

ARTICLE SIX. DEFINITIONS.**50-40 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

In addition to the rules of construction provided in Section 1-2 of this Code, the rules and definitions of this Section shall be observed and applied in the interpretation of this Chapter, except when the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- A. In case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this Chapter and any caption or illustration, the text shall control;
- B. The terms “standards” and “guidelines” have different meanings, as follows: Standards mandate the specific course of planning and design action that the applicant must incorporate in its project application. Compliance with standards is mandatory. Statements of standards are indicated by use of the word “shall” in the rule or directive. A failure to meet a mandatory standard may be used as a basis for the city’s denial of a project application. In comparison, “guidelines,” if any, follow the standards and are indicated by the words “may” or “should.” Guidelines are voluntary and not mandatory; however, compliance is strongly encouraged to fulfill the intent of this Chapter. A failure to meet a voluntary guideline cannot be used by the city as a basis for a project denial. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6.)

50-41 DEFINITIONS.

50-41.1 Definitions: A

Accessory agriculture roadside stand. A structure erected for the display and sale of agriculture products grown on the premises and that is subordinate to the primary residential or agricultural use of the premises.

Accessory bed and breakfast. An owner-occupied building designed as a one-family dwelling that provides no more than five guest rooms for lodging accommodations by prior arrangements for compensation. The primary residence in the building or a separate, lawfully existing building located on the same site must be occupied by the building owner on a permanent basis. It may or may not include serving of meals to guests.

Accessory boat dock, residential. A personal use boating structure, subordinate to a primary residential use of property, that is built over or floats upon the water of a lake, river, or stream, and that serves one property owner for mooring boats or as a landing place for marine transport.

Accessory caretaker quarters. A subordinate dwelling unit intended for an employee or owner who looks after or takes charge of goods or property. The unit shall be either inside or attached to a main structure by a common wall. The unit is a complete, independent living facility with provisions for cooking, eating, sanitation and sleeping.

Accessory communications tower for private use. Any structure, subordinate to a primary use of land, that is designed and constructed primarily for the purpose of supporting one or more wireless analog or digital telecommunication facilities, that is located on the ground or anchored to the ground and exceeds 24 feet in height. Such a tower may have a variety of configurations, including a monopole, a lattice tower or a guyed tower.

Accessory day care facility. A private or public establishment licensed by the state that regularly provides, for periods less than 24 hours a day, one or more dependents of employees or users of a business or facility with care, training, supervision, rehabilitation or developmental guidance, for gain or otherwise, while the employees or users are on site for work or other activities related to the principal use of the property. This use is a secondary and subordinate activity to a permitted or approved special use of the property and does not result in additional trips to the site.

Accessory dwelling unit. A subordinate dwelling unit added to, created within, or detached from a one or two family dwelling, located on the same lot or parcel as a primary residential structure and owned by the same owner as the primary residential structure, and providing basic requirements for living, sleeping, cooking, eating, and sanitation, and is constructed on compliant permanent footings or foundation, with permanent connections to public sanitary sewer and water. No recreational vehicle, or structure on a chassis, shall constitute an accessory dwelling unit.

Accessory heliport. An area used or intended to be used for the landing and takeoff of helicopters that is secondary and incidental to, and is operated in support of, a permitted or approved special use on the same property, including operations facilities, such as maintenance, loading, and unloading, storage, fueling or terminal facilities.

Accessory home occupation. A business or occupation incidental and subordinate to the principal residential use. All home occupations must comply with the conditions in Section 50-20.5.F. Examples include but are not limited to: artist's studio; dressmaking; accessory beauty salon or barber shop, office of a physician or dentist for consultation or emergency treatment but not for general professional practice, lawyer, engineer, architect or accountant; teaching, with instruction limited to not more than two pupils at the same time. A home occupation shall not be interpreted to include accessory bed and breakfast, restaurants or tea rooms.

Accessory home share. A habitable bedroom or bedrooms in an owner-occupied dwelling, offered for trade or sale, whether for money or exchange of goods or services, for periods of 29 nights or less.

Accessory recycling collection point. A facility used for the collection and temporary storage of empty beverage containers, aluminum, glass, paper or clothing for recycling purposes conducted totally within an enclosed structure or container, and that is accessory to a permitted or approved special use in the zone district. This definition does not include processing except for can banks that crush cans as they are deposited.

Accessory retail or showroom. Space allocated within an industrial business for the display and/or sales (or donation) of products assembled, manufactured, or processed on site.

Accessory sidewalk dining area. An outdoor eating and drinking area that is generally associated with and subordinate to a permitted or approved special use on the same property and that is, located on a

public sidewalk. This use may include removable tables, chairs, planters, or similar features and equipment.

Accessory solar or geothermal power equipment. Accessory uses and structures that are clearly subordinate in size and use to the primary use and structure on the property, and that are used to reduce energy consumption or to generate energy from non-fossil fuel and non-carbon dioxide emitting sources on the property. These structures and uses may include but are not limited to the following, and may be located at ground level or above or below ground unless specifically limited in this Chapter, provided that they meet all other applicable requirements of this Chapter: solar photovoltaic modules, solar thermal hot water collectors, solar arrays; and geothermal heat pumps, earth tubes, or downhole heat exchangers.

Accessory use or structure. A use or structure subordinate in use, area or purpose to the principal use or structure on the same lot and serving a purpose naturally and normally incidental to the principal use or structure and that is not included in a separate definition of an accessory use or structure in this Chapter. Where an accessory building is attached to the principal building in a substantial manner by a wall or a roof, it shall be considered part of the principal building. An accessory building or use may be permitted on a lot of record that abuts or is separated by a public easement of no more than 25 feet in width to another lot or lots on which the primary use is located, provided all lots are owned by the same owner and none of the parcels are severed, legally sold, conveyed, or used without the other parcels. Examples include but are not limited to: pet houses, storage sheds, swimming pools, garages, accessory uses and structures for energy conservation and renewable energy production, and accessory structures for stormwater management and water conservation. Accessory structures proposed in the Special Flood Hazard Area, as defined within this section, shall be subject to the standards of Section 50-18.1.C.

Accessory vacation dwelling unit. An accessory dwelling unit as defined by this Chapter that is used as a vacation dwelling unit as defined by this Chapter for periods of occupancy from 2 to 29 nights.

Accessory vacation dwelling unit, limited. A dwelling unit, as defined by this Chapter, that is an owner occupied homesteaded property, offered for trade or sale, whether for money or exchange of goods or services, for periods of no less than 2 consecutive nights and no more than 7 consecutive nights, and not exceeding 21 nights in total per year.

Accessory wind power equipment. A small scale accessory wind power generating or distribution system, that is clearly subordinate in size and use to the primary use and structure on the property, and that is used to reduce energy consumption or to generate energy from non-fossil fuel and non-carbon dioxide emitting sources on the property. Accessory wind power equipment is designed to generate no more than 10Kw of energy.

Accessory wireless antenna attached to existing structure. Any wireless service antenna located in or on the roof or upper facade of a structure that is not a telecommunications tower, such as a building, water tower, steeple, silo or utility pole.

Adjacent developed lots facing the same street. Where a dimensional standard is related to dimensions on "adjacent developed lots facing the same street" the measurement shall only include those lots that contain a primary structure and that share a side lot line with the subject property and shall not include corner lots where the primary structure faces a different street. If there is only one adjacent developed lot that fronts the same street, the measure shall refer only to the dimension on that lot. For purposes of this measurement, all contiguous lots in common ownership shall be considered as a single lot, not as separate platted lots.

Adult entertainment establishment. See definition in Chapter 5 of the City Code.

Adult bookstore. See definition in Chapter 5 of the City Code.

Agriculture, community garden. A use in which land managed by a group of individuals is used to grow food or ornamental crops, such as flowers, but not cannabis products, for donation or for use by those cultivating the land and their households. Community gardens may be divided into separate plots for cultivation by one or more individuals or may be farmed collectively by members of the group and may include common areas maintained and used by group members.

Agriculture, farmers market. A recurring event, held outdoors or in another defined place, on designated days and times, where market vendors, consisting of agricultural producers, home processors, and craft producers that manufacture non-food goods by the force of their own labor, are organized for the purpose of selling their products directly to the public. A minimum of 30% of vendors shall be vendors selling food crops.

Agriculture, general. The production or keeping of livestock, dairy animals, dairy products, poultry or poultry products, fur-bearing animals, horticultural or nursery stock, fruit, vegetables, forage, grains,

timber, trees, cannabis products, or bees and apiary products. This definition includes all activities listed under “agriculture, urban.”

Agriculture, urban. An establishment where food or ornamental crops are grown that includes, but is not limited to, growing on the ground, on a rooftop or inside a building, aquaponics, and aquaculture. This does not include cultivation of cannabis products.

Airport boundary. Those lands including the property owned by the city, state, and the United States, and their respective political subdivisions, that are used for aeronautical purposes and are contiguous with the runway and building area facilities. The Duluth International Airport boundaries are illustrated in the Airport Property Map of the approved set of Airport Layout Plans on file in the offices of the Duluth Airport Authority. The Sky Harbor Municipal Airport boundaries are illustrated on Exhibit 50-18.2-2.

Airport elevation. Any structure, object of natural growth, or use of land, which obstructs the air space required for the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off at any airport or restricted landing area or is otherwise hazardous to such landing or taking off. (Minn. Stat. 360.013)

Airport hazard. Any structure, tree, or use of land that obstructs the air space required for, or is otherwise hazardous to, the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off at the airport; and any use of land that is hazardous to persons or property because of its proximity to the airport.

Airport and related facilities. An area of land that is used or intended for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, and includes its buildings and facilities, if any. Accessory uses may include but are not limited to: car rental, aircraft servicing, fueling, or leasing, private aviation clubs or associations, and hotels. The Duluth International Airport lands located in Sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, Township 50, Range 15; Section 6, Township 50, Range 14; and Section 31, Township 51, Range 14 that is used, or intended for use, for the landing and take-off of aircraft, and any appurtenant areas that are used, or intended for use, for airport buildings or other airport facilities or rights of way, together with all airport buildings and facilities located thereon.

Airport Safety Zone. An area subject to land use zoning controls adopted under Minnesota Statutes sections 360.061 to 360.074 if the zoning controls regulate (1) the size or location of buildings, or (2) the density of population. (Minn. Stat. 394.22, Subd. 1(a)).

Airport Zoning Map of the Duluth International Airport. The Duluth International Airport Zoning Map prepared by RS&H, and adopted and attached as Exhibit C of the Duluth International Airport Zoning Ordinance.

Alley. A dedicated public right-of-way not more than 30 feet wide affording a secondary means of access to abutting property and not intended for general traffic circulation.

Alley line. The established side line of an alley easement.

Antenna. A system of electrical conductors that transmit or receive electromagnetic waves or radio frequency or other wireless signals.

Apartment. A part of a building consisting of a room or suite of rooms intended, designed or used as a residence by an individual or a one-family, including full cooking and bathroom facilities for individual use.

Apartment hotel. A building designed for or containing not less than 20 apartments, individual guest rooms or suites and in which may be furnished services ordinarily furnished by hotels, such as drugstores, tea room, barbershop, cigar and newsstands when such uses are located entirely within the building with no separate entrance from the street, and having no sign or display visible from the outside of the building indicating the existence of such use.

Artisan production shop. A building or portion thereof used for the creation of original handmade works of art or craft items by no more than six artists or artisans, either as a principal or accessory use, where the facility includes an area for retail of the art/craft items being produced.

Artisan studio. A building or portion thereof used for the creation of original handmade works of art or craft items by no more than three artists or artisans, either as a principal or accessory use, where the facility includes an area for retail of the art/craft items being produced.

Automobile and light vehicle sales, rental, or storage. The sale, display, lease, rental, or storage of light motor vehicles, including automobiles, vans, light trucks, light trailers, boats, and recreational vehicles. This shall not include salvage operations, scrap operations, vehicle impound yards, or commercial parking lots available for short-term use.

Automobile, repair. An establishment engaged in performing repairs of, automobiles, light vehicles, and small engines. Repair may include all activities or repair or servicing of automobiles allowed in “automobile service”, rebuilding or reconditioning of passenger automobiles, body, frame or fender straightening, dent repair, replacement or repair, painting or rust-proofing, or other similar repair or

servicing of automobiles. Such work excludes commercial wrecking or dismantling, scrap/salvage yards, tire recapping and truck-tractor repair.

Automobile, service. An establishment engaged in performing servicing of automobiles, light vehicles, and small engines. Service may include muffler replacement, oil changing and lubrication, tire repair and replacement except tire recapping, wheel alignment, brake repair, suspension repair, transmission repair and replacement, flushing of radiators, servicing of air conditioners, audio installation, detailing, and other similar activities of light repair or servicing of automobiles. This shall not include car washes, retail sale of automotive supplies, tires, or parts unrelated to repairs being performed on the premises, the retreading or vulcanizing of tires, filling stations, or convenience stores that sell gasoline or lubricating oil.

Automobile and light vehicle impound lot. A facility or area of land devoted principally to the storage of impounded vehicles or recreational vehicles with or without an office on the premises for the release of those types of vehicles.

