

20.25B.040 Development standards. 

Pursuant to LUC [20.25B.030](#), all development activity within a transition area must comply with the following:

C. Landscaping, Open Space and Buffers.

1. Landscaping. All landscaping shall comply with standards set forth in LUC [20.20.520](#). The provisions of LUC 20.20.520.J (Alternative Landscaping Option) are applicable and, in addition, may be used to modify up to 10 feet of required street frontage landscaping.

2. Buffer.

a. A landscaped buffer, at least 20 feet in width, shall be provided along the entire street frontage where any portion of the street frontage is abutting a district receiving transition and along the interior property line abutting the district receiving transition.

b. All significant trees within 15 feet of the property line shall be retained as required by LUC 20.20.520.E.

c. The buffer shall be planted with the following, and shall include at least 50 percent native species in the required plantings:

i. Evergreen and deciduous trees, of which no more than 40 percent can be deciduous. There shall be a minimum of five trees per 1,000 square feet of buffer area, which shall be a minimum of 10 feet high at planting, along with the evergreen shrubs and living groundcover as described in paragraphs C.2.c.ii and iii of this section to effectively buffer development from adjacent residential properties; and

ii. Evergreen shrubs, a minimum 42 inches in height at planting, at a spacing no greater than three feet on center; and

iii. Living groundcover planted to cover the ground within three years; and

iv. Alternatively, where the street frontage landscaping will be planted to buffer a building elevation and not a parking area, driveway or site development other than a building, a lawn no less than five feet in width may be substituted for the shrubs and groundcover required in paragraphs C.2.c.ii and iii of this section; provided, that the soil in the entire area of lawn is amended in accordance with LUC 20.20.520.F.8. This paragraph does not apply in LI and GC Districts.

d. Where an LI, GC or CB zoned property abuts a residential district on an interior property line, an evergreen hedge a minimum of four feet in height at planting and capable of achieving a continued visual screen with a height of five feet within a three-year period or

a combination of shrubs and fence shall be added within the required planting area to achieve the effect of a hedge.

e. Patios and other similar ground level features and trails may be incorporated into the buffer area, except that no more than 20 percent of the area may be used for such features. Patios shall not be located within 10 feet of the property line.

D. Site Design Standards.

1. Surface parking lots shall be screened from street level views and from ground level views of an abutting residential district of a lower intensity by berms, hedges, walls or combinations thereof. In appropriate circumstances, surface parking lots should be located away from adjacent residential properties.

2. Site features such as fences, walls, refuse enclosures, light fixtures, carports and storage units shall be designed to be integrated with the architectural design of the primary structure.

E. Mechanical Equipment.

Mechanical equipment which is located on the roof shall be incorporated into the pitched or stepped roof form, and not appear as a separate penthouse or box.