small business related activity within a residence. Within a single-family detached residence, this room is strictly not intended for sleeping purposes, and lacks direct access to a bathroom. The home office may also be referred to as a studio, den, study or library.

Senior congregate care facility. A structure(s) providing residence for 13 or more senior citizens with kitchen, dining, recreational, etc. facilities with separate bedrooms and/or living quarters.

Setback. The required distance that a building, structure, parking or other designated item must be located from a property line or lot line. A setback is measured from the ultimate property line.

Single housekeeping unit. The occupants of a dwelling unit have established ties and familiarity with each other, including joint use of and responsibility for common areas, which includes interaction with each other, shared meals, household activities, and expenses and responsibilities; where residency is mutually agreed by all residents, is not transitory in nature and the residential activities of the household are conducted on a not-for-profit basis.

Single room occupancy unit. A dwelling unit that serves as the primary residence of its occupant(s) and is offered on a monthly rental basis or longer. Single room

occupancy units may contain kitchen and/or sanitary facilities. If the units do not contain kitchen and/or bathroom facilities, shared kitchen and/or bathroom facilities must be provided within the building.

Single room occupancy residential hotel. A residential hotel, allowed in certain commercial zones, that contains units designed for long-term occupancy by a single person, although double occupancy may be permitted.

Slope. The degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal plane, usually expressed in percent or degrees.

Small Fitness Studio. An indoor commercial use of up to 5,000 square feet that provides instructor-led instruction, training, or structured physical activity, either in a group setting or one-on-one, including, but not limited to: dance, martial arts, yoga, Pilates, high-intensity interval training (HIIT), circuit training, and similar small-group fitness activities. These uses are characterized by scheduled classes or training sessions and are limited in scale and intensity.

Small lot subdivision. A residential development containing a maximum of 15 detached or townhome style units with no common walls where each unit is independently constructed on an individual parcel and the land is subdivided into fee simple parcels containing each unit. Each individual lot is provided with either a direct access to public street/alley or an easement access through a recorded subdivision map.

Smoking lounge. Any facility or location whose business operation, whether as a primary use or an ancillary use, is characterized by the sale, offering, and/or preparation of smoking of tobacco, cigars, hookah, electronic cigarettes, or similar products, including but not limited to establishments known variously as hookah parlors, vaping lounges, or cigar bars.

Smoking/vaping retailer. A smoke shop, electronic cigarette retailer, vapor cigarette retailer, or any other retail business that sells tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products primarily for off-site consumption. Smoking/vaping retailers shall not include food or beverage service, outdoor seating, or an indoor seating area greater than 100 square feet in area.

Sober living home. A group home for persons who are recovering from a drug and/or alcohol addiction and who are considered handicapped under state or federal law. Sober living homes shall not include the following: (1) residential care facilities; (2) any sober living home that operates as a single housekeeping unit; (3) any sober living home without an operator.

Specialty store. A retail store less than 3,000 square feet in area with hours of operation between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. A specialty store offers a combination of foods and beverages for off-site use or consumption and provides for alcoholic beverage sales that are incidental to the primary use. No more than 10% of the total merchandise area of the retail floor may be devoted to display or sale of alcoholic beverages and only non- refrigerated alcoholic beverages may be offered. A specialty store must comply with the operational standards of section 13-200.72.

Specific plan. A plan consisting of text, maps, and other documents and exhibits regulating development within a defined area of the city, consistent with the general plan and the provisions of State Government Code section 65450 et seq.

State. State of California.

Story. For purposes related to zoning regulations, a story is that portion of a building included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the floor next above it. If there is no floor above it, then the space between such floor and the ceiling next above it shall constitute a story. An attic shall not be considered a story. A basement or cellar shall not be considered a story, if the finished floor level directly above the basement or cellar is less than four feet above finish grade at all locations. Any uncovered deck or activity area above the first story shall be considered a story.

Streamlined development review. The streamlined processing of a development plan when authority for approval is vested in the planning division.

Street. A public or private thoroughfare that provides primary access to adjacent land and local traffic movements. Streets do not include driveways which only provide access to parking areas.

Structure. Anything, including a building, located on the ground in a permanent location or attached to something having a permanent location on the ground.

Supportive housing. Housing with no limit on length of stay, that is occupied by the target population, as defined in Section [50675.14](#) of the California Health and Safety Code, and that is linked to on site or off site services that assist the supportive housing resident in retaining the housing, improving his or her health status, and maximizing his or her ability to live and, when possible, work in the community.