Average lot depth. The average of the lengths of the two side lot lines of a platted lot. In the case of flag lots (lots where the buildable portion of the lot is connected to a public street by an access or driveway 20 feet wide or less), the length of the access or driveway portion of the lot shall be ignored in measuring either side lot line. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10225, 5-28-2013, § 12; Ord. No. 10366, 4-13-2015, § 5; Ord. No. 10414, 10-12-2015, § 5; Ord. No. 10446, 4-11-2016, § 6; Ord. No. 10563, 4-9-2018, § 3; Ord. No. 10659, 10-28-2019, § 10; Ord. No. 10698, 4-13-2020, § 4; Ord. No. 10777, 11-25-2021, § 11; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-22, § 5; Ord. No. 10799, 3-28-2022, § 3; Ord. No. 10829, 2-13-2023, § 6; Ord. No. 10875, 12-18-2023, § 4; Ord. No. 10875, 12-18-2023, § 5; Ord. No. 10919, 11-25-2024, § 4; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 16)

50-41.2 Definitions: B

Bank. An establishment that provides retail banking, mortgage lending, and financial services to individuals and businesses, and including check-cashing facilities. Accessory uses may include automatic teller machines, offices, and parking.

Base Flood. The flood having a one-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. "Base flood" is synonymous with the term "regional flood" used in Minnesota Rules, part 6120.5000.

Base Flood Elevation (BFE). The elevation of the base flood, regional flood, or one-percent annual chance flood. The term "base flood elevation" is used in the flood insurance study.

Basement. Any area of a structure, including crawl spaces, having its floor or base subgrade below ground level on all sides, regardless of the depth of excavation below ground level.

Bed and breakfast. A building designed as a one-family dwelling and operated as a primary use of land containing habitable units providing up to 12 guest rooms of lodging accommodations by prior arrangements, for compensation. It may or may not include serving of meals to guests and the general public, and the operator need not live inside the dwelling.

Block. An area of land enclosed by four public or dedicated private streets, or by a combination of public or dedicated private streets and a railroad right-of-way or a natural feature such as a lake shore, riverfront or stream.

Block face. All lots abutting both sides of a street (street A) between the nearest two streets that intersect street A.

Bluff. A topographic feature such as a hill, cliff, or embankment having all of the following characteristics:

- A. Part or all of the feature is located in a shoreland area;
- B. The slope rises at least 25 feet above the Ordinary High Water level of the water body or bottom of the bluff;
- C. The grade of the slope from the toe of the bluff to the top of the bluff averages 30 percent or greater.

Bluff, bottom of. The ordinary high water level or the lower point of a horizontal ten foot segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent.

Bluff, top of. The higher point of a horizontal ten feet segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent.

Bluff impact zone. A bluff and land located within 20 feet of a bluff.

Bluff line. The designation of a line to administratively divide the city as above or below the escarpment for purposes of requiring stormwater detention for future development.

Boathouse. A structure designed and used solely for the storage of boats or boating equipment and that is not used for human habitation. Any door or opening exceeding 40 inches in width in a boathouse shall face the water.

Breakaway wall. A wall that is not part of the structural support of the building and is intended through its design and construction to collapse under specific lateral loading forces, without causing damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

Brewery, craft, small. A facility with a capacity to manufacture 3,500 or fewer barrels of alcoholic and nonalcoholic malt liquor, as well as other craft beverages such as hemp beverage products, in a calendar year. A small craft brewery is one that contains less than 7,000 square feet of gross floor area. This definition excludes small breweries operated in conjunction with a bar or restaurant defined herein as an accessory use.

Brewery, craft, large. A facility with a capacity to manufacture more than 3,500 barrels of alcoholic and nonalcoholic malt liquor, as well as other craft beverages such as hemp beverage products, in a calendar year. A large craft brewery is one that contains 7,000 square feet or more of gross floor area.

Buffer area. A strip of land with natural or planted vegetation located between a structure and a side or rear property line intended to separate and partially obstruct the view of two adjacent land uses or properties from one another. A buffer area may include any required screening for the site.

Buffer, naturally vegetative. Land that is used to protect adjacent lands and waters from development and more intensive land uses. The land is kept in a natural state of trees, shrubs, and low ground cover and understory of plants and functions to filter runoff, control sediment and nutrient movement, and protect fish and wildlife habitat.

Build-to zone. The maximum horizontal distance, or a range of maximum horizontal distances, between a front lot line and a building or structure required by this Chapter.

Building. Any structure designed or built for the support, enclosure, shelter or protection of persons, animals, chattels or property of any kind, and when separated by party or division walls without openings, each portion of such building so separated shall be deemed a separate building. For floodplain management and flood hazard purposes, the term “building” shall be used synonymous with “structure” as defined in this section.

Building material sales. An establishment engaged in the storage, distribution, and sale of building materials such as lumber, brick, tile, cement, insulation, floor covering, lighting, plumbing supplies, electrical supplies, cabinetry and roofing materials. Accessory uses may include repair or delivery services and outside sale of plants and gardening supplies.

Bulk storage not listed elsewhere. An establishment engaged in the storage of oils, lubricants, grains, mineral products or other commodities not listed separately as specific types of warehousing, wholesaling or storage.

Bus or rail transit station. A facility or structure where bus transit or rail transit vehicles stop to provide transportation services to the public. Accessory uses can include convenience retail or restaurants.

Business, art, or vocational school. A school, other than a college, that provides specialized training and education beyond the high school level, principally in the business, commercial or vocational arts, that does not provide lodging or dwelling units for students or faculty, and that has programs that typically result in the awarding of a certificate.

Business park support services. An establishment primarily engaged in rendering services to business establishments on a fee or contract basis, such as advertising and mailing, consulting services, protective services, equipment rental, leasing and financial services. Uses must be incidental to and supportive of business park uses and shall not include activities that are primarily retail in nature and devoted to the sale of consumer goods. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10414, 10-12-2015, § 6; Ord. No. 10919, 11-25-2024, §5; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, §17; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, §18)

50-41.3 Definitions: C

Car wash (primary use) A building containing facilities for washing one or more motor vehicles using steam cleaning or other mechanical devices. This definition includes self-service or automated car wash establishments. This definition does not include garages and filling stations where the washing of automobiles is only incidental or accessory to the business.

Cemetery or mausoleum Land used or dedicated to the burial of the dead or the storage of cremated remains in a columbaria, and including necessary sales and maintenance facilities.

Channel A natural or artificial depression of perceptible extent with a definite bed and banks to confine and conduct flowing water either continuously or periodically.

Club or lodge (private) A building or portion of a building or premises owned or operated by a corporation, association, person or persons for a social, educational or recreational purpose, but not primarily for profit or to render a service that is customarily carried on as a business. This category includes fraternities and sororities.

Coastal A Zone A special flood hazard area subject to the potential for breaking wave heights of greater than or equal to 1.5 feet, but less than 3 feet. The area will be identified on a FIRM as Zone AE, and located between the inland limit of Zone VE and the Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA).

Coastal High Hazard Area An area of special flood hazard extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast, and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources.

Co-housing facility A residential development that combines individual owned dwelling units with smaller or partial kitchens and a larger community kitchen and dining room intended for communal use on a regular basis, and in which all residents agree to share in the provision of regular communal services such as cooking meals or providing child care.

Co-location The use of an existing tower or structure to support antennae for the provision of wireless services. A replacement tower that is constructed on the same site as an existing tower will be considered a co-location as long as the new tower is no taller than the old tower and that the old tower is removed in a reasonably short time frame after the new tower is constructed.

Coldwater river Rivers including trout streams and their tributaries.

Commercial impracticability or commercially impracticable The inability to perform an act on terms that are reasonable in commerce; the cause or occurrence of which could not have been reasonably anticipated or foreseen and that jeopardizes the financial efficacy of the project. The inability to achieve a satisfactory financial return on investment or profit, standing alone, shall not deem a situation to be commercially impracticable and shall not render an act or the terms of an agreement commercially impracticable.

Commercial support services A facility or area of land where commercial services such as cooking and cooking supplies, printing and photocopying, publishing, engraving, and other uses designed to support commercial activities in the vicinity, provided that such services are not listed separately as a permitted of special use in this Chapter.

Common open space A portion of a development permanently set aside to preserve elements of the natural landscape for public or private use, which will not be developed or subdivided and is either owned in common by the individual owners in the development or by a permanently established management entity. Common open space does not include the area within 25 feet of any structure, any impervious surface, or the area between buildings within an individual cluster of buildings when the development is designed using clustered compact lots or clustered units or sites to create and preserve green space, such as in a conservation subdivision, planned unit development, or resort.

Common plan of development or sale A contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities are planned to occur at different times on different schedules under one plan. For redevelopment projects, contiguous includes parcels separated by a right-of-way.

Composting The controlled microbial degradation of organic waste to yield a humus-like product.

Confined animal feeding operation A facility, area, or place where the feeding of livestock, poultry, pigs, or small animals takes place for commercial purposes in lots, pens, ponds, sheds or buildings where food is supplied primarily by means other than grazing, foraging, or other natural means.

Construction debris Waste building materials, packaging and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair and demolition of buildings and roads.

Contractor's shop and storage yard. A lot or portion of a lot or parcel used to store and maintain construction equipment and other materials and facilities customarily required in the building trade by a construction contractor. This definition includes architects, engineers, surveyors' construction offices and shops, real estate sign placement service, and showroom and shops for the display and sale of electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, sheet metal and other material in connection with contracting services.

Convention or event center. A facility specially designed to host conferences, exhibitions, events, large meetings, seminars and training facilities, which may be associated with a hotel or motel.

Cottage home park. A residential development consisting of two or more one-family dwellings with a common open space or amenity area.

Critical Facilities. Buildings and structures that contain essential facilities and services necessary for emergency response and recovery, or that pose a substantial risk to the public in the event of failure, disruption of function, or damage by flooding. Examples include (1) hospitals and health care facilities having surgery or emergency treatment facilities; (2) fire, rescue, ambulance, and police stations and emergency vehicle garages; (3) designated emergency shelters; (4) designated emergency preparedness, communication, and operation centers and other facilities required for emergency response.

Critical root radius. An area around a tree measured with a radius of one foot for every in. dia. of the tree, which is generally the area of soil that must remain undisturbed to ensure long-term viability of the tree.

Cutoff angle. For purposes of exterior lighting regulations, the angle formed by a line drawn from the direction of light rays at the light source and a line perpendicular to the ground from the light source above from which no light is emitted. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10659, 10-28-2019, §11; Ord. No. 10799, 3-28-2022, §5; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 19)

50-41.4 Definitions: D

Data center. An establishment primarily involved in the compiling, storage, conversion or analysis and maintenance of documents, records, and other types of information in digital form.

Daycare facility. A facility that provides accommodations for persons of any age who receive custodial care for less than 24 hours by individual other than parents or guardians, relatives by blood, marriage, or adoption, and in a place other than the home of the person cared for.

Decorative fence. A powder coated steel fence, solid core ornamental fence, decorative wood fence, or fence of similar construction or appearance, but not including a snow fence, chain link or highway guard rail.

Demolition debris. Solid waste resulting from the demolition of buildings, roads and other man-made structures including concrete, brick, bituminous concrete, untreated wood, masonry, glass, trees, rock and plastic building parts. It does not include asbestos wastes, appliances, furniture or household refuse.

Dense urban screen. Continuous screening wall, berm, fence, or row of planting at least six feet tall, with screening material designed to provide 75 percent opacity one year after planting along the full required height and length of the screening buffer.

Design storm. A rainfall event used in the analysis and design of drainage facilities. See the engineering guidelines for the current rainfall data.

Detention. The temporary storage of drainage water.

Deteriorated. A building or component of a building shall be deemed to have deteriorated when its function has been so impaired by natural forces including but not limited to weathering or decay that it needs to be replaced to restore its functionality.

Developable area. All land within a zone district not occupied by streets and public rights-of-way.

Development. The construction of a building or structure, any clearing, grading, excavation or other movement of land, or the division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels. Within flood plain districts, development is defined as any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to: buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, or storage of equipment or materials.

Diameter at breast height (DBH). The primary method of measuring the diameter of a tree trunk. Diameter is measured in inches 54 inches above the ground. If the tree splits into multiple trunks at a height below 54 inches, but above the ground, the diameter is measured at the highest point beneath the split.

Direct illumination. Illumination by light sources that are effectively visible, either directly or through a translucent material, as a part of the sign and illuminating outward.

Discharge. The discharge of any pollutant into the waters of the state from any point source.

Discharge rate. The rate at which drainage water is released from a specific site and expressed as a volume per unit of time, such as cubic feet per second.

Discharge volume. The volume of drainage water discharged from a site from a single rainfall event, expressed as cubic feet or acre-feet.

Distillery, craft. A facility that manufactures distilled spirits, as defined by Minn. Stat. § 340A.301, as well as other craft beverages such as hemp beverage products, with a capacity to manufacture 40,000 or fewer proof gallons in a calendar year. A small craft distillery is one that contains less than 7,000 square feet of gross floor area. A large craft distillery is one that contains 7,000 square feet or more of gross floor area.

District. Any section of the city within which the zoning regulations are uniform.

DNR. Minnesota department of natural resources.

Drainage basin. The tributary area through which drainage water is collected, regulated, transported and discharged to receiving waters.

Drainage system. Any system that conveys stormwater or surface water including sewers culverts, ditches, and swales.

Drainage water. Stormwater, snow melt, surface and irrigation water, water from footing drains and sump pumps or other drains approved by the city.

Drip line. A vertical line extending from the outermost edge of a tree's canopy to the ground.

