

ARTICLE VI
DEFINITIONS

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6.010. Scope. In order to carry out the provisions and intentions as set forth herein, certain words, terms, and phrases are to be used and interpreted as follows:

- a. The word "person" includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, trust, company, or corporation as well as an individual.
- b. The present tense includes the future tense, the singular number includes the plural, and the plural number includes the singular.
- c. The word "shall" is mandatory.
- d. The word "may" is permissive.
- e. The words "used" or "occupied" includes the words "intended", "designed", or "arranged to be used" or "occupied".
- f. The word "lot" includes the words "plot" or "parcel."

6.020. Definitions. The following words, terms, and phrases are hereby defined as follows and shall be interpreted as such throughout this resolution. Terms not herein defined shall have their standard dictionary definition and "A Planners Dictionary" Planning Advisory Service Report Number 5xx/5xx published by the American Planning Association, April 2004, or such as the context may imply.

ACCESS: The right to cross between public and private property, thereby permitting pedestrians and vehicles to enter and leave property.

ACCESSORY BUILDING OR STRUCTURE: A subordinate building, the use of which is incidental to that of a principal building and located on the same lot therewith.

ACCESSORY USE: A use customarily incidental, appropriate, and subordinate to the principal use of land or buildings and located upon the same lot therewith.

ADVERTISING: Includes any writing, printing, painting, display, emblem, drawing, sign, or other device designed used or intended for advertising, whether placed on the ground, rocks, trees, tree stumps, or other natural structures or on buildings, structures, milestones, signboards, wallboard, roofboard, frames, supports, fences or other man-made structure, and any such advertising is a structure within the meaning of the word "structure" as utilized in this resolution.

ADVERTISING SIGN OR STRUCTURE: See Sign.

AGRICULTURE USE:

- (1) The land, buildings and machinery used in the commercial production of farm products and nursery stock;
- (2) The activity carried on in connection with the commercial production of farm products and nursery stock; and
- (3) Recreational and educational activities on land used for the commercial production of farm products and nursery stock.

As used in this definition of agriculture, the term "farm products" mean forage and sod crops; grains and feed crops; dairy and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock, including breeding and grazing; fruits; vegetables; flowers; seeds; grasses; forestry products; fish and other aquatic animals used for food; bees; equine; and all other plants and animals that produce food, fee, fiber or fur.

As used in this definition of agriculture, the term "nursery stock" means all trees, shrubs, or other plants, or parts of such trees, shrubs or other plants, grown or kept for, or capable of, propagation, distribution or sale on a commercial basis.

This includes all forms of agriculture, growing of crops in the open, dairying, grazing, the raising and maintaining of poultry and other livestock, horticulture, viticulture, floriculture, forests, and woods, provided that all appropriate laws and regulations are complied with.

AGRICULTURAL ACCESSORY USE: Those structures or equipment which are normally required in the operation of agricultural uses.

ALLEY: A minor right-of-way, dedicated to public use, which affords a secondary means of vehicular access to the back or side of properties otherwise abutting a street, and which may be used for public utility and public service purposes.

ALTERATION: As applied to a building or structure, means a change or rearrangement in the structural parts, or an enlargement, whether by extending a side or by increasing its height or structural changes, other than repairs, that would affect safety. The term "alter" in its various modes and tenses and its practical forms, refers to the making of an alteration.

AREA, BUILDING: The total areas taken on a horizontal plane at the main grade level of the principal building and all necessary buildings exclusive of uncovered porches, terraces, and steps.

ATTACHED: An enclosure having continuing walls, roof and floor.

AUTOMOBILE WRECKING: The dismantling, storage, sale or dumping of used motor vehicles, trailers, or parts thereof and with no intent to return to operative condition.

AUTOMOBILE WRECKING, JUNK, AND SALVAGE YARDS: Any lot or place which is exposed to weather and upon which more than five motor vehicles of any kind, incapable of being operated, and which it would not be economically feasible to make operative are placed, located, or found.

