

RESOLUTION NO. 03-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLETA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS

WHEREAS, upon the incorporation of the City on February 1, 2002, and in accordance with Government Code section 65360, which provides that a newly incorporated city has at least 30 months to adopt a general plan, the City elected not to directly adopt the applicable portions of the Santa Barbara County General Plan, including the Goleta Community Plan previously adopted by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS, Appendix B of the Goleta Community Plan set forth certain architecture and design standards for commercial projects within what is now the City limits;

WHEREAS, the City Design Review Board ("DRB") has reviewed the architecture and design standards set forth in Appendix B and has made a recommendation to the City Council that the City adopt a modified version of such standards so that the DRB and the City's Planning Agencies have some additional architecture and design guidelines when reviewing commercial projects prior to the City's adoption of a general plan;

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the document entitled "CITY OF GOLETA ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS" recommended by the DRB and finds that the proposed standards contained therein, as amended by the City Council, are generally consistent with the general plan proposal being considered or studied by the City Council, and that such standards will enhance the ability of the DRB and the City's Planning Agencies to review commercial projects and ensure that such projects exemplify the best professional design practices, enhance the visual quality of the environment, benefit surrounding property values and make the most appropriate use of land within the City.


NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLETA DOES RESOLVE, DETERMINE, FIND, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The "City of Goleta Architecture and Design Standards for Commercial Projects" attached as Exhibit "A" to this resolution are hereby approved and adopted.

SECTION 2. To the extent that any inconsistency exists between these City of Goleta Architecture and Design Standards for Commercial Projects and the guidelines and standards set forth in the Goleta Old Town Heritage District Architecture and Design Guidelines (the "County Old Town Guidelines") previously adopted by the County of Santa Barbara, the County Old Town Guidelines shall control within Goleta Old Town.

SECTION 3. City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption of this resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 7th day of April, 2003.



JACK HAWXHURST, MAYOR

ATTEST:



FREDERICK C. STOUDER
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



JULIE HAYWARD BIGGS
CITY ATTORNEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA) ss.
CITY OF GOLETA)

I, FREDERICK C. STOUDER, City Clerk of the City of Goleta, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 03-20 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Goleta at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 7th day of April, 2003, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS BLOIS, CONNELL, WALLIS,
 MAYOR PRO TEMPORE BROCK, MAYOR HAWXHURST

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE



FREDERICK C. STOUDER
CITY CLERK

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF GOLETA

**ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN STANDARDS
FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS**

Adopted as of April 7, 2003

I. Site layout (location of structures, signs, parking, etc.) shall be designed to respect and enhance the visual quality of the environment.

- A. The project shall include useable open space (appropriate to the project) which is designed and located appropriately for the proposed use.
 - 1. Useable open space can include view corridors, site recreation, employee lunch areas and natural vegetation areas.
- B. Site open space shall blend into adjacent natural areas. (Figure A: Example of poor landscaping transition.)
- C. Adequate setbacks from site structures (walls, paving and buildings) to environmentally sensitive areas shall be maintained.
- D. Site grading impacts shall be minimized.
 - 1. Cut and fill slopes should be contoured to blend in with the natural landform and feathered into adjacent grades. (Figure B: Example of a poorly executed cut and fill slope.)

II. Site layout (location of structures, signs, parking, etc.) shall be designed to respect and enhance adjacent neighborhood areas.

- A. Overall building shapes and height shall be compatible to and in scale with existing structures on the same site and in the surrounding neighborhood.
 - 1. Where the proposed structure is taller than existing adjacent structures, the following techniques may be required to make the structure compatible.
 - a. Increase building setbacks;
 - b. Step back upper floors;
 - c. Utilize roof types which minimize building mass at the perimeter (hip and flat roofs);
 - d. Excavate the building into the site.
- B. There shall be a harmonious relationship with existing and adjoining developments, avoiding excessive variety and monotonous repetition, but promoting compatibility of styles.
- C. The privacy of existing adjacent residential areas shall be protected by carefully controlling window and balcony placement.

- D. Exterior lighting shall be screened to minimize glare and casting light onto adjacent sites.
- E. Project design for industrial uses shall include screen walls and building placement to minimize the transfer of noise off site.
- F. Project design shall promote a smooth shift from offsite conditions different from those proposed (i.e., scale, zone, use, architectural context, etc.).
 - 1. Where possible, perimeter wall setbacks shall vary and the wall shall be broken visually by use of texture or material. (Figure C: Carports used as screen walls.)
- G. Project facilities such as loading docks, storage, utility, maintenance and trash storage areas shall be located in consideration of neighborhood uses, and screened where appropriate.

