



ZONING RESOLUTION

UNION TOWNSHIP, OHIO

(Clermont County)

The Eastern Gateway of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Area

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As revised through August, 2025

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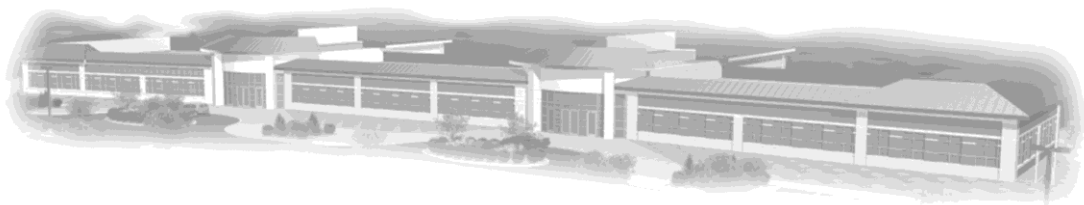


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DEFINITIONS

PREAMBLE

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO, ENACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 519, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIVIDING THE TOWNSHIP INTO ZONES AND DISTRICTS, ENCOURAGING, REGULATING, AND RESTRICTING THEREIN THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION AND USE OF STRUCTURES AND LAND; PROMOTING THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF RESIDENTIAL, BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL, RECREATIONAL, AND PUBLIC AREAS; PROVIDING FOR ADEQUATE LIGHT, AIR, AND CONVENIENCE OF ACCESS TO PROPERTY BY REGULATING THE USE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS AND THE BULK OF STRUCTURES IN RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDING COMPATIBILITY OF DIFFERENT LAND USES AND THE MOST APPROPRIATE USE OF LAND; PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS RESOLUTION, DEFINING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS AS PROVIDED HEREAFTER, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS IN THIS RESOLUTION OR ANY AMENDMENT THERETO, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, COMFORT AND GENERAL WELFARE; AND FOR THE REPEAL THEREOF.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF UNION TOWNSHIP, CLERMONT COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO:

ARTICLE 1

PRELIMINARY SECTIONS

100. Enactment.

Be it resolved by the Board of Township Trustees of Union Township, Clermont County, State of Ohio, that it finds it necessary and advisable to regulate the location, size, height and use of buildings and other structures; percentages of lot areas which may be occupied; setback building lines; sizes of yards, courts, and other open spaces; and the uses of land for residences, business, industrial, recreation or other purposes and for such purposes, divides the unincorporated area of the Township into zones or districts and hereby so enacts this Resolution.

110. Title.

This Resolution shall be known and may be referred to as, the “Zoning Resolution of 1958, as revised, of the Township of Union, in Clermont County, State of Ohio.”

120. Purpose.

This Resolution is enacted for the general purpose of promoting the public health, safety, comfort, and welfare of the residents of the Township of Union, and for the following specified purposes:

1. To protect the property rights of all individuals by assuring the compatibility of uses and practices within districts;
2. To facilitate the provision of public utilities and public services in a fiscally responsible manner;
3. To lessen congestion on public streets, roads, and highways;

4. To ensure orderly development patterns within the Township as recommended by the adopted Comprehensive Land Use Plan;
5. To encourage the creation of a strong sense of community identity, based upon shared, coherent, functionally efficient development patterns;
6. To promote the creation of physically connected spaces that assist in the creation and enhancement of a strong “sense of place” within Union Township;
7. To facilitate revitalization and redevelopment of blighted areas by zoning for more appropriate uses;
8. To provide for the administration and enforcement of this Resolution, including the provision of penalties for its violation; and for any other purpose provided in this Resolution, the Ohio Revised Code, or under common law rulings.

130. Interpretation.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this Resolution shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and the general welfare. Whenever the requirements of this Resolution conflict with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, ordinances, or resolutions, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

When interpreting this Resolution, words used in the present tense shall include the future; the singular number shall include the plural and the plural the singular; the word “shall” is a mandatory requirement, the word “may” is a permissive requirement, and the word “should” is a preferred requirement; the word “person” includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, trust, company, or corporation, as well as an individual; references to the male pronoun include the female; the words “used” or “occupied” include the words “intended, designed, or arranged to be used or occupied;” the word “lot” includes the words “plot” or “parcel.”

140. Severability.

Should any section or provision of this Resolution be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Resolution as a whole, or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

150. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions.