AVERAGE GROUND ELEVATION: The elevation of the mean finished grade at the front of a structure.

BASEMENT: A story partly or wholly underground. For purposes of height measurement, a basement shall be counted as a story when more than one-half (1/2) of its height is above the average ground elevation or when subdivided and used for commercial activities.

BOARD: The Hickman County, Tennessee Board of Zoning Appeals.

BUFFER STRIP: A greenbelt planted strip not less than ten (10) feet in width. Such a greenbelt shall be composed of one (1) row of evergreen trees, spaced not more than forty (40) feet apart and not less than two (2) rows of shrubs or hedges, spaced not more than five (5) feet apart and which grow to a height of five (5) feet or more after one (1) full growing season and which shrubs will eventually grow to not less than ten (10) feet.

BUILDING: Any structure having a roof supported by columns or by walls, including tents (not used for camping only), lunch wagons, dining cars, mobile homes or trailers (used as a dwelling or for commercial purposes), and similar structures whether stationary or movable.

BUILDING AREA OF A LOT: That portion of a lot bounded by the required rear yard, side yards, and the building setback line.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER: The zoning compliance official or his authorized representative appointed by the Hickman County Commission.

BUILDING, MAIN OR PRINCIPAL: A building in which is conducted the principal use of the lot on which it is situated. In any residential district any dwelling shall be deemed to be a main building on the lot on which it is situated.

BUILDING SETBACK LINE: A line delineating the minimum allowable distance between the property line and a building on a lot, within which no building or other structure shall be placed except as otherwise provided.

BUILDING SETBACK LINE, FRONT: A line delineating the minimum allowable distance between the street right-of-way, or if an official future street right-of-way has been established, from that future street right-of-way line, and the front of a building on a lot. The front building setback line extends the full width of the lot and is parallel to the street right-of-way.

BUILDING SETBACK LINE, REAR: A line delineating the minimum allowable distance between the rear property line and a building on a lot (other than for permitted accessory structures). The rear setback line extends the full width of the lot.

BUILDING SETBACK LINE, SIDE: A line delineating the minimum distance between the side property line and a building on a lot. The side setback line extends from the front building setback line to the rear building setback line.

CAMPING GROUND: A parcel of land used or intended to be used, let, or rented for occupancy by campers or for occupancy by camping trailers, tents, or movable or temporary dwellings, rooms, or sleeping quarters of any kind.

CEMETERY: Any land or structure dedicated to and used, or intended to be used, for interment of human remains. Cemetery refers to all types of cemeteries, public or private, except family burial grounds.

CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY: A written statement or certificate issued by the Building Commissioner indicating that the land, structure or part thereof is found to be in conformity with the provisions of this resolution.

CLINIC: See Medical Facility.

CONDITIONAL USE (SPECIAL EXCEPTION): A conditional use is a use that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction throughout the zoning district but which, if controlled as to number, area, location, or relation to the neighborhood, would promote the public health, safety, welfare, morals, order, comfort, convenience, appearance, prosperity, or general welfare. Such uses may be permitted in such zoning district as conditional uses, only when specific provisions for such use is made in this Resolution. For the purposes of administration of this resolution, conditional uses shall be construed as synonymous with special exceptions, as controlled by Section 13-7-107, Tennessee Code Annotated.

CONVENIENCE SALES: The retail sale of small convenience items such as toiletries, tobacco, and magazines. The dispensing of petroleum products may be included as accessory to convenience food products retailing.

CONVENIENCE SERVICES: Services which are typically needed frequently or recurrently, such as barber and beauty care; and includes the operation of self-service laundromats but excludes other apparel, cleaning and repair services.

COVERAGE: The percentage of a lot which is covered by all buildings located therein, including the area covered by all overhanging roofs.

COUNTRY CLUB: A chartered, nonprofit membership club, with facilities catering primarily to its membership or social amenities: golf, riding, club house, pool, dining facilities, lounge.