Dry cleaning or laundry plant. An establishment where laundry or dry cleaning is performed in bulk and primarily for commercial and institutional customers. This use does not include facilities where the public drops off or picks up dry cleaning or laundry that is cleaned off-site.

Duluth Airport Authority (“DAA”). A political subdivision of the State of Minnesota established pursuant to Minnesota Laws of 1969, Chapter 577 for the purpose of controlling and managing City of Duluth airport facilities. DAA has the exclusive power to receive, control, and order the expenditure of any and all moneys and funds in the control and management of the City of Duluth airport facilities.

Duluth International Airport Joint Airport Zoning Board (“JAZB”). The joint airport zoning board established pursuant to the authority conferred by Minnesota Statutes Sections 360.061-360.074 comprised of appointed representatives of the St. Louis County, City of Duluth, City of Hermantown, Canosia Township, and the City of Rice Lake.

Dwelling. Any building or portion of a building that is designed for or used for residential purposes and provides basic requirements for living, sleeping, cooking, eating, and sanitation, and is constructed on compliant and permanent footings or foundation, with permanent connections to public sanitary sewer and water. No recreational vehicle, or structure on a chassis, shall constitute a dwelling, except as allowed and provided for in manufactured home parks or recreational vehicle parks.

Dwelling unit. A habitable unit in a dwelling providing sleeping, cooking, eating, living and sanitation facilities designed for and occupied by one family only, occupied by the owner or by another family for periods of occupancy exceeding one week, and that is physically separated from any other habitable unit that may be located in the same building.

Dwelling unit, efficiency. A dwelling unit in a multi-family, townhouse, or two-family dwelling, which is not an accessory dwelling unit, and which consists of one principal room, exclusive of bathroom, kitchen, hallway, closets or dining alcove directly off the principal room, providing that such dining alcove does not exceed 125 square feet in area.

Dwelling, cottage. A one-family dwelling unit which does not include any accessory dwelling units, and providing basic requirements for living, sleeping, cooking, eating, and sanitation, constructed on compliant footings or foundation, with permanent connections to public sanitary sewer and water, and which is located within a cottage housing development. No recreational vehicle, or structure on a chassis, shall constitute a cottage dwelling. A dwelling, cottage, must contain at least 200 square feet of enclosed space, but may not exceed 1200 square feet.

Dwelling, live-work. A dwelling unit containing an integrated living and working space that is intended to function predominately as business workspace with incidental residential use. The unit typically has a store-front, with the workspace, public display area, or show-room on the ground floor of the unit and the majority of the residence located either on the upper floor if there are two floors, or the back of the unit if there is only one floor.

Dwelling, multi-family. A building containing three or more dwelling units, none of which are accessory dwelling units, that is not a townhouse.

Dwelling, one-family. A building containing one dwelling unit designed for exclusive occupancy by one family and occupied exclusively by one family, except that the structure may also contain an accessory dwelling unit where expressly authorized, and that is constructed on compliant and permanent footings or foundation. This definition includes a manufactured or modular home that meets this definition and the requirements of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. Sections 5401 et. seq.).

Dwelling, townhouse. A structure containing three to eight dwelling units, none of which are accessory dwelling units, each sharing two vertical party or division walls, except that each end unit will have a single party or division wall, with no dwelling units sharing a common horizontal surface.

Dwelling, two-family. A building containing two dwelling units, neither of which is an accessory dwelling unit, designed for exclusive occupancy by two families and occupied exclusively by two families. A twin home is a two-family dwelling where each unit shares a common vertical wall and where a side lot line exists on the common wall extending to the front and rear lot lines, but is on two separate lots.

(Ord. No. 10041, 8-16-2010, § 13; Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10225, 5-28-2013, § 13; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 5; Ord. No. 10338, 11-24-2014, §4; Ord. No. 10414, 10-12-2015, § 7; Ord. No. 10659, 10-28-2019, §12; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5, Ord. No. 10829, 2-13-2023, §7; Ord. No. 10919, 11-25-2024, §6)

50-41.5 Definitions: E

Electric power or heat generation plant. A facility or area that generates electricity from mechanical power produced by the firing of fossil fuels, or that produces heat or steam for space heating and other similar uses.

Electric power transmission line or substation. A conductor of electric energy and associated facilities designed for and capable of operation at a nominal voltage of more than 46 kilovolts and less than 200 kilovolts. Associated facilities shall include insulators, towers and terminals operating at a nominal voltage greater than 46 kilovolts and less than 200 kilovolts, as well as substations related to those facilities.

Elevation (flood). In the context of flood related regulation, that elevation above mean sea level referenced in the National Geodetic Datum of 1929.

Encroachment lines. In the context of flood related regulation, the lateral limits or lines drawn along each side and generally parallel to a stream or another body of water, which delineates the floodway and within which the flood carrying capacity of the stream or other body of water is to be preserved. Their location, if along a stream, should be such that the floodway between them will effectively carry and discharge a flood not less than the regional flood.

Equal degree of encroachment. In the context of flood related regulation, a method of determining the location of encroachment lines so that flood plain lands on both sides of a stream are capable of conveying a proportionate share of flood flows. This is determined by considering the effect of encroachment on the hydraulic efficiency of the flood plain along both sides of a stream for a significant reach. A method of determining the location of floodway boundaries so that floodplain lands on both sides of a stream are capable of conveying a proportionate share of flood flows.

Erosion. Any process that wears away the surface of the land by the action of water, wind, ice or gravity. Erosion can be accelerated by the activities of man and nature.

Erosion and sediment control plan. A plan that is designed to minimize the accelerated erosion and sediment runoff at a site during construction activities.

Erosion and sedimentation practice specifications, or practice. The management procedures, techniques and methods adopted by the city to adequately and effectively control soil erosion and sedimentation incident to land disturbing activity within the city. The specifications are primarily based upon the MPCA handbook entitled *Protecting Water Quality in Urban Areas*, published in October of 1989, but may be varied on a case by case basis to effectively control erosion and sedimentation.

Established residential neighborhood in a built up urban area (ERN BUUA). In the context of airport regulation, an area that, if it existed on or before January 1, 1978 (for low density structures and lots) and an area that, if it existed on or before July 2, 1979 (for all other land uses) shall be considered a conforming use that shall not be prohibited except as provided in this Chapter. The following criteria shall be applied and considered in determining what constitutes an ERN BUUA:

- A. Location of the airport;
- B. Nature of the terrain within safety zones A and B;
- C. Existing land uses and character of the neighborhood around the airport;
- D. Population of the community;
- E. That the average population density in all areas within one mile of any point on a runway shall be equal to or greater than one dwelling unit per acre;
- F. Population density near the airport compared with population density in other areas of the community;
- G. The age, and the economic, political, and social stability of the neighborhood and the community as a whole;
- H. The proximity of supporting school, commercial, religious, transportation and other facilities, and their degree of integration with residential land uses;
- I. Presence or absence of public utilities including, but not limited to, public sanitary sewer system, electric service and gas mains;
- J. Whether or not the factors listed in subparagraphs H and I above tend to make the community surrounding the airport a self sufficient unit;
- K. Whether the areas within one mile of the perimeter of the airport property would be considered primarily residential in character;

L. Other material factors deemed relevant in distinguishing the area in question as established, residential, urban, and built up.

Excepted parcel (airport overlay). In the context of airport regulation, any parcel of land exempted from any or all of the regulations imposed by Section 50-18.2, Airport Overlay, because the joint airport zoning board determines that the otherwise applicable requirements or proscriptions are not reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of Section 50-18.2 by reason of flying operations expected to be conducted, the location of the airport, the nature of the terrain within the airport hazard area, existing land uses and character of the neighborhood around the airport, the uses to which the property to be zoned are planned and adaptable and the social and economic costs of restricting land uses versus benefits derived from application of Section 50-18.2, as authorized by MSA 360.066, subd. 1.

Expression line. A decorative, three-dimensional, linear element, horizontal or vertical, protruding or indented at least one inch from the exterior facade of a building and extending the length or height of the building with minimal interruptions from doors and windows. This element typically delineates the floors or stories of a building. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 20)

50-41.6 Definitions: F

FAA. A federal agency charged with regulating air commerce to promote its safety and development; encourage and develop civil aviation, air traffic control, and air navigation; and promoting the development of a national system of airports.

Family. One or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption, including foster children, and in addition to and including five other unrelated persons occupying a dwelling and living as a single housekeeping unit.

FCC. The federal communications commission or its duly designated and authorized successor agency.

Filling station. A building, structure or land used primarily for the dispensing, sale or offering for sale at retail of any automobile fuels, oils or accessories, including lubrication of automobiles and replacement or installation of minor parts and accessories but not including major repair work such as motor replacement, body and fender repair or spray painting. This use may include the retail sales of convenience goods.

A. A small filling station is one that contains no more than 6 pumps or 12 fueling points.

B. A large filling station is one that contains more than 6 pumps or 12 fueling points.

FEMA. Federal Emergency Management Agency

Flood. A temporary rise in the stream flow or water surface elevation from any source that results in the inundation of normally dry land areas.

Flood fringe. The portion of the floodplain located outside the floodway. This includes areas mapped as one-percent annual chance floodplain.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). An official map on which the Federal Insurance Administrator has delineated both the special flood hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. A FIRM that has been made available digitally is called a Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM).

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) The study referenced in Section 50-18.1.A.2(b), which is an examination, evaluation and determination of flood hazards, and if appropriate, corresponding surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation, and determination of mudslide (i.e. mudflow) and/or flood-related erosion hazards.

Flood plain. The beds, channel and the areas adjoining a wetland, lake or watercourse, or other source which have been or hereafter may be inundated by the base flood.

Floodproofing. A combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to properties and structures subject to flooding, primarily for the reduction or elimination of flood damages.

Floodway. The bed of a wetland or lake and the channel of a watercourse and those portions of the adjoining floodplain which must be reserved to carry or store the base flood discharge without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one-half foot.

Food processing. The sorting, treatment, or preparation of food products for sale or as inputs to further processing, but not including the slaughtering of small or large livestock or confined animal feeding operations. Examples include: creamery operations and poultry processing.

Forest management. Tree removal from a predominantly forested area with the intent of maintaining forest cover and not resulting in conversion to non-forest, such as grassy fields or pavement. Clearcuts constitute forest management as long as tree cover returns by planting or natural regeneration.

Frontage. All the property on one side of a street between two streets that intersect such street (crossing or terminating), measured along the line of the street, or if the street is dead ended, then all of the property abutting on one between a street that intersects such street and the dead end of the street.

Funeral home or crematorium. An establishment providing services such as preparing the human dead for burial, cremating human remains, and arranging and managing funerals. This use does not include cemeteries and columbaria. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 6; Ord. No. 10563, 4-9-2018, § 4; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 21; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 22)

50-41.7 Definitions: G

Garage, private. An accessory building designed or used for the storage only of not more than four motor driven vehicles. Not more than one of the vehicles may be a commercial vehicle, and that vehicle shall not exceed a two ton capacity.

Garden material sales. An establishment engaged in the storage, distribution, and sale of garden materials, including a green house used to raise flowers, shrubs and plant for sale. Accessory uses may include delivery services.

General development waters. Includes lakes that are generally large, deep lakes or lakes of varying sizes and depths with high levels and mixes of existing development at the time of the original classification. These lakes often are extensively used for recreation. General development rivers include agriculture and urban rivers. This class has a wide variety of existing land and recreational land use characteristics.

General floodplain. Those floodplains designated on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps referenced in Section 50-18.1.A.2(b), that are not VE or V zones, and that do not have a delineated floodway.

Golf course. A tract of land laid out with at least 9 holes for playing the game of golf and improved with tees, greens, fairways and hazards. This use does not include a miniature golf course. A golf course may include a driving range, clubhouse, restaurant, putting and chipping greens, maintenance facilities, and shelters as accessory uses.

Government building or public safety facility. A building or facility housing the offices or operations of a department or agency of the city, county, state, or federal government, or a quasi-governmental, including but not limited to a building or facility that provides fire protection, police protection, or emergency medical services (not including a hospital or medical or dental clinic), together with incidental storage and maintenance of necessary vehicles.

Grade.

- A. For buildings having walls adjoining one street only, the elevation of the sidewalk at the center of the wall adjoining the street;
- B. For buildings having walls adjoining more than one street, the average of the elevations of the sidewalk at the centers of all walls adjoining the streets;
- C. For buildings having no wall adjoining a street, the average level of the finished surface of the ground adjacent to the exterior walls of the building;
- D. Any wall approximately parallel to and not more than 15 feet from a street line is to be considered as adjoining the street. Where sidewalks do not exist the grade shall be as established by the office of the city engineer.

Grocery store. A retail sales establishment selling primarily food and beverages for off-site preparation and consumption that maintains a sizable inventory of fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh-cut meats, or fresh seafood or specialize in the sale of one type of food item. This use may also include sales of personal convenience and small household goods.

A. A small grocery store is one that contains less than 15,000 square feet of gross floor area;

B. A large grocery store is one that contains 15,000 square feet or more of gross floor area.

Groundwater management area. A geographically defined area that may be particularly sensitive in terms of groundwater quantity or quality by nature of the use or movement of groundwater, or the relationship between groundwater and surface water, and where special management measures are deemed necessary to protect groundwater and surface water resources.

