

ARTICLE V

DEFINITIONS

Section 501. "Subdivision Defined"

For the purposes of this ordinance, "subdivision" means all divisions of a tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions for the purpose of sale or building development (whether immediate or future) and shall include all divisions of land involving the dedication of a new street or a change in existing streets; but the following shall not be included within this definition nor be subject to any regulations enacted pursuant to this ordinance.

- a. The combination or recombination of portions of previously subdivided and recorded lots where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of the town as shown in this ordinance;
- b. The division of land into parcels greater than ten (10) acres where no street right-of-way dedication is involved;
- c. The public acquisition by purchase of strips of land for the widening or opening of streets, and
- d. The division of a tract in single ownership whose entire area is no greater than two (2) acres into not more than three (3) lots, where no street right-of-way dedication is involved and where the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of the town as shown in this ordinance.

Section 502. Other Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance, certain words or terms used herein shall be defined as follows:

Block. A piece of land bounded on one or more sides by streets or roads.

Buffer Strip. A planted strip of land which shall be a minimum of sixteen (16) feet in width, and shall be composed of evergreen bushes, trees, and/or shrubs such that at least two rows are provided from the ground to a height of six (6) feet within six (6) years and foliage overlaps within six (6) years.

Building Setback Line. A line parallel to the front property line in front of which no structure shall be erected. Setbacks shall be figured from the right-of-way line, except that on lots having an access strip extending from the front portion of the lot the setback shall be figured from the front of the main portion of the lot.

Dedication. A gift, by the owner, or a right to use of land for a specified purpose or purposes. Because a transfer of property rights is entailed, dedication must be made by written instrument, and is completed with an acceptance.

Easement. A grant by the property owner of a strip of land for a specified purpose and use by the public, a corporation, or persons.

Half Street. A street whose centerline coincides with a subdivision plat boundary, with one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the street right-of-way width being contained within the subdivision plat. Also, any existing street to which the parcel of land to be subdivided abuts on only one side.

Lot. A portion of a subdivision, or any other parcel of land, intended as a unit of transfer of ownership or for development or both.

Lot of Record. A lot which is part of a subdivision, a plat of which has been recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of the County in which it is located prior to the adoption of this ordinance, or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been so recorded prior to the adoption of this ordinance.

Lot Types:

Corner Lot. A lot located at the intersection of two or more streets. A lot abutting on a curved street or streets shall be considered a corner lot if straight lines drawn from the foremost points of the side lot lines to the foremost point of the lot meet at an interior angle of less than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees.

Double Frontage Lot. A continuous (through) lot which is accessible from both streets upon which it fronts.

Interior Lot. A lot other than a corner lot with only one frontage on a street.

Through Lot or a "Double Frontage Lot". A lot other than a corner lot with frontage on more than one street. Through lots abutting two streets may be referred to as double frontage lots.

Reversed Frontage Lot. A lot on which frontage is at right angles or approximately right angles (interior angles less than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees) to the general pattern in the area. A reversed frontage lot may also be a corner lot, an interior lot or a through lot.

Single-Tier Lot. A lot which backs upon a limited access highway, a railroad, a physical barrier, or another type of land use and to which access from the rear is usually prohibited.

Official Maps or Plans. Any maps or plans officially adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Littleton.

Open Space. An area (land and/or water) generally lacking in man-made structures and reserved for enjoyment in its unaltered state.

Plat. A map or plan of a parcel of land which is to be, or has been subdivided.

Private Driveway. A roadway serving two (2) or fewer lots, building sites or other division of land and not intended to be public ingress or egress.

Private Street. An undedicated private right-of-way which affords access to abutting properties and requires a subdivision streets disclosure statement in accordance with G.S. 136-102.6.

Public Sewage Disposal System. A system serving two (2) or more dwelling units and approved by the County Health Department of the County in which it is located and/or the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Recreation Area or Park. An area of land or combination of land and water resources that is developed for active and/or passive recreation pursuits with various man-made features that accommodate such activities.

Reservation. A reservation of land does not involve any transfer of property rights. It simply constitutes an obligation to keep property free from development for a stated period of time.

Street. A dedicated and accepted public right-of-way for vehicular traffic (or a private road only if permitted by this ordinance). The following classifications shall apply:

Rural Roads

Principal Arterial. A rural link in a network of continuous routes serving corridor movements having trip length and travel density characteristics indicative of substantial statewide or interstate travel and existing solely to serve traffic. This network would consist of interstate routes and other routes designed as principal arterials.

Minor Arterial. A rural link in a network joining cities and larger towns and providing intrastate and intercounty service at relatively high overall travel speeds with minimum interference to through movement. This network would primarily serve traffic.

Major Collector. A road which serves major intracounty travel corridors and traffic generators and provides access to the arterial system.

Minor Collector. A road which provides service to small local communities and links locally important traffic generators with their rural hinterland.

Local Road. A local road serves primarily to provide access to adjacent land and for travel over relatively short distances.

Urban Streets

Major Thoroughfares. Major thoroughfares consist of interstate, other freeway and expressway links, and major streets that provide for the expeditious movement of volumes of traffic within and through urban areas.

Minor Thoroughfares. Minor thoroughfares are important streets in the urban system and perform the function of collecting traffic from local access streets and carrying it to the Major Thoroughfare system by facilitating a minor through traffic movement and may also serve abutting property.

Local Street. A local street is any link not part of a higher-order urban system which serves primarily to provide direct access to abutting land and access to higher systems.

Specific Type Rural or Urban Streets

Freeway, Expressway, or Parkway. Divided multilane roadway designed to carry large volumes of traffic at relatively high speeds. A freeway is a divided highway providing for continuous flow of vehicles with no direct access to abutting property or streets and with access to selected crossroads provided via connecting ramps. An expressway is a divided highway with full or partial control of access and generally with grade separations at major intersections. A parkway is a highway for noncommercial traffic, with full or partial control of access, and usually located within a park or a ribbon of parklike development.

Residential Collector Street. A local access street which serves as a connector street between local residential streets and the thoroughfare system. Residential collector streets typically collect traffic from 100 to 400 dwelling units.

Local Residential Street. Cul-de-sacs, loop streets less than 2,500 feet in length, or streets less than one mile in length that do not connect thoroughfares, or serve major traffic generators, and do not collect traffic from more than 100 dwelling units.

Cul-de-sac. A short street having but one end open to traffic and the other end being permanently terminated and a vehicular turnaround provided.

Frontage Road. A local street or road that is parallel to a full or partial access controlled facility and functions to provide access to adjacent land.

Alley. A strip of land, owned publicly or privately, set aside primarily for vehicular service access to the back or side of properties otherwise abutting on a street.

Subdivider. Any person, firm, or corporation who subdivides or develops any land deemed to be a subdivision as herein defined.

Town. The Town of Littleton.

Town Board of Commissioners or Board of Commissioners, Town Board, or Governing Body. The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Littleton.

Section 503. Word Interpretation

For the purpose of this ordinance, certain words shall be interpreted as follows:

Words used in the present tense include the future tense.

Words used in the singular number include the plural and words used in the plural number include the singular, unless the natural construction of the wording indicates otherwise.

The word "person" includes a firm, association, corporation, trust, and company as well as an individual.

The word "structure" shall include the word "building".

The word "lot" shall include the words "plot", "parcel", or "tract".

The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.