III. The project design shall facilitate alternate forms of transportation.

- A. Building setbacks shall be increased at the corner lots to promote pedestrian safety and good design.
- B. On larger projects with bus turnouts or pedestrian loading zones, such facilities shall be included with shelters designed to match project architecture. (Figure D: Bus stop shelter designed to match building architecture.)
- C. Pedestrian access from off-site shall be separated from automobiles where possible.
- D. Bicycle parking shall be accommodated in a safe, efficient manner and located to blend with the proposed project.

IV. Automobile access (on and off-site) and parking shall be safe and subordinate to other land and building forms.

- A. Every effort shall be made to screen parking areas with existing or proposed structures. (Figure E: Parking located behind building).
- B. Where screening of parking areas by building configuration is not possible, landscaping, grade changes, berms, low walls, and landscaping strips shall be used to screen parking structures and cars from adjacent roadways and residential developments.
- C. Landscaping should screen parking lots to minimize their expansiveness and reduce the effects of heat and glare from pavement; combine trees, shrubs and ground cover in islands; incorporate canopy trees at the perimeter and in island or finger planters with a maximum of eight parking spaces (or such greater number

as the applicable decision-maker may determine) between each tree; and use various paving textures which are compatible with the proposed or existing structure(s).

D. Putting utility lines under ground shall be encouraged on all projects.

V. Adequate landscaping shall be integrated into the project design to enhance the natural environment.

A. Landscaping and landscape areas shall be maximized and balanced throughout the site, relate to the building size and the context of the neighborhood, and be appropriate to the site. Landscaping shall generally consist of live plant material (e.g., rock and bark may be used as a weed control measure and larger rocks may be used as a design element).

B. Where existing vegetation must be removed, the area should be re-vegetated to adequately mitigate the visual impact created by the removal of the established vegetation. Preservation of existing specimen trees is paramount.

C. Drought tolerant and water conserving plants shall be used in the majority of the landscaping, except in areas of active recreation. Drought tolerant native plant species (with plants native to southern Santa Barbara County) or non-native plants if necessary to protect significant habitat value shall be required in environmentally sensitive areas.

E. Landscaping should protect and enhance public views. Appropriate landscaping on hillsides and ridgelines must also be considered.

F. Landscaping should screen out undesirable views (e.g., freeway from adjacent developments, parking lots, blank building and wall sites and mechanical equipment and other utility structures), but it is not a substitute for good architectural design.

G. Plantings (e.g., citrus, avocado and walnut trees) that reflect the rich horticultural heritage of the Goleta Valley are encouraged as an accent but should be balanced with the need for skyline trees to preserve Goleta's character and other considerations described elsewhere in this document.

H. Landscaping shall be installed in such a manner so that at maturity it will provide adequate distances for vehicle and pedestrian line-of-sight at entrance and exit curbs. It should not interfere with traffic control devices, public lighting, or circulation patterns. Similar consideration shall also be given to ensure that trees are planted at an adequate distance from utility poles, overhead wires, sewer lines and any other structure where tree roots or limbs could cause damage. Landscaping litter (e.g., palm fronds, fruit, etc.) shall be considered in any installation that affects vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

- I. Landscaping plans shall show all above and below ground obstructions (e.g., utility poles, street lights, sewer lines) that may affect plant placement and installation limitations.

VI. Building design shall be encouraged which enhances and protects the visual quality of the Goleta area.

- A. There shall be a harmony of materials and consistency in style and design on all sides of a structure.
 1. Materials, detailing, color and proportions shall be appropriate to the style of the building.
 2. There shall be adequate variety and interest given to all sides of a building yet allowing for flexibility in design for various building functions. Possible techniques to add interest include modulation of walls, wainscot or cornice molding, texture or patterns in building materials, niches for planters or seats and decorative vents and grilles.
- B. Building signage, site work and mechanical/electrical equipment shall be well integrated in the design concept and screened from public view to the maximum extent practicable. (Figure F: Unscreened meters detract from this otherwise attractive building.)
 1. The DRB may require additional site sections and photographs (including aerial photographs) to ensure adequate mechanical screening from adjacent areas of higher elevation.

VII. Passive solar design is encouraged.

- A. The use of certain passive design features (south facing glass, thermal storage, shading and lightshelf devices) may require that the literal requirement for consistency on all sides of a structure be viewed with sufficient latitude.
- B. Landscaping and other screening devices may be required when reflective materials cause glare to adjacent properties.