

# SECTION 4.1000

## PLAN DISTRICTS

### General

#### 4.1000 Enabling Legislation

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- A.** A Plan District may be designated when the city finds that conditions within a specific area are such that unique planning and regulatory tools are required to achieve desired results. A Plan District designation may be warranted based on specific land use, economic, transportation, public facilities, historic, or natural conditions found to exist in the area. Plan District designation provides a means to create or modify development districts and standards in ways which address specific opportunities and problems within the plan area. These new or modified development districts and standards are not transferable to properties outside the boundaries of the established Plan District. The Plan District designation is generally not intended to be applied to small areas or to small individual properties.
- B.** Except as provided in **Section 4.1000(E)**, a Plan District shall be established, amended, or removed at the initiative of the Planning Commission or the City Council through the Type IV legislative procedure. In establishing a Plan District, findings satisfying all of the following criteria must be made:
- 1.** The area proposed for the Plan District designation is generally affected by special characteristics or problems of a land use, economic, transportation, public facilities, historic, natural, or transitional use or development nature which are not common to other areas of the city.
  - 2.** Existing development districts and standards applying in the area are inadequate to achieve goals and implementation strategies of the Community Development Code, or to address an identified problem in the area.
  - 3.** The proposed Plan District designation is the result of a study or plan which documents the special characteristics of the study area and includes measures to address the relevant issues.
  - 4.** Any proposed policies, procedures, development standards, or other measures to be implemented are in conformance with the purposes, findings and recommendations of the study or plan which serves as the basis for the Plan District.
  - 5.** The Plan District designation, and related policies, procedures, standards, and other measures are consistent with applicable policies and implementation strategies of the Community Development Code, and with any applicable locational criteria identified in the Community Development Code.

- C. Provisions of the Plan District may modify existing standards and procedures of the Community Development Code. The Plan District provisions may also apply additional requirements or allow exceptions to general regulations. Where there is a conflict between the provisions of the Plan District and those of other portions of the Community Development Code, the Plan District provisions control.
- D. The location and boundaries of each Plan District shall be shown on the Community Development Plan Map.
- E. Within the boundaries of a Plan District, the sub-district designation of any site or small group of sites may be changed to that of a different sub-district already existing within that Plan District. Any such proposal shall be processed under the Type III procedure for Community Development Plan Map Amendments, as provided in **Section 12.0001**. In seeking such an amendment, an applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed change is consistent with the purposes, findings, and recommendations of the study or plan which serves as the basis for the Plan District, and that the proposed change will not have a negative impact on existing or planned public facilities and services.
- F. Plan District designation may be removed from all or a portion of a Plan District through the Type IV legislative procedure. Any such action shall be initiated by the Planning Commission or the City Council, and shall be based on a new study or plan containing findings which satisfy all of the criteria of **Section 4.1000(B)**. The new study or plan shall also provide for new land use district designations and development regulations for the affected area in the form of a new Plan District designation or through the application of conventional land use district designations.
- G. Policies, procedures, standards, and other measures applying within a Plan District may be amended through the Type IV legislative procedure. Any such amendment intended to apply exclusively within a Plan District shall be initiated by the Planning Commission or the City Council, and shall be based on findings demonstrating that it is consistent with the purposes, findings, and recommendations of the plan or study which serves as the basis for that Plan District. This subsection does not apply to general legislative amendments that will be applied broadly to areas of the city at large, both within and outside of a Plan District.