DAY CARE HOME OR CENTER: Any place, home, or institution, which receives five (5) or more unrelated young children for general care, exercise, play, or observation.

DEVELOPMENT: Any manmade change to improved and unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavating, or drilling operations. Agricultural activities such as plowing or cultivating and gardening activities are not included in this definition of development.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT: Defined as a permit issued by the Building Commissioner for a proposed use of land or structure, or the alteration of land or a structure, or the location or erection of a structure after having been found to be in conformity with the provisions of the Zoning Resolution of Hickman County, Tennessee.

DISTRICT: Any section or sections of the area lying within Hickman County, Tennessee, for which the resolution governing the use, density, bulk, height, and coverage of buildings and other structures are in force.

DWELLING: A building or part thereof used as a habitation under one of the following categories:

- a. Single detached dwelling means a building and accessories thereto principally used, designed, or adapted for use by a single household.

- b. Duplex dwelling means a building and accessories thereto principally used, designed, or adapted for use by two (2) households, the living quarters of each of which are completely separate.
- c. Apartment dwelling means a building and accessories thereto principally used, designed, or adapted for use as occupancy by three (3) or more households each of which has separate living quarters.
- d. Rooming house or boarding house means a building and accessories thereto principally used, designed, or adapted to provide living accommodations for not more than six (6) occupants.
- e. Multi-family means an occupancy by three (3) or more households each of which has separate living quarters.
- f. Prefabricated dwelling means a detached dwelling constructed primarily off-site, designed to be transported on a flat-bed truck or trailer, provided that it is installed on a permanently enclosed concrete or masonry foundation, with sewer and water connections designed for permanent connection to municipal and/or sanitary or on-site systems, and such structures are distinguished from mobile homes as described elsewhere in this resolution when they have no horizontal exterior dimensions of less than 15 feet not including porches or carports. When such a structure meets the above stated requirements it shall qualify as a single detached dwelling.
- g. Mobile home or trailer means a transportable structure built on a permanent chassis, designed for year-round occupancy, and designed to be used with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, and electrical systems contained therein. Recreational vehicles and travel trailers are not included in this definition of mobile homes.

EGG PRODUCTION HOUSES: Any place or premises where chickens are kept for the production of eggs for resale to processors, wholesalers or retailers.

FAMILY: One or more persons occupying the premises and living as a single nonprofit housekeeping unit as distinguished from a group occupying a boarding or similar dwelling for group use.

FAMILY BURIAL GROUNDS: A zoned lot in private ownership which may contain one or more sites used or intended to be used, for interment of human remains, for the benefit of the owners of the lot or their immediate family members.

FEED LOT: Business of feeding or fattening livestock for slaughter in a facility designed or used to feed or fatten more than two hundred (200) head of cattle or one thousand (1,000) head of swine within one year of time.

FLOOR AREA: The sum of the gross floor area for each of the several stories under roof, measured from the exterior limits or faces of a building or structure.

FRONTAGE: All the property on one side of a street between two intersecting streets (crossing or terminating) measured along the line of the street, or if the street is dead ended, then all the property abutting on one side between an intersecting street and the dead end of the street.

GASOLINE SERVICE STATION: Any area of land, including structures thereon, that is utilized for the retail sale of gasoline, oil, or automobile accessories, and incidental services including facilities for lubricating, hand car washing and cleaning, or otherwise servicing automobiles, but not including painting or major repair.

GRADE, FINISHED: The completed surfaces of lawns, walks, and roads brought to grades as shown on official plans or designs relating thereto.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: The Hickman County Health Department.

HEIGHT OF BUILDING OR STRUCTURES: The vertical distance from the average ground elevation or finished grade at the building line, whichever is the highest, to the highest point of the building or structure.

HOME OCCUPATION: See Section 3.040.

HOSPITAL: See Medical Facilities.

JUNK - Rubbish and wasted or discarded items, including metal, wood, paper, glass and other objects and, including junk motor vehicles. The term shall not include items held for sale in a business establishment which holds a valid Tennessee Business License.