Groundwater recharge volume. The portion of the water quality volume used to maintain groundwater recharge rates at development sites. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10225, 5-28-2013, § 14; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 7; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 23)

50-41.8 Definitions: H

Habitable room. Any room used or intended to be used for sleeping, cooking, living or eating purposes, excluding such enclosed spaces as closets, pantries, bath or toilet facilities, service rooms, corridors, laundries, unfinished attics, foyers, storage space, utility rooms or similar spaces.

Habitable unit. Any habitable room or group of habitable rooms that provide sleeping facilities alone or in combination with required cooking, eating or living facilities.

Hardship. The property in question cannot be put to reasonable use under existing regulations and the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property and not created by the landowner. Economic considerations alone shall not constitute a hardship.

Hazardous waste. Any refuse, sludge or other waste material or combinations of refuse, sludge or other waste material in solid, semisolid, liquid or contained gaseous form that because of its quality, concentration, or chemical, physical or infectious characteristics may:

A. Cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness; or

B. Pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed. Categories of hazardous waste materials include, but are not limited to: explosives, flammables, oxidizers, poisons, irritants and corrosives. Hazardous waste does not include: source, special nuclear or by-product material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Height of building. The vertical distance at the center of the principal front of a building, measured from the grade on that front to the highest point of a flat roof or to the deck line of a mansard roof or to the average height of the highest gable or of a mean height level between eaves and hip or gambrel roof.

Height of tower or structure. The vertical distance measured from the pre-existing grade level to the highest point on the tower or structure, even if said highest point is an antenna or lightening protection device.

Height of wall or fence. The vertical distance measured from finished grade on the highest side of the fence or wall to the top of the fence or wall.

Historic preservation district. A contiguous collection or group of lands, parcels, sites, structures, buildings or objects that is determined to be historically, culturally or architecturally significant as a whole and has been locally designated as a historic preservation district pursuant to Section 50-18.3 of this Chapter.

Historic preservation guidelines. The established criteria by which any proposed changes, including architectural or site modifications to a designated historic preservation district or landmark shall be judged.

Historic preservation landmark. Any individual property, parcel, place, building, structure, work of art or other object that has been determined to be historically, culturally or architecturally significant and has been locally designated as a historic preservation landmark pursuant to Section 50-18.3 of this Chapter.

Hosting platform. Any entity, website, smartphone application or other intermediary used to facilitate reservations of vacation dwelling units, accessory vacation dwelling units, or accessory home shares within the city.

Hotel or motel. A building or series of buildings operated as a commercial establishment providing accommodations to the transient traveling public in habitable units for compensation, and including both short-stay and extended stay facilities, and that may offer customarily incidental services. A hotel must have a minimum of five separate habitable units, and must have a reception desk staffed at all times.

Hospital. An institution or place where sick or injured in-patients are given medical or surgical care, at either public or private expense, but excluding a nursing home and excluding institutions where persons suffering from permanent types of illness, injury, deformity or deficiency or age are given care and treatment on a prolonged or permanent basis. Hospital services include the care and treatment of non-ambulatory patients, intensive care units and acute care services. Outpatient surgery and other treatment centers where overnight stays are provided are not hospitals for the purposes of this definition. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10446, 4-11-2016, §7; Ord. No. 10563, 4-9-2018, § 5; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5)

50-41.9 Definitions: I

Impaired waters. Those streams, rivers and lakes that currently do not meet their designated use classification and associated water quality standards under the federal Clean Water Act.

Impervious surface. A constructed hard surface that either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil and causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate than prior to development. Examples include but are not limited to: conventional roofs, concrete/bituminous surfaces, stone pavers and gravel surfaces.

Indirect illumination. Illumination that is derived from light sources that are not visible to intended viewers of the sign but which illuminate the sign by being directed at the sign's reflective face.

Indoor entertainment facility. A facility providing entertainment or recreation activities where all activities take place within enclosed structures, but not including a theater or a convention or event center. Examples include but are not limited to: bowling alleys, trampoline centers, video arcades, climbing wall centers, paintball or laser tag centers.

Industrial Cannabis Operations. A facility used for adult-use cannabis production that could include manufacturing, wholesaling, and/or indoor cultivation of cannabis and hemp.

Industrial support services. A facility or area where industrial services such as heating, ventilation, cooking and refrigeration supplies, motion picture production, plumbing supplies, exposition building or center, and other uses designed to support industrial or heavy commercial activities in the vicinity, provided that such services are not listed separately as a permitted of special use in this Chapter.

Industrial stormwater permit. A national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit issued to a commercial industry or group of industries that regulates the pollutant levels associated with industrial stormwater discharges or specifies on-site pollution control strategies.

Industrial use. The use of land or buildings for the production, manufacture, warehousing, storage, or transfer of goods, products, commodities or other wholesale items.

Infill development. Land development that occurs within designated areas based on local land use, watershed, or utility plans where the surrounding area is generally developed, and where the site or area is either vacant or has previously been used for another purpose.

Infiltration. The process of percolating stormwater into the subsoil.

Infiltration facility. Any structure or device designed to infiltrate retained water to the subsurface. These facilities may be above grade or below grade.

Institution. An established organization or foundation, especially one dedicated to education, medicine, public service, or culture, or an organization founded for a specific purpose, such as a hospital, synagogue, college, service club, or charitable entity.

Institutional support use. An establishment primarily engaged in rendering services to institutions on a fee or contract basis, such as advertising and mailing, consulting services, protective services, equipment rental, leasing and financial services. Uses must be incidental to and supportive of institutional uses and shall not include activities that are primarily retail in nature and devoted to the sale of consumer goods.

Interim outdoor living site. An interim outdoor living site is a facility that provides short-term, temporary shelter, such as an outdoor encampment, temporary small houses, or overnight parking lot, and which typically does not require payment of monetary charges.

(Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4, Ord. No. 10816, 8-22-2022, § 3; Ord. No. 10919, 11-25-2024, §7)

50-41.10 Definitions: J

Junk or salvage service. A facility or area for storing, keeping, selling, dismantling or salvaging scrap or discarded material or equipment, including ore and elevators. The term “scrap or discarded materials” includes but is not limited to metal, paper, rags, tires, bottles or inoperable or wrecked motor vehicles, motor vehicle parts, machinery, structural steel, equipment and appliances. This definition includes indoor facilities for recycling recoverable resources, such as newspapers, magazines, books and other paper products, glass, metal cans and other products, to return such products to a condition in which they may again be used for production.

Jurisdictional wetland. An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)

50-41.11 Definitions: K

Kennel. Any facility, public or private, where domesticated animals are temporarily boarded, groomed, and sold for compensation, including animal day care/spa facilities, but not including zoos or veterinary hospitals. This use also includes public facilities for the temporary impoundment of animals. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)

50-41.12 Definitions: L

Land development. A human-made change to, or construction on, the land surface that changes its runoff characteristics.

Land disturbing activity. Land change that may result in soil erosion from water or wind and the movement of sediments into or upon waters or lands of or downstream of the city, including clearing, grading, excavating, transporting and filling of land. Land disturbing activity does not include:

- A. Minor land disturbing activities such as home gardens and individual home landscaping, repairs and maintenance work;
- B. Construction, installation and maintenance of electric, telephone and cable television utility lines or individual service connection to these utilities;
- C. Installation of septic tank lines or drainage fields unless included in an overall plan for a land disturbance activity relating to construction of a building to be served by the septic tank system;
- D. Tilling, planting or harvesting of agricultural, horticultural or silviculture crops;
- E. Installation of fence, sign, telephone and electric poles and other kinds of posts or poles;
- F. Emergency work to protect life, limb or property and emergency repairs, except if the land disturbing activity would have required an approved erosion and sediment control plan except for the emergency, then the land area disturbed shall be shaped and stabilized in accordance with the requirements of Section 50-18.1.E.

Landing area. The area of the airport used for the landing, taking off, or taxiing of aircraft.

Land owner. The legal or beneficial owner of land, including those holding the right to purchase or lease the land, or any other person holding proprietary rights in the land.

Landscape plan. An accurate scale drawing that indicates the major natural features of a site and all proposed buildings, structures and site improvements in sufficient detail to allow the evaluation of impacts on natural systems and other aspects of the development.

Laundromat. An establishment providing home type (large institutional or commercial type) washing, drying or ironing machines for use on the premises.

Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA). A line shown on a Flood Insurance Rate Map to indicate the inland limit of the 1.5-ft breaking wave height during the base flood.

Link. For purposes of the connectivity index described in Section 50-23.3, links are stretches of road that connect “nodes” as defined below. Street stub-outs are considered as links, but temporary dead-end streets internal to a development, private streets in gated sections or alleys shall not be counted as links. Every road segment that connects a node in the development to the external street network shall be counted as a link in the index calculation.

Loading space. A space within the principal building or on the same lot as the principal, providing for the off street standing, loading or unloading of trucks and trailers.

Local watershed. All the water that drains to a natural waterway located primarily within the city.

Lot. Land occupied or intended for occupancy by a use permitted in this Chapter, including one main building together with its accessory buildings, and the yards and parking spaces required by this Chapter, and having its principal frontage upon a street or upon an officially approved place. For the purposes of this Chapter, the term “lot” may include two or more lots of record that are contiguous or separated only by a public easement not exceeding 25 feet in width, are owned by the same owner and where none of the parcels can be severed or legally sold, conveyed or used without the other parcels by virtue of a legally binding agreement that runs with the land and is recorded in the office of the county recorder. If at any time any parcel that had been recognized as part of any lot by reason of such proximity, ownership and agreement are severed, legally sold, conveyed or used separately from the other parcel or parcels making up said lot, the parcel so severed, legally sold, conveyed or used shall henceforth not be considered part of the lot, any uses relying on its status as part of the lot shall become nonconforming and the provision of Section 50-38 shall not be applicable to any such use.

Lot, corner. A lot abutting upon two or more streets at their intersection.

Lot, double frontage. A lot having a frontage on two streets as distinguished from a corner lot.

Lot, flag. A lot so shaped and designed that the main building site is setback from the street and that portion of the lot providing access has a width less than 25 percent of the lot width at its greatest point.

Lot, front. The area of a lot that abuts a public street is the front of the lot. For corner lots, the shortest side fronting upon a street shall be considered the front of the lot unless structures exist on the lot. In that case, the frontage shall be established by the orientation of the buildings, or of the principle entrance if

building orientation does not clearly indicate lot frontage. For corner lots, where no other method determines conclusively the front of a lot, the city engineer shall select one frontage on the basis of traffic flow on adjacent streets, so that the lot is considered to front on the street with the greatest traffic flow.

Lot frontage. Frontage shall be the dimension of the lot line at the street, except where the lot line at the street is not straight, in which case the frontage shall be the dimension across the lot at the required front yard line.

Lot of record. A parcel of land that is part of a subdivision, the map of which has been recorded by the county recorder or a parcel of land described by metes and bounds the description of which has been recorded by the county recorder.

Lots on the block face. When a dimensional standard is calculated based on a dimension measured for "lots on the block face" the measurement shall apply only to (a) developed lots on the same side of the street between the next two intervening side streets, and (b) lots that face developed streets (not to streets shown on a plat or map that have not been constructed). For purposes of this measurement, all contiguous lots in common ownership shall be considered as a single lot (not as separate platted lots).

Low density residential lot. A single lot located in an area that is zoned for one-family or two-family residences and in which the predominant land use is such type of residences.

Low density residential structure. A one-family or two-family home.

Lowest floor. The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). In the context of flood related regulation, an unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor; provided, that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of 44 CFR § 60.3.

(Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 8; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 24; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 25)

50-41.13 Definitions: M

Maintenance agreement. A legally recorded document that acts as a property deed restriction, and that provides for long-term maintenance of stormwater BMPs.

Major system. In the context of stormwater management, one of the 42 major watercourses, or tributaries, as described by the Urban Study for Duluth Area Stormwater Flooding March 1976. Includes Lester/Amity Creeks, Tischer Creek, Brewery, Oregon, Miller, Coffee, Kingsbury, Knowlton, Stewart, Sargent, Mission, Buckingham, Chester and other systems as designated by the city.

Manufactured home. A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term “manufactured home” does not include the term “recreational vehicle.”

Manufacturing, light. A facility or area used for the assembly, fabrication, or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily do not create noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare, or health or safety hazards outside of the building or lot where such assembly, fabrication, or processing takes place, where such processes are housed entirely within a building, or where the area occupied by outside operations or storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, or processing does not exceed 25 percent of the floor area of buildings on the lot. Examples include but are not limited to: food processing, electronic equipment assembly and manufacturing and assembly from finished products.

Manufacturing, heavy. An establishment or use of land that includes the assembly, fabrication, or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily have impacts on the environment or significant impacts on the use and enjoyment of surrounding properties in terms of noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare, or health or safety hazards, or any use where the area occupied by outside storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, or processing exceeds 25 percent of the floor area of buildings on the lot. Examples include but are not limited to: battery, chemicals, machinery, and plastics manufacture; mushroom plant; batching plant; beverage bottling and distribution, packaging plant; slaughterhouse; and rendering plant. This use does not include any use that meets the definition of “light manufacturing” or “hazardous or special manufacturing”, or a solid waste disposal site, or a yard waste compost facility, and does not include any use that constitutes a public nuisance.