Tandem parking. An arrangement of parking spaces one behind the other in a row of maximum two cars including one in the garage space. Tandem garage parking is defined as the placement of standard parking spaces one behind the other within the enclosed area of a garage.

Townhouse. A single-family attached dwelling unit located on an individual dwelling unit lot, and is part of a row of units that contains three or more dwelling units.

Transitional housing. A development with buildings configured as rental housing developments, but operated under program requirements that call for the termination of assistance and recirculation of the assisted unit to another eligible program recipient at some predetermined future point in time, which shall be no less than six months. *Trip (vehicle).* A one-way vehicular journey either to or from a site, or totally within the site i.e. internal trip. Each trip has two trip ends, one at the beginning and the other at the destination.

Trip rate (vehicular). The anticipated number of vehicle trips to be generated by a specific land use type or land use classification. The trip rate is expressed as a given number of vehicle trips for a given unit of development intensity (i.e., trip per unit, trip per 1,000 square feet, etc.).

Uncontrolled environment. A location where there is the exposure (to radiofrequency radiation) of individuals who have no knowledge or control of their exposure. The exposures may occur in living quarters or work places where there are no expectations that the exposure levels may exceed the exposure and induced current levels permitted for the general public.

Underroof. All of the area within the walls of the building that a roof covers. Areas under porches, roof overhangs, garage protrusions, breezeways and other similar architectural design features are not considered as underroof.

Unit. A particular building or structure, or portion thereof, that is designed, intended or used for exclusive occupancy, possession or control of individual owners or occupiers, whether or not they have interests in common areas of the project.

Use. The purpose (type and extent) for which land or a building is arranged, designed, or intended, or for which either land or a structure is occupied or maintained.

Warehouse, mini. A structure or group of structures for the dead storage of customer's goods and wares where individual stalls or lockers are rented out to different tenants for storage and where at least one of the stalls or lockers has less than 500 square feet of floor area.

Warehouse, public. A structure or group of structures for the dead storage of customer's goods and wares where individual stalls or lockers are rented out to different tenants for storage and where all the stalls or lockers have more than 500 square feet of floor area.

Vacancy rate (common lot development conversion). The ratio of vacant apartments being offered for rent or lease in the City of Costa Mesa, shown as a percentage of the total number of apartments in the city.

Vape lounge. See Smoking lounge.

Vape shop. See Smoking/vaping retailer.

Variance. A discretionary entitlement, usually granted by the planning commission, which permits departure from the strict application of the development standards contained in this Zoning Code, based on specified findings.

Yard. Any open space on a lot unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward, except an inside court.

Yard, front. The yard between the front line of a building and the front line of the lot upon which the building is located.

Yard, rear. The yard extending from the extreme rear line of the main building to the rear lot line on which the building is situated.

Yard, side. The yard extending from the front yard, or from the front lot line where no front yard is required, to the rear yard or rear lot line, between the side lot line and the nearest wall of the main building or any accessory structure attached thereto.

Zero lot line. The location of a structure on a lot in such a manner that one or more of the structure's sides rest directly on a lot line.

(Ord. No. 97-11, § 2, 5-5-97; Ord. No. 98-5, § 4, 3-2-98; Ord. No. 00-5, § 1(a), 3-20-00; Ord. No. 01-16, § 1a., 6-18-01; Ord. No. 05-11, § 2a., 7-19-05; Ord. No. 06-18, § 1, 9-5-06; Ord. No. 09-3, §§ 1a., b., 5-19-09; Ord. No. 09-4, § 1a., 5-5-09; Ord. No. 10-13, § 1, 10-19-10; Ord. No. 10-14, § 1, 11-16-10; Ord. No. 11-10, § 1, 9-20-11; Ord. No. 13-1, § 2A., 3-19-13; Ord. No. 13-05, § 1, 12-3-13; Ord. No. 14-

04, § 2A., 4-1-14; Ord. No. 14-13, § 1, 10-21-14; Ord. No. 15-10, § 2A, 9-15-15; Ord. No. 15-11, § 1, 11-17-15; Ord. No. 16-01, § 1, 1-19-16; Ord. No. 18-03, § 2, 1-16-18; Ord. No. 21-03, § 3, 3-2-21; Ord. No. 21-20, § 1, 12-7-21; Ord. No. 26-03 § 04-07-26)