JUNK MOTOR VEHICLE: Any automobile, motor vehicle or the metal scraps and remains of the foregoing items, which are incapable of being operated and which it would not be economically practical to make operative and which are not fully placed or located within and fully surrounded by a substantial and durable building. The term shall not include items on the premises or establishment constituting automobile graveyards within the meaning of Tennessee Code, Section 54-20-201, et. seq., or establishments having facilities for processing scrap metal.

JUNK YARD OR SALVAGE YARD: A lot, land or structure, or part thereof, used primarily for the collecting, storage and sale of waste paper, rags, scrap metal, or discarded material; or for the collecting, dismantling, storage and salvaging of machinery or vehicles not in running conditions for the sale of parts thereof.

LIGHT INDUSTRY: Is defined, for the purpose of this resolution, on the basis of performance in terms of absence of objectionable noise, smoke, odor, dust, dirt, noxious gases, glare and heat; and of the creation of hazards to health and life by reason of fire, effects of industrial wastes, psychological effects and generation of motor vehicle traffic.

LIVESTOCK: Cattle, sheep, swine, poultry and other animals or fowl which are being produced primarily for use as food or food products for human consumption.

LOADING SPACE: An area ten (10) feet by fifty (50) feet with a fourteen (14) foot height clearance providing for the standing, loading, or unloading of a truck or other vehicle. All such spaces are designed so as to not require trucks and other vehicles to back onto public streets.

LOT: A piece, plot, or parcel of land in one ownership, which may include one or more lots of record, occupied or to be occupied by one or more principal buildings, or not more than three principal dwellings in Agricultural areas as provided in Section 2.020 of these regulations, and their accessory buildings, including the open spaces required under this resolution.

LOT, AREA: The total surface land area included within lot lines.

LOT, CORNER: A lot of which at least two adjoining sides abut their full lengths on a street.

LOT, DEPTH: The average distance from the street line of the lot to its rear line, measured in the general direction of the side lines of the lot.

LOT, FRONTAGE: That dimension of a lot or portion of a lot abutting on a street, excluding the side dimension of a corner lot.

LOT, INTERIOR: A lot other than a corner lot.

LOT LINES: The boundary dividing a given lot from the street, an alley or adjacent lots.

LOT OF RECORD: A lot which is part of a subdivision recorded in the office of the county register of deeds, or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been recorded in the office of the County Register of Deeds prior to the effective date of this Zoning Resolution.

LOT WIDTH: The width of a lot at the building setback line measured at right angles to its depth.

MARINA: A facility for the docking and servicing of boats.

MEDICAL FACILITIES:

Convalescent, Rest or Nursing Home: a health facility where persons are housed and furnished with meals and continuing nursing care for compensation or fee.

Dental Clinic or Medical Clinic: A facility for the examination and treatment of ill and afflicted human out-patients, provided, however, that patients are not kept overnight except under emergency conditions.

Hospital: An institution providing health services primarily for human in-patient medical care for sick or injured and including related facilities such as laboratories, out-patient facilities, emergency medical services, and staff offices which are an integral part of the facility.

Public Health Center: A facility utilized by a health unit for the provision of public health services.

MINIMUM FLOOR ELEVATION: The lowest elevation permissible for the construction, erection, or other placement of any floor, including a basement floor.

MOBILE HOME PARK: A place or tract of land not subdivided upon which three (3) or more mobile homes, occupied for dwelling or sleeping purposes, are located. (See Section 3.080).

NONCONFORMING USE: A building, structure, or use of land existing at the time of enactment of this resolution which does not conform to the regulations of the district in which it is located.

NOXIOUS MATTER: Material in gaseous, liquid or solid form which is capable of causing injury to living organisms, chemical reactions, or detrimental effects upon the social, economic or psychological well-being of individuals.

OPEN SPACE: An area on the same lot with a main building which is open, unoccupied and unobstructed by structures from the ground to the sky except as otherwise provided in this resolution.

