

2. Decorative hinges;
3. Columns, pilasters, posts or vertical design features;
4. High quality materials other than vinyl or aluminum; and/or
5. Overhangs, eaves, awning or similar design element that projects at least twelve (12) inches beyond the façade above the garage door

#### 6.8.6. MULTIFAMILY DESIGN STANDARDS

- A. **Intent and Applicability.** Multifamily design standards are additional standards intended to supplement the required zoning district development standards and specific use standards defined in this LDO. These design standards shall be required for all new multifamily buildings (including triplexes and quadplexes) and/or developments. Single family uses, including townhouses or attached single family, are exempt from these standards.
- B. **Standards.** Multifamily design standards shall:
  1. Promote and enhance pedestrian scale;
  2. Feature appropriate levels of building articulation, transparency, and design elements, per the standards of this section;
  3. Limit undesirable design elements and promote desirable design elements, as defined in this LDO;
  4. Screen loading and delivery areas and mechanical use areas, including roof top equipment; and
  5. Position primary entrance of a building toward a street.
- C. **Prohibited Design Elements.** Design elements which do not promote high quality development or redevelopment, and of which should avoid facing public streets and civic space areas, are not allowed and shall include the following prohibited design elements:
  1. Large, monotonous, unarticulated blank wall surfaces;
  2. Exposed and untreated block walls;
  3. False fronts;

4. Lack of architectural features; and
5. Lack of change in materials

D. **Required Design Elements.** Design elements that promote a high-quality development or redevelopment include the following required design elements which shall be included for all multifamily buildings subject to this section:

1. Consistent architectural style, detail and trim;
2. Facades which break down large elements of mass and scale where appropriate;
3. Architectural details and articulation;
4. Material changes reflective of function and appropriately placed;
5. Canopies, porches, stoops, roof overhangs;
6. Shade and weather protection for ground floor entrances;
7. Design elements such as cornice lines, columns, arches; and
8. Various fenestration and transparency elements

E. **Building Orientation and Placement.**

1. Multifamily buildings which abut streets shall be required to be oriented parallel to the street.
2. Multifamily buildings shall not be oriented at an angle to the street.
3. Developments with several multifamily buildings shall cluster buildings along streets or internal rights-of-way to allow for enhanced open space and recreation areas within the area of the development.
4. Developments with several multifamily buildings shall ensure no more than sixty (60) percent of the off-street parking area for the entire property is located between the front facade within the front yard of the principal building(s) and the primary abutting street unless the principal building(s) and/or parking lots are screened from view by outparcel development.

F. **Building Facades.** Building form design shall take into account mass, scale, and articulation. Building facades shall be designed with a consistent architectural style,

detail, and trim features. Facades which face a street, shall provide at minimum four (4) of the following elements:

1. A change in plane, such as an offset, reveal or projecting rib. Such plane projections or recesses shall have a width of no less than six (6) inches (columns, planters, arches, voids, etc.);
2. Architectural details such as raised bands and cornices;
3. Integrated planters that utilize landscaped areas for decorative details;
4. Awnings and or arcade;
5. Covered porches, terraces, lanais or balconies intended for private use by residents of the multifamily structure;
6. Shutters;
7. Pillars or posts;
8. Bay windows;
9. Roof eaves of at least three (3) inch wide trim
10. Complementary change in color; and/or
11. Complementary change in material/texture.

G. **Transparency.** Building facades shall be designed to have a minimum transparency, through the use of windows and doors, on ground floor and upper floors. Transparency standards shall apply to all sides of a buildings facing a public and/or private street. Transparency shall not be required for service areas, loading/unloading areas, or those areas not visible from the public and/or private street. The minimum transparency for multifamily buildings is ~~thirty~~ twenty-five (25) percent, unless stated otherwise in this LDO.

H. **Blank Wall/Articulation Standards.** Blank wall area is understood to be an undesirable design feature and shall be limited as follows. Blank wall area standards shall apply to the front and sides of buildings or any portion of a building fronting a residential area or public or private street, and shall comply with the standards below:

1. *Blank wall area* shall be understood to refer to portions of an exterior façade

that does not include windows, doors, columns, pilasters, architectural features greater than one (1) foot in depth, or a substantial material change.

2. Paint shall not be considered a substantial material change.
  3. Blank wall area applies in both a vertical and horizontal direction of the building façade and applies to ground floors and upper floors.
  4. The maximum continuous blank wall area shall be a maximum thirty-five (35) square feet without a break by windows, doors, architectural features greater than one (1) foot in depth, or a substantial material change.
  5. Except as otherwise regulated, the maximum permitted blank wall length for the rear of buildings shall be one-hundred (100) feet, or twenty-five (25) percent of the building length, whichever is less.
- I. **Entrances.** The entrances of a residence along the front façade of a multifamily building are the most highly designed side of a building. A primary facade and main building entry shall face the right-of-way, and additional entrances are encouraged facing local streets, parking lots, plazas and adjacent buildings. Buildings adjacent to public rights-of-way shall have at least one (1) entrance providing access to the right-of-way. This entrance shall remain in operation and not be closed off to residents. Separate entrances to upperstory units shall be prohibited from being visible street rights-of-way. All multifamily development and redevelopment shall provide no less than four (4) of the following items for building entrances:
1. A change in plane indicating a building entrance;
  2. Building wall projection;
  3. Recess of entry at least three (3) feet;
  4. Architectural features and fenestration;
  5. Variety in color, material, texture orienting pedestrians to the building entrance;
  6. Ornamental doors;
  7. Covered entries including awnings, arcade or eave;
  8. Windows;

9. Porches;
10. Arches, columns, stoops, cornices.

**J. Porches/Balconies.**

1. Porches, including covered porches, stoops, awnings, and bay windows and wings may only extend into the front yard up to five (5) feet. Encroachments may be permitted up to fifty (50) percent of the total length of the respective façade.
2. Balconies shall project or recess a minimum of two (2) feet from the façade.

**K. Accessory Structures.** All accessory structures for multifamily buildings and/or developments shall comply with the following standards:

1. Garages, carports, or covered parking areas shall be provided from local streets or alleys. Entrances to parking garages are exempt from this standard and may be accessed from street rights-of-way, alleys or internal courtyards or accesses.
2. Accessory structures shall have similar exterior materials, colors and roof forms as the principal structure.

**L. Miscellaneous Requirements.**

1. All utility equipment (including meters and conduits) attached to a building shall be painted to match the primary surface color of the wall on which it is attached, painted to match accent colors used on the façade, or be blocked from view (where practicable) through the use of landscaping or screens.
2. Downspouts shall be painted to match the primary surface color of the wall on which it is attached, be painted to match accent colors used on the façade, or be constructed of materials that complement the architectural style of the structure.
3. Refuse collection areas shall be distributed evenly throughout multiple building multifamily developments.
4. Roofing materials should complement the color and texture of the building façade.