City of Sonoma

Planning and Community Development No. 1, The Plaza Sonoma, CA 95476



Fence Height Standards Handout

Phone: (707) 938-3681 Fax: (707) 938-8775 E-mail: cityhall@sonomacity.org Web: www.sonomacity.org

Fences, hedges, and walls (except retaining walls) may be constructed to the heights shown below:

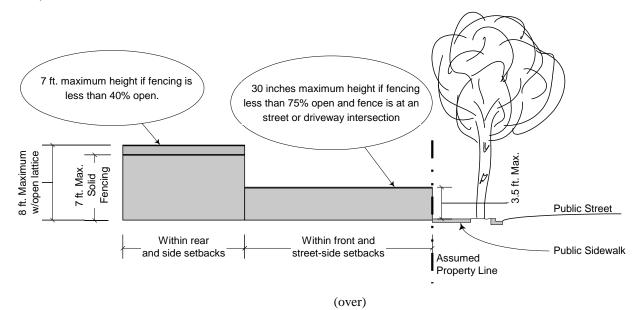
Maximum Height of Fences, Hedges and Walls

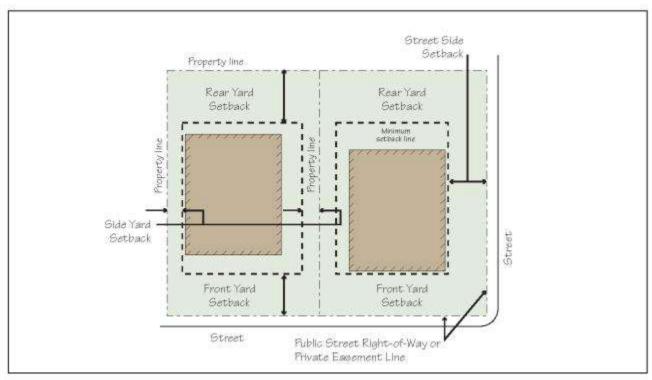
| Location | Maximum Height |
|--|---|
| Door and interior acthorise | 7.60041 |
| Rear and interior setbacks | 7 feet ¹ |
| Front and street-side setbacks ² | 3.5 feet |
| At intersections of streets, alleys, and driveways | 30 inches if solid; otherwise the maximum height normally |
| within traffic safety sight areas | allowed, if the fence material is 75% open (e.g., lattice). |

Notes:

- 1. An additional one foot of height is allowed (to a maximum of eight feet tall), but all fencing material above seven feet in height shall be open grill or latticework, or a similar open design allowing light and air to pass through at least 40 percent of the fencing material.
- Unless additional height is granted through a conditional use permit (SMC 19.54.040)

A setback is defined as the distance by which a structure, parking area or other development feature must be separated from a lot line, other structure or development feature, or street centerline. Setbacks for fences are typically measured from the property line; however, setbacks from private streets are measured from the edge of the easement. The figure below shows the location of front, side, street side, rear, and interior setbacks:





Setbacks Figure 8-5

Properties located on corner lots as shown in the figure above have both a front and street-side setback. The fence height regulations for corner lot properties require a lower fence height (3.5 feet) along the two street frontages unless additional height is granted through a conditional use permit.

Setback standards may very depending on how a property is zoned. Please check with the Planning Department to determine the front and street-side setbacks appropriate for your property.