All Resolutions in conflict with this Zoning Resolution or inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent necessary to give this Resolution full force and effect.

160. Form of Publication.

The form of publication shall be accomplished by use of eight and one-half by eleven inch paper, double-sided, and appropriately packaged with an acceptable binding material. This shall enable easy replacement of pages as the Resolution is revised in the future. An official copy of the *Union Township Zoning Resolution* shall be certified and filed with the Office of the Clermont County Recorder.

170. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall become effective from and after the date of its approval and adoption, as provided by law.

180. Zoning Districts.

For the purposes set forth in Section 100 above, the unincorporated territory of Union Township is hereby divided into the following districts:

“ER” Estate Residential

“R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential

“R-2” Single Family Detached Structure Residential

“R-3” Planned Multi-Family Residential

“R-4” Single Family Variable Structure Residential

“B-1” Commercial

“M-1” Industrial

“PD” Planned Development

181. Zoning Districts Map.

The boundaries of the district are shown upon the map which is made a part of this Resolution, which map is designated as the “Zoning Districts Map.” This map and all notations, references, and other information shown thereon are part of this Resolution and have the same force and effect, whether or not shown within the zoning district document. The official zoning map shall be made available for review in the Office of the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department, with a copy remaining on file with the Township Fiscal Officer.

182. Zoning District Boundaries.

1. The zoning district boundary lines on said map follow either street, alley, right-of-way, or lot lines wherever possible. Where the districts designated on the map are bounded by any said lines, such lines shall be construed to be the boundary of the district, unless such boundary is otherwise indicated on the map. In the case of unsubdivided property, the district boundary lines shall be determined by the use of the scale appearing on the Zoning District Map or by dimension.

2. Where the boundary of a district follows a railroad line, such boundary shall be deemed to be located midway between the main track of said railroad line.
3. Whenever any street, alley or other public way is vacated by the Board of County Commissioners of Clermont County, the zoning district adjoining each side of such street, alley or public way shall be automatically extended to the center of such vacation and all areas included in the vacation shall then and henceforth be subject to all appropriate regulations of the extended districts.

ARTICLE 2

ENFORCEMENT

200. General.

This article stipulates the procedures to be followed in obtaining permits, certificates, and other legal or administrative approvals under this Resolution.

210. Zoning Permits Required.

No building or other structure shall be erected, moved, added to, nor structurally altered; nor shall any building, structure, or land be established or changed in use without a permit therefore, issued by the Zoning Director. Zoning permits shall be issued only in conformity with the provisions of this Resolution unless the Zoning Director receives a written order from the Board of Zoning Appeals deciding an appeal, conditional use, or variance, or from the Board of Township Trustees approving a Planned Development District application, an R-3 Planned Multi-Family Residential application, an R-4 Single Family Variable Structure Application, or a Focus Area Overlay District application, as provided by this Resolution.

211. Contents of Application for Zoning Permit.

The application for zoning permit shall be made in writing on the appropriate application form as administered by the Planning & Zoning Department. The application shall be signed by the owner or applicant attesting to the truth and exactness of all information supplied on the application. Each application shall clearly state that the permit shall expire and may be revoked if work has not begun within one year from the date of issuance of permit or completed within two years from the date of issuance of permit.

Failure to provide the required minimum information will result in rejection of the zoning permit application, as it shall be deemed incomplete and returned to the appropriate parties to address deficiencies prior to acceptance and review. A complete zoning permit application shall contain the following information and shall be accompanied by all required fees, as established by the Union Township Board of Trustees:

1. Name, address, and phone number of applicant;
2. Parcel identification number of property for new use or new construction; or house number and street name for alterations;
3. Existing use;
4. Proposed use;
5. Zoning district;
6. Plans in duplicate drawn to scale, showing the actual dimensions and the shape of the lot to be built upon; the exact size and location of existing buildings on the lot, if any; and the location and dimensions of the proposed building(s) or alteration;
7. Building heights;
8. Number of off-street parking spaces or loading berths, and their layout;
9. Location and design of access drives;
10. Number of dwelling units;
11. If applicable, application for a sign permit or a conditional, special, or temporary use permit, unless previously submitted;
12. Such other documentation as may be necessary to determine conformance with, and to provide for the enforcement of, this Resolution.
13. Those applications meeting the following conditions shall submit plans in accordance with Article 11 of this Resolution:
 - a. Any use or development in the “ER” Estate Residential Zone except farming or single-family residential;
 - b. Any use or development in the “R-1” and “R-2” Single-Family Detached Structure Residential Zone except single-family residential;
 - c. Any use or development in the “B-1” Business Zone or the “M-1” Industrial Zone.