Manufacturing, hazardous or special. An establishment or business that uses hazardous inputs or creates hazardous by-products in the course of manufacturing, assembly, fabrication, or materials treatment, or that uses manufacturing, assembly, fabrication, or treatment processes that create potentially hazardous impacts on the environment or surrounding areas. Examples include but are not limited to: acid manufacture; acid bulk storage; cement, lime, gypsum or plaster of paris manufacture; central concrete mixing or concrete proportioning plant; distillation, manufacture or refining of bones, coal or tar asphalt; explosives, manufacture or storage; fat, grease, lard or tallow rendering or refining; fertilizer manufacture from organic matter; glue or size manufacture; paper manufacture; petroleum or asphalt refining or storage; smelting of tin, copper, zinc or iron ores; storage or processing raw hides or fur; and stockyards or slaughter of animals other than poultry.

Marina or yacht club. A facility or area for storing, servicing, fueling, berthing, securing, and launching of private pleasure craft that may include the sale of fuel and incidental supplies for the boat owners, crews and guests. Accessory uses may include restaurants and bars.

Maximum extent practicable (MEP). The statutory standard (33 U.S.C. 1342(p)(3)(B)(iii)) that establishes the level of pollutant reductions that an Owner or Operator of Regulated MS4s must achieve. The USEPA has intentionally not provided a precise definition of MEP to allow maximum flexibility in MS4 permitting. The pollutant reductions that represent MEP may be different for each Small MS4, given the unique local hydrologic and geologic concerns that may exist and the differing possible pollutant control strategies. Therefore, each permittee will determine appropriate BMPs to satisfy each of the six minimum control measures through an evaluative process. The USEPA envisions application of the MEP standard as an iterative process.

Medical cannabis. Medical cannabis shall mean the definition for same provided under Minn. Stat. § 152.22, subd. 6, as may be amended.

Medical cannabis distribution facility. Medical cannabis distribution facility shall mean a facility operated by a medical cannabis manufacturer for purposes of distributing medical cannabis in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 152.29, subd. 1(a), as may be amended, and the requirements of the commissioner of the Minnesota department of health or other applicable state law.

Medical cannabis laboratory. Medical cannabis laboratory shall mean an independent laboratory permitted to test medical cannabis produced by a medical cannabis manufacturer in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 152.29, subd. 1(b), as may be amended, and the requirements of the commissioner of the Minnesota department of health or other applicable state law.

Medical cannabis manufacturer. Medical cannabis manufacturer shall mean the definition for same provided under Minn. Stat. § 152.22, subd. 7, as may be amended.

Medical or dental clinic. An establishment where patients who are not lodged overnight are admitted for examination and treatment by a group of licensed health care practitioners, dentists, or licensed health care practitioners and dentists in practice together.

Migratory bird flight path. The zone of jurisdictional land located from the Lake Superior and Saint Louis River shorelines to no less than two miles inland or where Skyline Parkway runs parallel to the shoreline, an area from the shoreline to Skyline Parkway or two miles inland, whichever is greater.

Mining, extraction and storage. The extraction, removal or the processing of sand, clay, loam, gravel, rock, top soil or fill materials (exclusive of sod) for commercial purposes, except as a necessary incident to any construction on the premises.

Mini-storage or self-service storage facility. A facility with controlled access that contains varying sizes of individual, compartmentalized and controlled access units or lockers leased or rented on individual leases for varying periods of time where individuals can store and remove their own personal property. This use can be located in an individual building or within multiple buildings. This use is not intended for auction, commercial, wholesale or retail sales or miscellaneous or garage sales, except if specifically approved as an integral part of mixed use self-service storage facility.

Minor system. Those other city drainage systems that empty into the major system, which mainly consists of storm sewer, culverts and smaller open channel sections such as swales and small ditches.

Minor utilities. A piece or system of service equipment or infrastructure that is necessary to support development within the immediate vicinity and that involves only small structures. Employees typically are not located at the site on an ongoing basis. Examples include but are not limited to: electric transformer stations, gas regulator stations, telephone exchange buildings, cable equipment boxes, district power distribution lines, electric utility boxes, and well, water and sewer pumping stations.

Mixed use structure. A structure containing a mix of the four major land uses, as defined by the permitted use table in UDC Section 50-19 (residential, public, commercial, and industrial). To be considered a mixed use structure, a structure must have at least 20 percent of its total square footage used by one of the four major land uses that is different than its principal use.

Modify or modification. When used in the context of wireless telecommunications facility, the addition, removal or change of any of the physical and visually discernable components or aspects of a wireless facility, such as antennas, cabling, equipment shelters, landscaping, fencing, utility feeds, changing the color or materials of any visually discernable components, vehicular access and parking. Adding a new wireless carrier or service provider to a telecommunications tower or telecommunications site as a co-location is a modification. A modification shall not include the replacement of any components of a wireless facility where the replacement is identical to the component being replaced or for any matters that involve the normal repair and maintenance of a wireless facility without adding, removing or changing anything, nor does it include upgrades or changeouts of equipment or antennas where the replacement is of similar size and appearance.

Motor vehicle. Any self propelled vehicle designed primarily for transportation of person or goods. It does not include an electric personal wheelchair.

Municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels or storm drains):

- A. Owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial water, stormwater or other wastes. Including special district, or similar entity or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the CWA (33 U. S. C.1288) that discharges to waters of the United States;
- B. Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
- C. That is not a combined sewer; and
- D. That is not part of a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) as defined in 40 CFR 122.2.

MPCA. Minnesota pollution control agency.

Museum, library, or art gallery. A facility or area that is open to the public and is intended for the acquisition, preservation, study, and exhibition of works of artistic, historical or scientific value. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10225, 5-28-2013, § 15; Ord. No. 10285, 3-19-2014, § 9; Ord. No. 10367, 4-27-2015, § 3; Ord. No. 10461, 7-11-2016, §4; Ord. No. 10744, 4-26-2021, § 2)

50-41.14 Definitions: N

Nameplate. An accessory sign containing only the name of the occupant of a dwelling and an occupation permitted in that zone district.

National register of historic places. The nation's official list of properties worthy of preservation designated by the United States department of the interior, national park service.

Natural environment waters. Include rivers that are forest previously classified remote, forest, transitional river segments, and tributary river segments that flow into natural environment lakes. The types and intensities of recreational uses within this class vary widely.

Natural resource inventory. An inventory that identifies and maps the critical natural resources on a site, including the following resources: existing land cover of vegetative types; streams; wetlands; lakes; significant, sensitive, threatened, or endangered species; critical wildlife habitat; soil types; geologic hazards (floodplains, unstable slopes, highly erodible soils); and mineral resources.

Natural state. Where vegetation exists in a wild state, where the condition of the ground and shrub layers and floristic composition of the plant community is substantially unaltered by humans, where restoration has been consistent with Commissioner 525 Guidelines or local government approved plans, or where the vegetation has been unaltered for at least one growing season.

Navigable airspace. Airspace at and above the minimum flight altitudes prescribed in the FARs including airspace needed for safe takeoff and landing (refer to FAR Part 77 and 91).

New Construction. In the context of floodplain requirements, structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of an adopted floodplain management regulation and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

NIER. Non-ionizing electromagnetic radiation.

Node. For purposes of the connectivity index described in Section 50-23.3, a node exists at each street intersection and cul-de-sac head within the development subject to the connectivity index.

Nonconforming use. Any building or land lawfully occupied by a use at the time of passage of this Chapter or an amendment to this Chapter that does not conform after the passage of this Chapter or amendment to this Chapter with the use regulations of the district in which it is situated.

Nonpoint source pollution. Pollution from any source other than from any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyances, and shall include but not be limited to pollutants from agricultural, silvicultural, mining, construction, subsurface disposal and urban runoff sources.

Nonprecision instrument runway. A runway having an existing or planned straight-in instrument approach procedure utilizing air navigation facilities with only horizontal guidance, and for which no precision approach facilities are planned or indicated on an approved planning document.

Non-structural measure. When used in the context of stormwater control, a stormwater control and treatment technique that uses natural processes, restoration or enhancement of natural systems, or design approaches to control runoff or reduce pollutant levels. Such measures are used in lieu of or to supplement structural practices on a land development site. Non-structural measures include but are not limited to: minimization or disconnection of impervious surfaces; development design that reduces the rate and volume of runoff; restoration or enhancement of natural areas such as riparian areas, wetlands, and forests; and on-lot practices such as rain barrels, cisterns, and vegetated areas that intercept roof and driveway runoff.

NPDES. National pollution discharge elimination system.

Nursing home. Licensed facilities primarily engaged in providing shelter, food and intermediate or long term nursing and health related care for individuals, including assisted living facilities, but not including hospitals, clinics or similar institutions devoted primarily to the diagnosis and treatment of the sick or injured. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 26.)

50-41.15 Definitions: O

Obstruction. In the context of flood protection, any dam, wall, wharf, embankment, levee, dike, pile, abutment, projection, excavation, channel modification, culvert, building, wire, fence, stockpile, refuse, fill, structure or matter in, along, across or projecting into any channel, watercourse or regulatory flood plain that may impede, retard or change the direction of the flow of water, either in itself or by catching or collecting debris carried by such water.

Office. A facility where business or philanthropic activities are conducted in an office environment. Examples include but are not limited to: administration of business, civic, religious, or charitable organizations, financial services processing, and radio or television broadcasting stations or studio.

Off-site facility. As used in stormwater management, a stormwater best management practice located outside the subject property boundary described in the permit application for land development activity.

On-site facility. As used in stormwater management, a stormwater best management practice located within the subject property boundary described in the permit application for land development activity.

Ordinary high water mark. A mark delineating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape. The ordinary high water mark is commonly that point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial.

Outdoor entertainment or recreation use. An outdoor facility whose main purpose is to provide entertainment or recreation, with or without charge, including amusement parks, batting cages, drive-in theatres, golf driving ranges, miniature golf courses, go-cart tracks, target sport ranges, skating rinks, skateboard parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, sports courts, water parks, zoological parks and similar uses, but not including auto or horse race tracks.

Overflow parking area. A parking lot that provides extra parking for a site or neighborhood, intended for areas where there is a need for parking over the allowed maximum, or a need for stand-alone parking to address parking in a neighborhood or district, over and above existing primary use parking lots in the area.

Owner. In the context of stormwater management, the owner or owners of the freehold or a lesser estate of a premises, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or other person, firm or corporation in control of a piece of land. Owner also refers to, in the appropriate context: (a) any other person authorized to act as the agent for the owner, (b) any person who submits a stormwater management concept or design plan for approval or requests issuance of a permit, when required, authorizing land development to commence, and (c) any person responsible for complying with an approved stormwater management design plan. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10868, 12-11-2023, § 18)

50-41.16 Definitions: P

Park, playground or forest reserve. A facility or area for recreational, cultural, or aesthetic use owned or operated by a public or quasi-public agency and available to the general public. This definition may include but is not limited to: parks, public lawns, active and passive recreation areas, playgrounds, water courses and wooded areas. Facilities may also include fountains, swimming pools, pavilions and similar public facilities within their boundaries.

Parking area. An open unoccupied space used or required for use for parking of motor vehicles exclusively and in which no gasoline or vehicular accessories are sold or no other business is conducted and no fees are charged.

Parking lot. An off-street area used for the temporary storage of operable and street legal motor vehicles. Includes parking spaces, aisles, drives and landscaped areas, and provides vehicular access to public street.

Parking space. An off-street space available for the parking of one motor vehicle.

Parking structure. A structure designed to accommodate vehicular parking spaces that are fully or partially enclosed or located on the deck surface of a building. This definition includes parking garages, deck parking, and underground or under-building parking areas.

Patterned wall. Walls with a patterned or textured look to mimic stone or similar design or patterned to create reveals and shadow lines. No blank concrete or wood timber walls shall be permitted.

Permanent stormwater best management practice (BMP). A stormwater best management practice (BMP) that will be operational after the construction phase of a project and that is designed to become a permanent part of the site for the purposes of managing stormwater runoff.

Personal services and repair (small). An establishment containing less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and generally having no more than ten employees on site at one time, that is engaged in the provision of informational, instructional, personal improvement, personal care, and similar services. Examples include but are not limited to: catering establishments, custom dressmaking, film processing, garment printing and embroidering, licensed massage salons, optical and optician services, real estate sign placement service, service and repair establishments, sun tan centers, bicycle rental, small craft rental, tailor shops, and laundromats.

Personal services and repair (large). An establishment, containing 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and generally having more than 10 employees on site at one time, that is engaged in the provision of informational, instructional, personal improvement, personal care, and similar services.

Personal wireless facility. See wireless telecommunications facilities.

Personal wireless service or PWS. This term, which is sometimes also referred to as "personal telecommunications service" or "PCS," shall have the same meaning as defined and used in the 1996 Federal Telecommunications Act.

Place. An open, unoccupied space or thoroughfare other than a street or alley permanently reserved as a principal means of access to abutting property.

Place of public or semi-public assembly. A place of public or semi-public assembly is defined as a building or portions of a building used for the gathering of persons for such purposes as deliberation, education, instruction, worship, entertainment, amusement, drinking, dining or awaiting transportation.

Planned future airport improvement. As used in Section 50-18.2, Airport Overlay, those proposed future airport developments that are indicated on a planning document having the approval of the federal aviation administration, Minnesota department of transportation, office of aeronautics, and Duluth airport authority.

Power transmission line. A conductor of electric energy and associated facilities designed for and capable of operation at a nominal voltage of more than 46 kilovolts and less than 200 kilovolts. Associated facilities shall include insulators, towers and terminals operating at a nominal voltage greater than 46 kilovolts and less than 200 kilovolts.