OWNER: Includes his duly authorized agent or attorney, a purchaser, devise, fiduciary, and a person having a vested or contingent interest in the property in question.

PARKING LOT: An off-street facility including parking spaces with adequate provisions for drives and aisles for maneuvering and obtaining access, and for entrance and exit.

PARKING SPACE: An off-street space available for parking one motor vehicle and having an area of not less than two hundred (200) square feet exclusive of passageways and driveways giving access thereto, and having access to a street or alley.

PERMANENT EASEMENT: The right granted by the owner of land to another party by deed or prescription, to allow vehicular access across one parcel of land to another.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The Hickman County Regional Planning Commission.

PLAT: A map, plan, or layout indicating the location and boundaries of individual properties.

PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE: A structure in which is conducted the principal use of the lot on which it is situated. In any residential or agricultural district, any dwelling shall be deemed the principal structure on the lot on which the same is situated. Carports and garages if permanently attached to the principal structure shall be deemed a part of the principal structure. Awnings, porches, patios, or similar attachments shall be deemed a part of the principal structure in meeting any yard requirement.

PRINCIPAL USE: The specific primary purpose for which land or a building is used.

PRIVATE WASTEWATER TREATMENT: Individual subsurface sewage disposal systems (i.e., septic tanks), package treatment plants or individual aeration systems employed for the collection and treatment and/or disposal of wastewater, as approved by the county health department and the State Department of Health and Environment.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE: The office of a physician, dentist, attorney, architect, engineer, planner, accountant, or similar professional.

PUBLIC USES: Public parks, schools, and administrative, cultural, and service buildings, not including public land or buildings devoted solely to storage and maintenance of equipment and materials.

PUBLIC WASTEWATER SYSTEM: A municipal, community, or utility district sewerage treatment and disposal system of a type approved by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

PUBLIC WATER: A municipal, community or utility district water treatment and distribution system of a type approved by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

ROADWAY: The actual road surface including necessary road shoulders and drainage facilities including ditches and curbs and gutters, which is used to transport motor vehicles.

SANITARY LANDFILL: An area or site utilized by a public or private entity for disposal of solid waste or refuse in a manner which meets the regulations imposed upon the operation and maintenance of sanitary landfill sites by the State Department of Environment and Conservation.

SHOPPING CENTER: A group of compatible commercial establishment, planned, developed, and managed as a single unit, with an automobile storage area provided on the property; the center must also be related in location, size, and type of businesses to its' trade area.

SIGN, BILLBOARD, OR OTHER ADVERTISING DEVICE: Any structure or part thereof or device attached thereto, or represented thereon, which shall display or include any letter, words, model, banner, flag, pennant, insignia, or any representation used as, or which is in the nature of, an announcement, direction or advertisement. The word "sign" includes the word "billboard" or any other type of advertising device, but does not include the flag, pennant, or insignia of any nation, state, city, or other political unit.

Business Sign: A sign which directs attention to the business or profession conducted on the premises.

Advertising Sign: A sign which directs attention to a business commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than on the premises and only incidentally on the premises if at all.

Billboards: A type of advertising sign having more than one hundred (100) square feet of display surface which is either erected on the ground or attached to or supported by a building or structure.

Flashing Sign: Any illuminated sign, whether stationary, revolving, or rotating, which exhibits changing light or color effects, provided that revolving or rotating signs which exhibit no changing light or color effects other than those produced by revolution or rotation, shall be deemed flashing signs only if they exhibit sudden or marked changes in such light or color effects.

Ground Sign: A sign supported by a pole, uprights, or braces on the ground.

Illuminated Sign: A sign designed to give forth any artificial light or reflect such light from an artificial source.

Indirect Illumination Sign: Any illuminated nonflashing sign whose illumination is derived entirely from an external artificial source and is so arranged that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residence or streets.

Off-Premises Sign: A sign relating to a product, service, or establishment that is not on the premises on which the sign is located.