212. Approval of Zoning Permit.

Within ten (10) Business Days after the receipt of any zoning permit application, the Zoning Director or a designated representative shall either approve or disapprove the application in conformance with the provisions of this Resolution. If the zoning permit application is denied, the reasons for such denial shall be stated in writing and returned to the applicant. All zoning permits issued shall be conditional upon the commencement of work within one year from the issuance of the permit. Additionally, all use-related construction and/or site improvement activities shall be completed within two years from the issuance of the permit.

Upon approving or disapproving the zoning permit application, one copy of the plans shall be returned to the applicant by the Zoning Director or a designated representative, after such copy has either been marked as approved or disapproved and attested to same by their signature on such copy. One copy of the plans and all relevant correspondence shall be retained in the Office of the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department as a permanent record of the decision rendered

213. Submission to Director of Transportation or County Commissioners.

Before any zoning permit is issued affecting any land within three hundred feet of the centerline of a proposed new highway or a highway for which changes are proposed as described in the certification to local officials by the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners or any land within a radius of five hundred feet from the point of intersection of said centerline with any public road or highway, the Zoning Director shall give notice, by registered mail, to the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners that he shall not issue a zoning permit for a one hundred twenty days from the date the notice is received by the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners. If the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners notifies the Zoning Director that he shall proceed to acquire the land needed, then the Zoning Director shall refuse to issue the zoning permit. If the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners notifies the Zoning Director that acquisition at this time is not in the public interest, or upon the expiration of the one hundred twenty day period or of any extension thereof agreed upon by the Director of Transportation or County Commissioners and the property owner, the Zoning Director shall, if the application is in conformance with all provisions of this Resolution, issue the zoning permit.

214. Expiration of Zoning Permit.

If the improvement described in any zoning permit has not begun within one year from the date of issuance thereof, said permit shall expire; it shall be revoked by the Zoning Director; and written notice thereof shall be given to the persons affected. Evidence of improvement shall be construction above or below ground.

If the work described in any zoning permit has not been completed within two years of the date of issuance thereof, said permit shall expire and be revoked by the Zoning Director, and written notice thereof shall be given to the persons affected, together with notice that further work as described in the canceled permit shall not proceed unless and until a new zoning permit has been obtained or an extension granted.

220. Final Inspection Certification

It shall be unlawful to use or occupy or permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted, or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure, until a final inspection certification is issued by the Zoning Director stating that the proposed use of the building or land conforms to the requirements of this Resolution. The issuance of a final inspection certificate in no way relieves the recipient from compliance with all requirements of this Resolution and other regulations.

221. Temporary Final Inspection Certification

A temporary final inspection certificate may be issued by the Zoning Director for a period not exceeding six months during alterations or partial occupancy of a building pending its completion.

230. Record of Zoning Permits and Final Inspection Certification

The Planning & Zoning Department shall maintain a record of all zoning permits and certificates of final inspection. Upon receipt of any written request for information and after all reproduction fees are received, the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department shall furnish copies of all requested information to any person requesting said information in accordance with the provisions established within the Ohio Revised Code.

240. Failure to Obtain a Zoning Permit or Final Inspection Certificate.

Failure to obtain a zoning permit or final inspection certificate shall be a punishable violation of this Resolution.

241. Construction and Use to Be as Provided in Applications, Plans, Permits and Certificates.

Zoning permits or final inspection certificates issued on the basis of plans and applications approved by the Zoning Director or a designated representative authorize only the use, and arrangement, set forth in such approved plans and applications or amendments thereto, and no other use, arrangement, or construction. Use, arrangement, or construction contrary to that authorized shall be deemed a punishable violation of this Resolution.

250. Complaints Regarding Violations.

Whenever a violation of this Resolution occurs, or is alleged to have occurred, any person may file a written complaint. Such complaint stating fully the causes and basis thereof shall be filed with the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department. The Zoning Director or a designated representative shall properly document the complaint, immediately investigate and take action thereon as provided by this Resolution.

251. Entry and Inspection of Property.

The Zoning Director or a designated representative is authorized to make inspections of properties and structures in order to examine and survey the same, at any reasonable hour, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Resolution. Prior to seeking entry to any property or structure for such examination or survey, an attempt shall be made to obtain the permission of the owner or occupant to inspect.