Precision instrument runway. A runway having an existing instrument approach procedure utilizing an Instrument Landing System (ILS), a Microwave Landing System (MLS), or a Precision Approach Radar (PAR), a Transponder Landing System (TLS), or a satellite-based system capable of operating to the same level of precision guidance provided by the other included systems. Also, a runway for which such a precision instrument approach system is Planned.

Premises. A lot together with all buildings and structures existing on the lot.

Preschool. An establishment licensed by the state to provide a systematic organization or arrangement of activities, personnel, materials, and equipment in a facility to promote the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of a child, who is at least 33 months old but who has not yet attended the first day of kindergarten, in the absence of the parent for a period of less than 24 hours a day.

Principle use or structure. All uses or structures that are not accessory uses or structures.

Pylon. A decorative extension above the roof line of a building that is designed as an integral part of the building and that is constructed of masonry or is completely enclosed by the same material as the main exterior walls of the building. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10338, 11-24-2014, § 5; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5)

50-41.17 Definitions: Q

No definitions. (Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)

50-41.18 Definitions: R

R-district parking area. The area on a lot in a residential district where vehicles may be parked, unless a front yard parking variance has been approved pursuant to Section 50-37.9. The parking area shall be limited to an area that may include one side yard, the rear yard, and the following additional areas of the lot:

- A. On a lot, other than a corner lot, containing a dwelling unit without garage, the parking area also includes the area between one side lot line and the nearest wall of the dwelling unit and its extension to the improved street abutting the front yard;
- B. On a lot, other than a corner lot, containing a dwelling unit with a detached garage, the parking area also includes the area between the closest side lot line to the side wall of the dwelling unit nearest the garage and its extension to the improved street abutting the front yard;
- C. On a lot, other than a corner lot, containing a dwelling unit with attached garage, the parking area also includes the area between the closest side lot line and the common wall separating the dwelling unit and the garage and its extension to the improved street abutting the front yard;
- D. On any corner lot, any parking area in addition to the rear yard and one side yard may be granted by variance as provided in Section 50-37.9.

Radio or television broadcasting tower. A structure that is designed and constructed primarily for the purpose of supporting one or more antennae that transmit information (audio, video, data, but not personal wireless communications) in the form of electromagnetic signals to one or more receivers without the use of a physical connection between the transmitting and receiving source. The term includes but is not limited to: lattice towers, guyed towers, and monopole towers. The term does not include a wireless communication tower, clock tower, bell tower, steeple, light pole, power pole, water tower, or similar structure that incidentally supports antennae.

Railroad yard or shipyard and related facilities. An area of land, a portion of which is covered by a system of tracks, that provides for the making up of trains by one or more railroads or private industry concerns including roadhouses and repair and overhaul shops. Necessary functions of a railroad yard include but are not limited to the classifying, switching, storing, assembling, distributing, consolidating, repairing, weighing, or transferring of cars, trains, engines, locomotives, and rolling stock. In addition, this use includes a facility or area containing wharves, docks, or other facilities used in connection with water transportation or navigation, and for the repair, service, sales or storage of boats.

Rainfall events. See the engineering guidelines for the current rainfall data.

Reach. As used in the context of flood prevention, the hydraulic engineering term used to describe longitudinal segments of a stream or river influenced by a natural or manmade obstruction. In an urban area, the segment of a stream or river between two consecutive bridge crossings would typically constitute a reach.

Receiving stream or channel. The body of water or conveyance into which stormwater runoff is discharged.

Receiving waters. Lake Superior, St. Louis River, St. Louis Bay and the 16 trout streams, which are the major receivers of city drainage.

Recharge. The replenishment of underground water reserves.

Recreational vehicle. A vehicle that is built on a single chassis, is 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection, is designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck, and is designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. For the purposes of this chapter, the term recreational vehicle shall be synonymous with the term "travel trailer/travel vehicle."

Recycling collection point (primary use). A facility used for the collection and temporary storage of empty beverage containers, aluminum, glass, paper or clothing for recycling purposes conducted totally within an enclosed structure or container. This definition does not include processing except for can banks that crush cans as they are deposited.

Redevelopment. A change to previously existing, improved property, including but not limited to the demolition or building of structures, filling, grading, paving or excavating, but excluding ordinary maintenance activities. For purposes of the erosion and stormwater controls in Section 50-18.1.E, redevelopment does not include remodeling of buildings on the existing footprint, resurfacing of paved areas, and exterior changes or improvements that do not result in the disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre of land.

Regional flood. A flood that is representative of large floods known to have occurred generally in the state and reasonably characteristic of what can be expected to occur on an average frequency in the magnitude of a one percent chance or 100-year recurrence interval. Regional flood is synonymous with the term "base flood" used in a flood insurance study.

Regional stormwater. Stormwater BMPs designed to control stormwater runoff from multiple properties or a particular land use district, and where the owners or developers of the individual properties may participate in the provision of land, financing, design, construction or maintenance of the facility.

Regulatory flood protection elevation. An elevation corresponding with a point not less than two feet above the water surface profile associated with the regional flood plus any increases in flood stages attributable to encroachments on the flood plain. Within an A-O zone, as shown on the flood insurance rate map adopted in Section 18.1.A.2(b), an elevation above the highest adjacent grade of an existing or proposed structure equivalent to two feet plus the depth number in feet specified on the flood insurance rate map. An elevation that is two feet above the elevation of the base flood plus any increases in the water surface elevation caused by encroachments on the floodplain that result from designation of a floodway. These increases in water surface elevations are typically identified in the Floodway Data Tables, found in the Flood Insurance Study.

Religious assembly. A facility or area for people to gather together for public worship, religious training or other religious activities including a church, temple, mosque, synagogue, convent, monastery or other structure, together with its accessory structures, including a parsonage or rectory. This use does not include home meetings or other religious activities conducted in a privately occupied residence. Accessory uses may include meeting rooms and childcare provided for persons while they are attending assembly functions.

Repairs and maintenance. When used in the context of wireless telecommunications, the replacement of any components of a wireless facility where the replacement is identical to the component being replaced or for any matters that involve the normal repair and maintenance of a wireless facility without the addition, removal or change of any of the physical or visually discernable components or aspects of a wireless facility that will add to the visible appearance of the facility as originally permitted. When used in the context of repairing or reconstructing damaged or deteriorated non-conforming structures, the proposed repair or reconstruction must be of the same volume or smaller as the original structure, be located in the same footprint as the original structure, and have fewer adverse impacts on the surrounding properties as the original structure.

Repetitive Loss. Flood related damages sustained by a structure on two separate occasions during a ten year period for which the cost of repairs at the time of each such flood event on the average equals or exceeds 25% of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Research laboratory. A facility or area for conducting scientific research, investigation, testing, or experimentation, but not including facilities for the manufacture or sale of products, except as incidental to the main purpose of the laboratory. This definition also includes labs for the manufacture of dentures and prostheses.

Residential care facility/assisted living facility. A facility that houses persons, on a 24 hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other reasons, live in a supervised residential environment which provides personal care services. The occupants are capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical assistance from staff. This classification shall include, but not be limited to, the following; residential board and care facilities, assisted living facilities, halfway houses, group homes, congregate care facilities, social rehabilitation facilities, alcohol and drug abuse centers, and convalescent facilities. Sober houses do not constitute a residential care facility.

Responsible party. In the context of stormwater regulations, any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, company, corporation, association, joint stock company, trust, estate, governmental entity, or any other legal entity or their legal representatives, agents or assigns, that is named on a stormwater maintenance agreement as responsible for long-term operation and maintenance of one or more stormwater BMPs.

Restaurant (no drive-in/drive-through). A commercial establishment, including but not limited to taverns and brewpubs, where food and beverages are prepared, served, and consumed primarily within the principal building.

Restaurant (with drive-in/drive-through). A commercial establishment, including but not limited to taverns and brewpubs, where customers order and are served their food and beverages at a walk-up counter or in a motor vehicle to be consumed on or off the site.

Retail store. A facility or area for the retail sale of general merchandise or food to the general public for direct consumption and not for wholesale. Typical general merchandise includes clothing and other apparel, equipment for hobbies or sports, gifts, flowers and household plants, dry goods, convenience and specialty foods, toys, furniture, books and stationery, pets, drugs, hardware and similar consumer goods. This definition does not include retail uses defined elsewhere in this Chapter.

A. A small retail store is one that contains less than 15,000 square feet of gross floor area;

B. A large retail store is one that contains 15,000 square feet or more of gross floor area.

Riding stable. An establishment or area for keeping horses or other domestic animals other than for the property owner's personal use, for compensation, hire, boarding, riding or show.

Rooming house. A building containing habitable units and that provide sleeping or living accommodations by prior arrangements, regardless of whether those accommodations are offered for compensation or not, and for definite time periods. Some or all bathroom and/or kitchen facilities, where provided, are for use on a communal basis. Individual habitable units are not owned by occupants, except that a habitable unit may be occupied by the owner of the building.

Runway. Any existing or planned paved surface or turf covered area of the airport that is specifically designated and used or planned to be used for the aircraft landing and takeoff. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10047, 8-30-2010 § 5; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 10; Ord. No. 10338, 11-24-2014, § 6; Ord. No. 10746, 5-10-2021, § 6; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 27; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 28.)

50-41.19 Definitions: S

Safe Routes to School Program. A federal program under Title I, Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) of 2005, Public Law 109-59, and adopted by the State of Minnesota in Minnesota Statutes, Section 174.40.

Safe Routes to School Program Funding. A State of Minnesota account consisting of state bond proceeds and other funds as appropriated to be expended on eligible costs of a Safe Routes to School Program project receiving financial assistance. Assistance may be offered for acquisition of land or permanent easements, predesign, design, preliminary and final engineering, environmental analysis, construction and reconstruction of publicly owned infrastructure with a useful life of at least ten years that provides for non-motorized to and from a school; preparation of land for which a route to school is established, including demolition of structures and remediation of any hazardous conditions on the land; payment for the unpaid principal on debt issued by a political subdivision for a Safe Route to School project; and for any other eligible activity described in Minnesota Statutes, Section 174.40, as amended.

Safe Routes to School Administration. The Minnesota Department of Transportation program requirements and competitive process for financial assistance following Minnesota Statutes, Section 174.40, establishing criteria to evaluate capital improvements of transportation infrastructure that improves safety and encourages non-motorized transportation to and from a school.

Safe Routes to School Infrastructure. A safe and appealing non-motorized means of transportation to and from a school consistent with the Safe Routes to School Program and the Safe Routes to School Administration criteria and guidelines.

School, elementary. An public or private establishment providing educational services from kindergarten or Grade 1 through Grade 5, or from kindergarten or first grade through Grade 8, or some combination of those included years, together with incidental sports and outdoor activity areas.

School, middle or high. A public or private establishment providing educational services from Grade 6 through Grade 12, or from Grade 6 through 8, or from Grade 9 through Grade 12, or some combination of those included years, together with incidental sports and outdoor activity areas.

Seasonal camp or cabin. A facility containing one or more tent sites or cabins that is offered for use on short-term during defined seasons of the year, for compensation, and that may include accessory facilities such as showers, laundries or cooking and dining facilities.

Sediment. Solid mineral or organic material that, in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its original site by air, water, gravity or ice and has been deposited at another location.

Sedimentation. The process or action of depositing sediment that is determined to have been caused by erosion.

Setback. The minimum horizontal distance between a lot line and a building or structure required by this Chapter.

Shore impact zone. Land located between the ordinary high water level of public waters and a line parallel to it at a setback of 50 percent of the required structure setback, but not less than 50 feet.

Shoreland. Lands within 1,000 feet of a lake or within 300 feet of a river and its floodplain, as shown on the NR-O map. The limits of shorelands may be less than the above limits whenever the waters involved are bounded by topographic divides that extend landward from the waters for lesser distances and when approved by the commissioner.

Sidewalk. A paved surface located in the public right of way and used as a pedestrian walkway.

Sidewalk café. An outdoor dining area located within the public right of way in front or adjoining a restaurant or other eating and drinking establishment.

Sign. Any letter, word, symbol, model, printed, projected or affixed device, poster, picture, reading matter or representation in the nature of an advertisement, announcement, direction or informative device including its structure or component parts, which is more than one square foot in area and is located outdoors or is affixed to the interior or exterior of a window or door, or is displayed within 12 inches of a window intended for viewing from the exterior of the building. A sign shall not include (a) temporary parks and recreation signs permitted pursuant to Chapter 35 of the City Code, or (b) overhead banners and devices regulated under Article III of Chapter 45 of the City Code, or (c) any street name sign, public directional, utility or transportation sign, or motor vehicle traffic signs of any kind when officially placed, or to advertising or other information affixed to any motor vehicle, provided that such vehicle's primary use is not as a stationary advertising device, or (d) any inscription on any publicly owned building when the inscription is incorporated into the architectural design as a permanent feature.

Sign, A-frame. A sign ordinarily in the shape of the letter “A,” or some variation thereof, that is displayed on the ground, not permanently attached, and usually two-sided.

Sign, agricultural identification. A sign describing an agricultural use that includes the name of the farm and/or the products grown on-site.

Sign, animated. A sign that uses movement or change of lighting to depict action or to create a special effect or scene. Animated signs do not include electronic message signs.

Sign, attention getting. Flags, pennants, streamers and similar devices or ornamentations designated for the purpose of attracting attention. Flags of nations, states, and cities, or fraternal, religious and civic organizations, permanent commercial flags, or temporary holiday decorations are not considered attention getting devices.