On-Premises Sign: A sign relating to a product, service, or establishment that is on the premises on which the sign is located.

Pole Sign or Banjo Sign: A type of ground sign at least ten (10) feet above the ground supported on a single post or pole most commonly associated with gasoline service stations.

Wall or Flat Sign: Any sign erected parallel to the face or on the outside wall of any building which projects out at any angle therefrom and projects no more than twelve (12) inches beyond the face of such wall.

Roof Sign: A detached sign supported upon the roof or wall of a building.

Marquee Sign: A projecting sign attached to or hung from a marquee and said marquee shall be known to mean a canopy or covered structure projecting from and supported by a building, when such canopy or covered structure extends beyond the building, building line, or property line.

Temporary Sign: Temporary signs shall include any sign, banner, pennant, valence, or advertising display constructed of wood, metal, cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, or other light material, with or without frames, where either by reason of construction or purpose the sign is intended to be displayed for a short period of time only.

SPECIAL EXCEPTION: A use which is specifically permitted if the owner can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that it will meet certain standards, enumerated safeguards, or qualifying conditions.

STORY: That portion of a building included between the upper surface of any floor and the upper surface of the floor next above; or any portion of a building between the topmost floor and the roof which is used for human occupancy in which the floor area with eight (8) feet or more head clearance equals fifty (50) percent or more of the floor area of the next story below. Provided it is not used as a dwelling unit, a top floor in which the floor area with eight (8) feet or more of head clearance equals less than fifty (50) percent of the floor area of the story next below shall be a "half-story." A basement shall be considered as a story if more than half of its height is above the average ground level from which the "height of a building" is measured or if it is used for commercial purposes.

STREET: A public road, highway, or thoroughfare which constitutes, or is designed to constitute, the main access to more than one lot and which has been legally dedicated and accepted for public use.

STRUCTURE: Any combination of materials, including buildings, constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on the ground or attachment to anything having location on the ground and including among other things, signs, billboards, and fences.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT: Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty (50) percent of the assessed value of the structure, either: (1) before the improvement or repair; or (2) before the damage occurred. For the purposes of this resolution, substantial improvement is considered to occur when the alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not this alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure. The term does not, however, include, either: (1) any project for the improvement of a structure to comply with existing state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which are solely necessary to ensure safe living conditions; or (2) any alteration or restoration of a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a State Inventory of Historic Places.

TOXIC MATERIALS: Materials (gaseous, liquid, solid, particulate) which are capable of causing injury to living organisms even when present in relatively small amounts.

TRAVEL TRAILER: A vehicular, portable structure designed as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreation, and vacation uses.

TRAVEL TRAILER PARK: A plot of land designed and equipped to accommodate travel trailers for short periods of time.

USE: The purpose for which land or a building or other structure is designed, arranged or intended, or for which it is or may be occupied or maintained.

UTILITY EASEMENT: The right granted by the owner of land to allow utility facilities to be constructed, maintained, or preserved. Utility easement shall include, but is not limited to, easement for storm drainage, water lines, electric power lines and pipelines.

WATERCOURSE: Any depression serving to give direction to a flow of water, having a bed and well-defined banks, where the drainage area above the same is twenty-five (25) acres or more in extent. The flow of water need not be on a continuous basis but may be intermittent resulting from the surface runoff of precipitation.

YARD: An open space on the same lot with a principal building, open, unoccupied, and unobstructed by buildings from the ground to the sky except as otherwise provided in this resolution, provided that accessory buildings may be located in a rear yard.

YARD FRONT: The yard extending across the entire width of the lot between the nearest part of the principal building, including porches, and the front lot line.

YARD, REAR: The yard extending across the entire width of the lot between the nearest part of the principal building, including porches, and the rear lot line.

YARD, SIDE: The required space unoccupied except as herein provided, measured between the side lot line and the nearest point of the principal building and between the front yard and the rear yard.

ZONING RESOLUTION: This zoning resolution shall be known as the official Zoning Resolution of Hickman County.