252. Stop Work Order.

Subsequent to determination that work is being done contrary to this Resolution, the Zoning Director or a designated representative may write a stop work order and post it on the premises involved. Removal of a stop work order, except by the order of the Zoning Director, shall constitute a punishable violation of this Resolution.

253. Zoning Permit Revocation.

The Zoning Director or a designated representative may issue a revocation notice to revoke a permit or administrative approval which was issued contrary to this Resolution or based upon false information or misrepresentation in the application.

254. Notice of Violation.

Whenever the Zoning Director or a designated representative determines that there is a violation of any provision of this Resolution, a notice shall be issued and shall serve as a notice of violation. Such order shall:

1. Be in writing;
2. Identify the violation;
3. Include a statement of the reason or reasons why it is being issued and refer to the sections of the Resolution being violated; and
4. State the date by which the violation shall be corrected.
5. Service of notice of violation shall be as follows:
 - a. By personal delivery to the person or persons responsible; or
 - b. By certified mail deposited in the United States Post Office addressed to the person or persons responsible at a last known address. If a certified mail envelope is returned with endorsement showing that the envelope is unclaimed, then service shall be sent by ordinary mail, and the mailing shall be evidenced by a certificate of mailing which shall be filed by the Zoning Director. Service shall be deemed complete when the fact of mailing is entered of record, provided that the ordinary mail envelope is not returned by the postal authorities with an endorsement showing failure of delivery; or

- c. By posting a copy of the notice form in a conspicuous place on the premises found in violation.

255. Court-Summons Procedure.

If, upon re-inspection following the issuance of a notice of violation, the condition has not been corrected, the person or persons responsible shall be issued a court-summons in the following manner;

1. Be served personally;
2. Be in writing;
3. Identify the violation;
4. State the time, date and place for appearance in court.

If the court-summons cannot be served personally, the Zoning Director shall request that the summons be served by an Officer of the Court.

260. Penalties and Fines.

It shall be unlawful to erect, establish, locate, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, change, convert, move, repair, maintain, or structurally alter any building, structure or land in violation of any provision of this Resolution or any amendment thereto. Any person, firm or corporation who violates this Resolution or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than the maximum amount established by the Ohio Revised Code and in addition shall be responsible for the payment of all costs and expenses involved in the case.

Each day such violation continues after receipt of a violation notice shall be considered a separate offense. The owner or tenant of any building, structure, premises, or part thereof, and any architect, building, contractor, agent, or other person who commits, participates in, assists in, or maintains such violation may each be found guilty of a separate offense and suffer the penalties herein provided.

270. Additional Remedies.

Nothing in this Resolution shall be deemed to abolish, impair or prevent other additional remedies as provided by law. In the event of a violation of any provision or requirement of this Resolution, or in the case of an imminent threat of such a violation, the Zoning Director or a designated representative, the Township Law Director on behalf of the Union Township Board of Trustees, or the owner of any neighboring property who would be especially damaged by such violation, may, in addition to other recourse provided by law or by equity, institute mandamus, injunction, abatement, search warrant or other appropriate actions to prevent, remove, abate, enjoin, or terminate such violation.

ARTICLE 3

ADMINISTRATION

300. Purpose.

This article sets forth the powers and duties of the Zoning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, Board of Township Trustees, and the Zoning Director with respect to the administration of the provisions of this Resolution.

301. General Provisions.

The formulation, administration and enforcement of this Zoning Resolution is hereby vested in the following offices and bodies within the Township of Union Township, Clermont County, government:

1. Zoning Director
2. Zoning Commission
3. Board of Zoning Appeals
4. Township Trustees
5. Legal Counsel
6. Township Fiscal Officer

310. Zoning Director.

A Zoning Director designated by the Board of Township Trustees shall administer and enforce this Resolution. He may be provided with the assistance of such other persons as the Board of Township Trustees may direct.