Sign, awning. A sign that is printed or displayed upon an awning. An awning is a roof-like cover designed for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, which projects from a wall or roof of a structure over a window, walkway or door, with no supports that extend to the ground.

Sign, balloons. Balloons or inflated devices used as a means of directing attention to a business or service offered.

Sign, banner. A sign that is printed or displayed upon flexible material with or without frames.

Sign, banner-exhibition. A sign that is printed or displayed upon flexible material with or without frames in conjunction with a special exhibit for an educational facility, government building, museum, library or art gallery, or religious assembly.

Sign, billboard. A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, event or other activity that is sold, offered or conducted other than on the premises where the sign is located.

Sign, building directory. A sign that serves as common or collective classification for a group of persons or businesses operating in the same building or on the same lot. A building directory sign may name the persons or businesses included, but carry no other advertising matter.

Sign, canopy. A sign that is printed or displayed upon a canopy. A canopy is a roofed structure constructed of fabric or other material placed to extend outward from the building and supported both by the structure and by supports that extend to the ground directly under the canopy.

Sign, construction. A temporary sign that identifies an architect, contractor, subcontractor and/or material supplier participating in construction on the property on which the sign is located and which may identify the proposed use for the property.

Sign, community event. Temporary signs that announce community events and activities, including the activities of religious assemblies, social clubs or similar groups, or special events such as fairs, rummage sales and garage sales.

Sign, directional-parking lot. A sign that identifies parking lot entrances and exits, driveway intersections, drive-through lanes, and features of a similar nature.

Sign, electronic display screen. A sign, or portion of a sign, that displays electronic video via television screens, plasma screens, digital screens, flat screens, LED screens, video boards, and holographic displays.

Sign, electronic message. Any sign, or portion of a sign, that uses changing lights to form a sign message or messages in text or image form where the sequence of messages and the rate of change is electronically programmed and can be modified by electronic processes. Time/temperature signs are not considered electronic message signs.

Sign, flashing. A sign which contains an intermittent or sequential flashing light source used primarily to attract attention. Flashing signs do not include electronic message signs.

Sign, freestanding. A sign that is placed on or supported by the ground, independent of the principal structure on the lot. Freestanding signs may be either pole or monument signs.

Sign, freestanding monument. A freestanding sign where the base of the sign structure is on the ground or up to a maximum of 24 inches above ground. The monument base must be designed as an integral part of the sign structure. The width of the top of the sign structure can be no more than 120 percent of the width of the base.

Sign, freestanding pole. A freestanding sign that is affixed, attached or erected on one or two poles that is not itself an integral part of the sign.

Sign, ghost. A painted wall sign that remains from an earlier time or advertises the use of a building that provides evidence of the history of the use of the building or activities of the community. A ghost sign is not considered an off-premises sign.

Sign, government information sign. Traffic signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, signs regulating vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or designating or giving direction to streets, schools, historic sites or public buildings, and temporary emergency signs.

Sign, home occupation. A sign identifying a home occupation or permitted accessory use on the premises.

Sign, illumination types.

A. Gooseneck reflector. Lighting designed for mounting above or to the side of signs with a long, shepherd hook-shaped arm to hold fixtures at a distance from the area of illumination;

B. Illumination, external. Lighting of a sign where lighting components are outside the sign structure and light is directed at the sign face;

C. Illumination, internal. Lighting of a sign constructed so that all lighting components are internal and illumination occurs as lighting is diffused through the sign face surfaces.

Sign, marquee. A permanent roof-like sign structure constructed over a building entry, with no supports extending to the ground, where a changeable message area is part of the vertical sign fascia.

Sign, memorial plaque. A sign, tablet or plaque memorializing a historic person, event, structure or site.

Sign, menuboard. A device that lists items for sale at an establishment with drive-through facilities.

Sign, moving. A sign that, in whole or in part, rotates, elevates or in any way alters position or geometry. Moving signs do not include clocks.

Sign, nameplate. A sign that is affixed flat against a wall of a building or imprinted into the wall of a building that designates the name of the building or the name and profession of one who resides or occupies space in the building.

Sign, noncommercial. A sign advocating action on a public issue or recommending a candidate for public office.

Sign, off-premises. A sign that directs attention to a business, product, service or entertainment not conducted, sold or offered upon the premises where the sign is located.

Sign, on-premises. A sign that directs attention to the name of the building or the name of the building management firm or to a business, principal product, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.

Sign, parking lot information. Signs that provide information on the operation of a parking lot, such as "No Parking" or "Unauthorized users shall be towed."

Sign, political. Any sign that directs attention to an issue in an election or to either the name of a candidate running for election to a public office or the name of the office for which he is a candidate, or both.

Sign, portable. A sign whose principal supporting structure is intended, by design and construction, to rest upon the ground for support and may be easily moved or relocated for reuse. Portable signs include, but are not limited to, signs mounted upon a trailer, wheeled carrier or other non-motorized mobile structure, with wheels or with wheels removed. Portable signs do not include A-frame signs.

Sign, projecting. A sign that is attached to a structure that extends beyond the surface of the structure to which it is attached.

Sign, property identification/management. An accessory sign containing only messages related to the identification or management of the property where the sign is located, including but not limited to signs identifying entrances, exits, parking areas or hazardous areas, prohibiting trespassing, or information about limits on property use.

Sign, property identification. A sign identifying the property management company or apartment complex name of a multi-family dwelling.

Sign, public information. Signs within an educational facility, cemetery or mausoleum, museum, library or art gallery, and park, playground or forest reserve property that provide information on the use of the facility, such as directional signs, trailhead locations and information kiosks.

Sign, public assembly bulletin board. A bulletin board accessory to and located on the same property as a religious assembly or educational use listed in Table 50-19.8 that identifies the name of the institution and the dates and times of events related to that institution to which some or all of the public are invited. These signs are allowed where electronic message signs are allowed, and are subject to the same regulations and standards.

Sign, readerboard. A sign or portion of a sign face that allows for the creation of messages by physical manipulation of simple block letters, but not including an electronic message sign or electronic billboard. These signs are allowed where electronic message signs are allowed, and are subject to the same regulations and standards.

Sign, real estate. A sign advertising the real estate upon which the sign is located as being for rent, lease or sale. A real estate sign can also advertise an open house.

Sign, roof. A sign that is wholly erected, constructed or maintained above the roof structure or parapet of any building with the principal support attached to the roof structure.

Sign, scoreboard. A sign that records and displays the score of a game and may include such information as the name of the field or home team and advertising.

Sign, snipe. An off-premises sign painted, pasted or otherwise affixed to any tree, rock, retaining wall, fence, utility pole, hydrant, bridge, sidewalk, curb or street, bench or trash receptacle. Logos and labels located on mechanical equipment, recycling bins, trash containers or dumpsters, which are part of the equipment as manufactured and/or installed, are not snipe signs.

Sign, temporary off-premises. A temporary sign that advertises a business, commodity, service, event or other activity that is sold, offered or conducted other than on the premises where the sign is located, or is sold, offered or conducted on the premises only incidentally, if at all.

Sign, under-awning. A sign that is attached to and mounted under an awning.

Sign, under-canopy. A sign that is attached to and mounted under a canopy.

Sign, wall. A sign that is mounted flat against or painted on a wall, and projects no more than 12 inches from the wall of a structure with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the face of the wall. Wall sign does not include window sign. For the purposes of this definition, a fence is not considered a wall and wall signs are prohibited mounted on fences.

Sign, window. A sign that is attached to, placed upon, printed on the interior or exterior of a window or door of a building, or displayed within 12 inches of a window intended for viewing from the exterior of such a building. A window sign may be either permanent or temporary. Window clings are considered a window sign and subject to all window sign regulations.

Site. A parcel or several adjoining parcels of land under common ownership. For purposes of the natural resources overlay district, this definition is limited to apply to any parcel of land upon which work requiring a permit under this Chapter is to be performed, and includes any adjacent lands owned by the owner of the subject parcel on the date of application for any permit and any lands adjacent to the subject parcel that were owned by the same person owning the subject parcel as of January 1, 1980.

Site plan. An accurate scale drawing that indicates the major features of a proposed development in sufficient detail to allow the evaluation of the land planning, building design and other aspects of the development, and meeting all requirements of the UDC application manual.

Slope. An incline from the horizontal expressed in an arithmetic ratio of horizontal magnitude to vertical magnitude (e.g., slope = 3:1 = 3 feet horizontal to 1 feet vertical).

Sober house. A dwelling unit occupied by persons that are in recovery from chemical dependency and considered handicapped under the Federal Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988. It provides a non-institutional residential environment in which the residents willingly subject themselves to written rules and conditions, including prohibition of alcohol and drug use (except for prescription medications obtained and used under medical supervision), intended to encourage and sustain their recovery. The residents of a sober house share kitchen and bathroom facilities and other common areas of the unit. Sober houses do not provide on-site supportive services to residents, such as mental health services; clinical rehabilitation services; social services; medical, dental, nutritional and other health care services; financial management services; legal services; vocational services; and other similar supportive services.

Solar, geothermal or biomass power facility (primary use). Uses and structures that are used to reduce energy consumption or to generate energy from non-fossil fuel and non-carbon dioxide emitting sources on the property. These structures and uses may include but are not limited to the following: solar panels (photovoltaic and hot water), heat exchanges, biomass firing equipment, piping, and other transfer mechanisms, controls and related structural support for transporting and storing collected energy from solar, geothermal, or biomass energy systems. These structures and uses may be located at ground level or above or below ground unless specifically limited in this Chapter, provided that they meet all other applicable requirements of this Chapter.

Solid land. Any land that is neither a wetland nor located in a floodway.

Solid waste. As defined in MSA 116.06, Subd. 22, and also including medical wastes and petroleum contaminated soils.

Solid waste disposal or processing facility. Any tract or parcel of land, including any constructed facility that is designed or operated for the purpose of disposing of solid waste on or in the land, at which solid waste is disposed of in or on the land or processed for disposal or reuse, together with any appurtenant facilities needed to process solid waste for disposal or for transfer to another solid waste facility, and that is not listed as a separate use in this Chapter.

Special flood hazard area (SFHA). An area having special flood, mudslide (i.e., mudflow), or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on an FHBM or FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, AR, AR/A1-30, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/AH, AR/A, A99, AH, VO, V1-30, VE, V, M, or E.

Special tree species. White pines (*pinus strobus*), red (Norway) pines (*pinus resinosa*), white cedars (*Thuja occidentalis*), white spruces (*Picea glauca*), eastern hemlocks (*Tsuga canadensis*), sugar maples (*Acer saccharum*), American basswoods (*Tilia americana*), American elms (*Ulmus americana*), yellow birches (*Betula alleghaniensis*) and all oak species.

Special use. A specific type of structure or land use listed in Table 50-19.8 that may be allowed only after review and evaluation of potential impacts on surrounding properties and the attachment of any conditions necessary to mitigate those impacts.

Stage Increase. Any increase in the water surface elevation during the one-percent annual chance flood caused by encroachments on the floodplain.

Start of Construction. Includes substantial improvement, and means the date the permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, foundations, or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

Stealth or stealth technology. When used in the context of wireless telecommunications, to minimize adverse aesthetic and visual impacts on the land, property, buildings and other facilities adjacent to, surrounding and in generally the same area as the requested location of such wireless telecommunications facilities, which shall mean using the least visually and physically intrusive facility that is not technologically or commercially impracticable under the facts and circumstances.

Steep slope. Land having average slopes over 12 percent, as measured over horizontal distances 50 feet or more, and that are not bluffs.

Storage or Shipping Container. A container used for the storage or transport of goods, cargo, materials or merchandise, typically by container ships, by rail, or other types of transport, that are used in connection with a lawful principle or accessory use of the lot. This use includes, but is not limited to, containers such as semi-trailers, roll-off containers, slide-off containers, piggyback containers, shipping containers, and portable moving and storage containers.

Storage warehouse. A structure containing an area available for storing raw materials, produce, goods or property, but not including mini-storage facilities.

Stormwater. Stormwater runoff, snowmelt runoff, surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater management. The use of structural or non-structural practices that are designed to reduce stormwater runoff pollutant loads, discharge volumes, peak flow discharge rates and detrimental changes in stream temperature that affect water quality and habitat.

Stormwater pollution prevention plan. A plan, usually required by a permit, to manage stormwater associated with industrial, commercial, public, institutional, civic or other land use activities, including construction. The plan commonly describes and ensures the implementation of practices that are to be used to reduce pollutants in stormwater and non-stormwater discharges.

Stormwater pollution prevention program (MS4 program). A compilation of best management practices (BMPs) to address the six minimum control measures and other provisions of the MS4 permit,

that is designed and managed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from your MS4 to the maximum extent practicable as appropriate to the community.

Stormwater best management practice (BMP). A measure, either structural or nonstructural, that is determined to be the most effective, practical means of preventing or reducing point source or nonpoint source pollution inputs to stormwater runoff and water bodies. Non-structural BMPs are those practices that require modified or additional operational or behavioral practices, such as sweeping or having spill response equipment on site. Structural BMPs are those that require the construction of a structure or other physical modification on the site.

Stormwater retrofit. A stormwater BMP designed for an existing development site that previously had either no stormwater BMP in place or a practice inadequate to meet the stormwater management requirements of the site.

Stormwater runoff. Flow on the surface of the ground resulting from precipitation.

