

# Zoning Information Guide

"Planning with People for a Better Phoenix"



City of Phoenix  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Non-Residential Fences

### Section 703.A

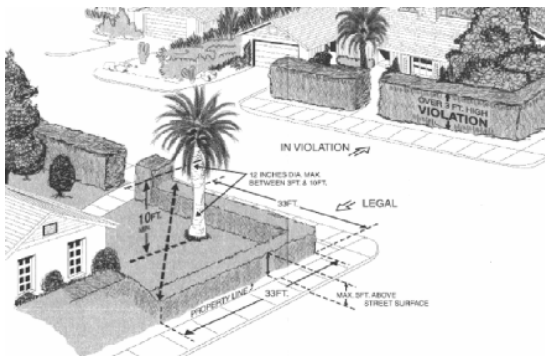
This is a brief summary of the regulations for fence requirements in non-residence districts. It is intended for convenience only and does not replace the ordinance itself.

#### Where can my fence be located?

Generally, your fence may be located anywhere on your property, but its location will determine the allowable height. However, if your property contains a critical area, such a visibility triangle or easement, limitations on fence location will apply (see figure1).

#### Visibility at intersections

A fence must not violate the visibility triangle at street intersections or driveways. At public street intersections, there can be no obstruction higher than three feet. Those restrictions are found in Section 31-13 of the Phoenix City Code. For more information about this requirement, contact Street Transportation Department or see the Street Transportation Department Brochure entitled 'Visibility Requirements for Landscaping Corner lots.



Visibility triangle & fence locations  
(Figure 1)

#### Easements

To determine whether a fence can be placed in a public utility easements please follow these procedures.

- Contact Blue Stake and ask them to provide in writing a list of the utilities present.
- Contact all utility companies present in the utility easement and indicate that you want to build a fence in the easement. Ask if they will allow a fence to be constructed in the easement, and if there are conditions which would apply to the fence.
- Once written approval has been obtained from all relevant utilities, provide the documentation to the city and a permit for a fence may be issued, subject to meeting the requirement of the utilities. It is important to have the listing of utilities that exist in the utility easement in writing from Blue Stake, otherwise the city will require submission from all utilities, even if a particular utility is not located in the easement.

#### How tall can my fence be?

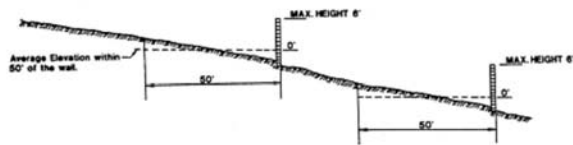
For lots fronting on a public street, private accessway or private drive, a fence or freestanding wall **within or bounding the required front yard shall be limited to a maximum height of 40 inches.** For districts subject to the provisions of Section 701.D, no fence or freestanding wall shall exceed 40 inches in height in the front yard setback area as required by that section.

For properties developed after May 2, 2008 a minimum eight (8) foot solid fence or freestanding wall must be constructed along all common property lines shared with properties zoned for residential uses, if a

fence does not exist at the time of development. A solid fence or freestanding wall may be extended up to twelve (12) feet in height on the non-residentially zoned property, subject to obtaining a use permit. The location of the required wall may be modified by the Development Services Department when there is a tract or easement immediately adjacent to the common property line. All other fencing that does not share a common property line with a parcel that is zoned for residential uses must comply with the provisions contained in Section 703.

**How is fence height measured?**

The height of a fence or freestanding wall shall be measured from the higher of the adjacent finished grade elevations, which elevation shall be the average measured perpendicular within fifty feet of the fence (see figure 2).



**Measuring Fence Height**  
(Figure 2)

**What type of fence can I construct?**

Per Zoning Ordinance Section 507 Tab A: Chain link fencing with plastic or metal slats, sheeting, non-decorative corrugated metal and fencing made or topped with razor, concertina, or barbed wire shall not be used in non-residential development where visible from public streets or adjacent residential areas. Alternatives exist, such as spiked or decorative wrought iron (see figure 4), high walls, and barrier type landscaping that can provide site security without contributing an adverse image to adjoining property.



**Wrought-iron fencing**  
(Figure 4)

**Where can I get additional information?**

For more information please call the Planning Department at 602-262-7131 option # 6 or visit our website at [www.phoenix.gov/planning](http://www.phoenix.gov/planning).

For information regarding fence permits, please call the Development Services Department at 602-262-7811 or visit <http://phoenix.gov/DEVSERV/index.html>

### Fence Location Summary

<b>Fence Height Restrictions Apply?</b>	<b>Allowed Location Required?</b>	<b>Sight Obstruction</b>	<b>Permit</b>
Up to 40 inches	Anywhere on site	Yes	Yes
No higher than the height limit for buildings	Within or bounding side or rear yards	Yes	Yes

Upon request this publication will be made available in alternate formats including large print, Braille, audiotape or computer disk to accommodate a person with a disability if given reasonable advance notice. Please contact Julia Quinones at voice 602-262-6888 or via the City TTY Relay at 602-534-5500.

This and other forms can be found on our website at [www.phoenix.gov/planning](http://www.phoenix.gov/planning)

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