311. Responsibilities of Zoning Director.

For the purpose of this Resolution, the Zoning Director shall have the following duties:

1. Serve as the zoning inspector for the Township pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 519.16.
2. Enforce the provisions of this Resolution and interpret the meaning and application of its provisions.
3. Respond to questions concerning applications for amendments to the Zoning Resolution text and the Official Zoning District Map.
4. Issue zoning permits and certificates of occupancy as provided by this Resolution, and keep a record of same with a notation of any special conditions involved.
5. Act on all applications upon which he is authorized to act by the provisions of this Resolution within the specified time or notify the applicant in writing of his refusal or disapproval of such application and the reasons therefore. Failure to notify the applicant in case of such refusal or disapproval within the specified time shall entitle the applicant to submit his request to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
6. Conduct inspections of buildings and uses of land to determine compliance with this Resolution and, in the case of any violation, to notify in writing the person(s) responsible, specifying the nature of the violation and ordering corrective action.
7. Assist the Township Fiscal Officer to maintain, or cause to be maintained, in current status the Official Zoning District Map which shall be kept on permanent display in the Township Offices.
8. Maintain permanent and current records required by this Resolution, including but not limited to zoning permits, zoning certificates, inspection documents, and records of all variances, amendments and special uses.
9. Make such records available for the use of the Township Trustees, the Zoning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the public.
10. Review and approve site plans pursuant to this Resolution.
11. Determine the existence of any violations of this Resolution, and cause such notifications, revocation notices, or stop orders to be issued, or initiate such other administrative or legal action as needed, to address such violations.

12. Prepare and submit an annual report to the Township Trustees and Zoning Commission on the administration of this Resolution, setting forth such information as may be of interest and value in advancing and furthering the purpose of this Resolution. Such report shall include recommendations concerning the schedule of fees.
13. Delegate any of the aforementioned tasks to any and all assistants that might be provided to him by the Board of Trustees. He shall personally supervise any and all delegated tasks and shall remain personally responsible for the proper conduct of all tasks conducted under the terms of this Resolution.
14. Act as principal liaison with any and all planning or other consultants retained by the Board of Trustees for any purposes or tasks pertaining to this Resolution.

312. Zoning Director's Bond.

The Township Zoning Director, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give bond, signed by a bonding or surety company authorized to do business in this State, or, at his option, signed by two or more freeholders having real estate in the value of double the amount of the bond, over and above all encumbrances to the State, in the sum of not less than one thousand or more than five thousand dollars as fixed by the Board of Township Trustees. Such surety company or real estate bond shall be approved by the Board of Township Trustees and the bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of such Zoning Director's official duties. Such bond shall be deposited with the Township Fiscal Officer.

320. Organization of the Township Zoning Commission.

A Township Zoning Commission composed of five members shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees. All members shall be residents of the unincorporated area of the Township. The terms of said members shall be of such length, and so arranged, so that one member's term shall expire each year. Each member shall serve until his successor is appointed and seated. Members shall be removed from office for non-performance of duty, misconduct in office, or other necessitating cause, by the Board of Trustees, after a public hearing has been held on the charges. A copy of the charges shall be delivered to the offending member at least ten days prior to the scheduled public hearing either personally, via registered mail, or by leaving same at his address of record; and the member shall be afforded the privilege of responding to the charges at said hearing. Vacancies thus created shall be filled by an appointment from the Board of Trustees, and shall be for the unexpired term.

321. Duties of the Township Zoning Commission.

1. Initiate advisable changes or amendments to the text or map of this Resolution where same will promote the best interest of the public in general through recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
2. Review all proposed changes or amendments to the text or map of this Resolution, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
3. Review all Planned Unit Development Applications, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
4. Review all Preliminary Development Plans, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
5. Conduct an annual review of the fee schedules contained in this Resolution, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
6. Carry on a continuous review of the effectiveness and appropriateness of this Resolution and recommend any and all appropriate amendments or changes to improve the effectiveness and to maintain the currency and appropriateness of said Resolution to the Board of Trustees.

322. Proceedings of the Township Zoning Commission.

The Commission shall adopt rules necessary for the conduct of its affairs in keeping with the provisions of this Resolution. Commission meetings shall be held at a regularly scheduled time and place known to the general public. All meetings shall be open to the public. The Commission shall keep minutes of its proceedings showing the vote of each member upon each question, or if absent or failing to vote, indicating such fact, and shall keep records of examinations and other official actions, all of which shall become a public record and be immediately filed in the office of the Commission. The presence of three members shall constitute a quorum.

The Zoning Commission may, within the limits of the moneys appropriated by the Board of Trustees for the purpose, employ or contract with such planning consultants and executive and other assistants as it deems necessary. Members of the Zoning Commission may be allowed their expenses, or such compensation, or both, as the Board of Trustees may approve and provide. No township trustee shall be employed by the Zoning Commission.