Story. That portion of a building included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the floor next above it, or if there be no floor above it, then the space between the floor and the ceiling next above it.

Story, half. A partial story under a gable, hip or gambrel roof, the wall plates of which on at least two opposite exterior walls are not more than four feet above the floor of such story, except that any partial story used for residence purposes, other than for a janitor or caretaker or his family, or by a family occupying the floor immediately below it, shall be deemed a full story.

Stream buffer. An area of land at or near a stream bank, wetland or water body that has intrinsic water quality value due to the ecological and biological processes it performs or is otherwise sensitive to changes that may result in significant degradation to water quality.

Street. A public dedicated right-of-way, other than an alley, which affords the principal means of access to abutting property.

Street line. The established side line of a street easement or right-of-way.

Structure. Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires a location on the ground, or attached to some thing having a location on the ground. Examples include but are not limited to: backstops for tennis courts, fences or pergolas. For flood plain management and flood hazard purposes only, a structure shall be defined as: A roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. Recreational vehicles not considered travel ready, as detailed in Section 50-20.1.Q.1(a), shall also be considered a structure for the purposes of this Chapter.

Structural alteration. Any change in the supporting members of a building, such as bearing walls, columns, beams or girders, or any substantial changes in the roofs or exterior walls but not including openings in bearing walls as permitted by existing ordinances.

Subdivision. The division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into three or more lots, plats, sites or other divisions of land of one acre or less in area, for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale, rent, lease, or of building development. This term also includes the division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, plat, sites or other divisions of land of more than one acre and less than ten acres in area, if the division provides or there is shown on a plat of the division a new street or highway. The term also includes resubdivision and, when appropriate to the context, relates to the process of subdividing or to the land or territory subdivided. The division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, tracts, plats, sites or other divisions of land. The term also includes resubdivision or replatting.

Substantial damage. Damage of any origin sustained by a structure where the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Substantial improvement. Any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the "start of construction" of the improvement. This term includes structures that have incurred "substantial damage," regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either: (a) Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions; or (b) Any alteration of a "historic structure," provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "historic structure." For the purpose of this chapter, "historic structure" is defined in 44 CFR § 59.1.

Sustainable development. Development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10047, 8-30-2010, §§ 6, 7, 8; Ord. No. 10075, 1-24-2011, § 3; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10285, 3-10-2014, § 11; Ord. No. 10338, 11-24-2014, § 7. Ord. No. 10592, 9-24-2018, § 3, Ord. No. 10670, 12-9-2019, §3; Ord. No. 10746, 5-10-2021, § 7; Ord. No. 10784, 12-8-2021, § 2; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 29; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 30.)

50-41.20 Definitions: T

Telecommunications. The transmission or reception of audio, video, data, and other information by wire, radio frequency, light and other electronic or electromagnetic systems.

Telecommunications site. See *wireless telecommunications facilities*.

Telecommunications structure. A structure used in the provision of services described in the definition of wireless telecommunications facilities.

Temporary. A fixed period of time not to exceed 180 days. For the purposes of wireless telecommunications, temporary means not more than 90 days.

Temporary construction office or yard. A facility or area used as a temporary field construction office, temporary outdoor storage of construction equipment and materials associated with an active permit to demolish or construct buildings, structures or infrastructure.

Temporary event or sales. A temporary outdoor use of land for the purposes of an event or sale including but not limited to: a circus, carnival, fair, part, or celebration that reasonably may be expected to attract more than 100 persons at any one time; or any sale made by a person, firm or corporation engaging in the temporary business of selling goods, wares or merchandise from a tent, truck, vending cart or other area outside of a permanent structure on property owned or leased by the person, firm or corporation. The temporary event or sale must be secondary to or incidental to the permitted use or structure existing on the property and not incompatible with the intent of the zone district.

Temporary farm stand. A temporary structure or use allowing the display and sale of food or ornamental crops.

Temporary real estate sales office. A facility or area used as a temporary office to sell land or buildings within a specified area or subdivision.

Theater. A building, structure or part of a building devoted to showing motion pictures, or for dramatic, dance, musical, or other live performances.

Tourist or trailer camp. Any park, trailer park, trailer court, camp, site, lot, parcel or tract of land designed, maintained or intended for the purpose of supplying a location or accommodations for any trailer coach or trailer coaches or upon which any trailer coach or trailer coaches are parked, and shall include all buildings used or intended for use as part of the equipment or establishment, whether or not a charge is made for the use of the trailer camp and its facilities. Trailer camp shall not include automobile or trailer sales lots on which unoccupied trailers are parked for purposes of inspection and sale.

Tower. In the context of wireless telecommunications, any structure designed primarily to support an antenna for receiving or transmitting a wireless signal.

Trailer. Any vehicle without motive power designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle. The term shall include trailers whose wheels or axles have been removed.

Tree of interest. All trees of more than ten inches DBH, and all special tree species of more than six inches DBH shall be considered trees of interest, unless they are under power lines or deemed hazardous by a certified arborist or landscape architect or professional forester. In addition, any replacement tree planted as part of a tree replacement plan shall be considered trees of interest, even if it does not meet the size definition above.

Truck. Every motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

Truck, Light Duty. Any motor vehicle that has all three of the following: (a) 8,500 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight Rating or less; (b) vehicle curb weight of 6,000 pounds or less; and (c) basic vehicle frontal area less than 45 square feet.

Truck freight or transfer terminal. A facility in which goods shipped by truck are loaded, unloaded, or transferred between trucks for shipping or distribution, together with incidental truck storage, maintenance, and administrative offices.

Truck or heavy vehicle sales, rental, repair or storage. A facility that is engaged in the sales, rental, repair or storage of heavy equipment typically used in agricultural, commercial or industrial operations, including tractors, trucks with a gross vehicle weight of over 10,000 pounds, semi trucks or trailers, harvesters, loaders and tracked vehicles as well as sales of parts, whether new or used, for heavy equipment. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4, Ord. No. 10670, 12-9-2019, §4; Ord. No. 10784, 12-8-2021, § 3; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 31.)

50-41.21 Definitions: U

University or college. An educational institution authorized by the state to award associate, baccalaureate or higher degrees.

Useable open space. Open space, other than required building setback areas, that is utilized exclusively for active recreational purposes such as softball, tennis or playgrounds or for passive recreational purposes such as pedestrian walkways or trails that have been preserved in their natural setting or landscaped. Areas with slopes of 15 percent or greater, and areas of wet, spongy land saturated and partially or intermittently covered with water shall not be considered useable open space. Useable open space shall not include streets or other vehicular access not used exclusively for the maintenance of such open space. Land on which buildings or other facilities are located may be considered useable open space if those buildings or other facilities are used for noncommercial, recreational or cultural purposes that are compatible with useable open space objectives and have been specifically approved as part of the development plan.

Utility, major. A facility providing an important regional utility service, such as water, sewer, or drainage, that normally entails construction of new buildings or structures, and that typically has employees on the site on an ongoing basis. Examples include but are not limited to: water works, sewage treatment plants, reservoirs, regional stormwater detention ponds and other similar facilities.

Utility, minor. Equipment necessary to support utility services to development within the immediate vicinity and that involves only minor accessory structures. Employees typically are not located at the site on an ongoing basis. Examples include but are not limited to: electric transformer stations and service boxes, gas regulator stations, telephone service boxes, and well, water and sewer pumping stations, and related underground and aboveground pipes and wires, but excluding those that meet the definition of an electric power transmission line.

Utility runway. A runway that is constructed for and intended to be used by propeller driven aircraft of 12,500 pounds maximum gross weight and less and which runway is less than 4,900 feet in length. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10797, 3-28-2022, §5)

50-41.22 Definitions: V

Vacation dwelling unit. A dwelling unit, as defined by this Chapter, offered for trade or sale, whether for money or exchange of goods or services, for periods of 2 to 29 nights.

Veterinarian or animal hospital. A facility for the diagnosis, treatment or hospitalization of animals, and including the incidental boarding or breeding of animals.

Visual runway. A runway intended solely for the operation of aircraft using visual approach procedures, with no straight in instrument approach procedure and no instrument designation indicated on an approved planning document. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord No. 10446, 4-11-2016, §8; Ord. No. 10698, 4-13-2020, §5)

50-41.23 Definitions: W

Water Control Structure. A water management system that conveys water, controls the direction or rate of flow, or maintains a desired water surface elevation.

Watercourse. A channel in which a flow of water occurs either continuously or intermittently in a definite direction. The term applies to either natural or artificially constructed channels.

Water-dependent bulk storage or wholesaling not listed elsewhere. A bulk storage or wholesaling use as defined by this Chapter, but not separately defined, that must be located near water because of the nature of the goods being stored or wholesaled or the means by which they are being transferred to or from the site, or because the establishment's suppliers or customers must be located near water

Water dependent manufacturing, light or heavy. A light or heavy manufacturing use, as defined by this Chapter, that must be located near water because of the nature of the goods being manufactured, assembled, fabricated, or treated or the means by which they or their inputs are being transferred to or from the site, or because the establishment's suppliers or customers must be located near water

Water management district. Land that by definition is in a flood plain district, a shoreland district, or a wetland.

Water or sewer pumping station/reservoir. Facilities to collect or distribute water or wastewater from a defined service area, and that typically does not have employees at the site, including but not limited to water-pumping stations, water reservoirs and sewage pumping stations.

Water or sewer treatment facility. An establishment to treat water or wastewater from a defined service area, and that typically has employees at the site, including but not limited to water treatment plants, sewage treatment plants and sewage disposal plants.

Waters of the state. All streams lakes ponds, marshes, water course, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, that are contained within, flow through or border upon the state or any portion of the state. Constructed wetlands designed for wastewater treatment are not waters of the state.

Wetland. Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and that under normal circumstances do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas. Wetlands must have the following attributes:

- A. A predominance of hydric soils;
- B. Inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in a saturated soil condition;
- C. Under normal circumstances support a prevalence of such vegetation.

Wholesaling. A use engaged in enclosed wholesale of manufactured products, supplies, and equipment, including accessory offices and showrooms. Products may be picked up on-site or delivered to the customer. This use does not include sales to the public at large or to consumers who are members or a club or association, regardless of whether the name of the business includes some version of the word "wholesale."

Wind power facility (primary use). A primary use of land including an aggregation of parts including the base, tower, generator, rotor, blades, supports, guy wires and accessory equipment such as utility interconnect and battery banks, in a configuration necessary to convert the power of wind into mechanical or electrical energy. Examples include but are not limited to: wind charger, windmill and wind turbine.

Wireless telecommunications facilities. A structure, facility or location designed, or intended to be used as, or used to support antennas or other transmitting or receiving devices. This includes without limit, towers of all types and kinds and structures, including but not limited to buildings, church steeples, silos, water towers, signs or other structures that can be used as a support structure for antennas or the functional equivalent of antennas. It also includes all related facilities and equipment such as cabling, equipment shelters and other structures associated with the site. It is a structure and facility intended for transmitting and/or receiving radio, television, cellular, SMR, paging, 911, personal communications services (PCS), commercial satellite services, microwave services and any commercial wireless telecommunication service not licensed by the FCC. This term also includes a telecommunications site and personal wireless facility. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; renumbered by Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)

50-41.24 Definitions: X

No definitions. (Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4; Ord. No. 10929, 3-24-2025, § 32.)

50-41.25 Definitions: Y

Yard. An open space at grade between a building and the adjoining lot lines, unoccupied and unobstructed by any portion of a structure from the ground upward, except as otherwise provided herein.

Yard depth or width. In measuring a yard for the purpose of determining the width of a side yard, the depth of a front yard or the depth of a rear yard, the minimum horizontal distance between the lot line and the main building shall be used.

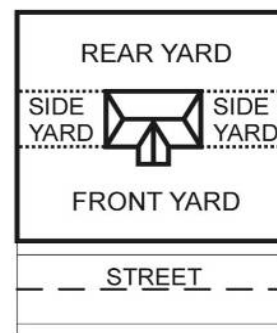
Yard, front. A yard extending across the front of a lot between the side lot lines, and being the minimum horizontal distance between the street line and the primary building, but ignoring projections permitted by this Chapter.

Yard, rear. A yard extending across the rear of a lot between the side lot lines and being the minimum horizontal distance between the rear of the primary building, but ignoring projections permitted by this Chapter. On all lots the rear yard shall be at the opposite end of the lot from the front yard.

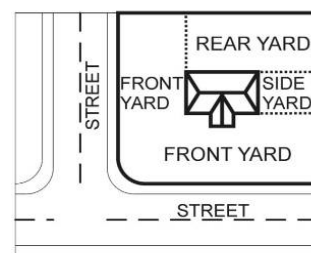
Yard, side. A yard between the main building and the side line of the lot, and extending from the front yard to the rear yard, and being the minimum horizontal distance between a side lot line and the side of the primary building, but ignoring projections permitted by this Chapter.

Yard waste. The garden wastes, leaves, lawn cuttings, weeds and prunings generated at residential or commercial properties.

Yard waste compost facility. A site used to compost or co-compost yard waste that originates off of the site including all structures or processing equipment used to control drainage, collect and treat leachate, and storage area for the incoming yard waste, the final product and residual resulting from the composting process. (Ord. No. 10044, 8-16-2010, § 6; Ord. No. 10096, 7-18-2011, § 58; Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)



INTERIOR LOT



CORNER LOT

50-41.26 Definitions: Z

No definitions. (Ord. No. 10204, 3-11-2013, § 4.)