The Zoning Commission shall make use of such information and counsel as is available from appropriate public officials, departments, and agencies and such officials, departments and agencies having information, maps, and data pertinent to township zoning shall make them available for the use of the Zoning Commission.

330. Township Board of Zoning Appeals; Compensation and Expenses.

The Board of Township Trustees shall appoint a Township Board of Zoning Appeals of five members who shall be residents of the unincorporated territory in the Township included in the area zoned. The terms of all members shall be of such length and so arranged that the term of one member will expire each year. Each member shall serve until his successor is appointed and qualified. Members shall be removable for the same causes and in the same manner as provided by Section 320 of this Resolution. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Township Trustees and shall be for the unexpired term. The members may be allowed their expenses, or such compensation, or both, as the Board of Township Trustees may approve and provide.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may within the limits of the moneys appropriated by the Board of Township Trustees for the purpose, employ such executives, professional, technical, and other assistants as it deems necessary.

331. Powers of Township Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Township Board of Zoning Appeals may:

1. Hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative official in the enforcement of this Resolution;
2. Authorize, upon appeal, in specific cases, such variance from the terms of the Zoning Resolution as will not be contrary to the public interest, where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the Resolution will result in unnecessary hardship, and so that the spirit of the Resolution shall be observed and substantial justice done;
3. Grant conditional zoning certificates for the use of land, buildings, or other structures if such certificates for specific uses are provided for in the Zoning Resolution;
4. Revoke an authorized variance or conditional zoning certificate granted for the extraction of minerals, if any condition of the variance or certificate is violated.

The Board shall notify the holder of the variance or certificate by certified mail of its intent to revoke the variance or certificate under item (4) of this section and of his right to a hearing before the Board, within thirty days of the mailing notice, if he so requests. If the holder requests a hearing, the Board shall set a time and place for the hearing, and notify the holder. At the hearing, the holder may appear in person, by his attorney or other representative, or he may present his position in writing. He may present evidence and examine witnesses appearing for or against him. If no hearing is requested, the Board may revoke the variance or certificate without a hearing. The authority to revoke a variance or certificate is in addition to any other means of zoning enforcement provided by law.

In exercising the above-mentioned powers, such Board may, in conformity with such sections, reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify the order, requirement, decision, or determination appealed from, and may make such order, requirement, decision, or determination as ought to be made, and to that end has all powers of the officer from whom the appeal is taken.

332. Rules, Organization and Meetings of Zoning Appeals Board.

The Township Board of Zoning Appeals shall organize and adopt rules in accordance with the Zoning Resolution. Meetings of the Board of Zoning Appeals shall be held at the call of the chairman, and at such other times as the Board determines. The chairman, or in his absence the acting chairman, may administer oaths, and the Board of Zoning Appeals may compel the attendance of witnesses. All meetings of the Board of Zoning Appeals shall be open to the public. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall keep minutes of its proceedings showing the vote of each member upon each question, or, if absent or failing to vote, indicating such fact, and shall keep records of its examinations and other official actions, all of which shall be immediately filed in the office of the Board of Township Trustees and be a public record. The presence of three members shall constitute a quorum.

Appeals to the Board of Zoning Appeals may be taken by any person aggrieved or by any officer of the Township affected by any decision of the administrative officer. Such appeal shall be taken within twenty days after the decision by filing, with the officer from whom the appeal is taken and with the Board of Zoning Appeals, a notice of appeal specifying the grounds. The officer from whom the appeal is taken shall forthwith transmit to the Board of Zoning Appeals all the papers constituting the record upon which the actions appealed from was taken.

The Board of Zoning Appeals shall fix a reasonable time for the public hearing of the appeal, give at least ten days notice in writing to the parties in interest, give notice of such public hearing by one publication in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county at least ten days before the date of such hearing and decide the appeal within a reasonable time after it is submitted. Upon the hearing, any person may appear in person or by attorney.

340. Duties of Zoning Director, Board of Zoning Appeals, Legislative Authority and Courts on Matters of Appeal.

It is the intent of this Resolution that all questions of interpretation and enforcement shall be first presented to the Zoning Director, and that such questions shall be presented to the Board of Zoning Appeals only on appeal from the decision of the Zoning Director, and that recourse from the decisions of the Board of Zoning Appeals shall be to the courts as provided by law. It is further the intent of this Resolution that the duties of the Township Trustees in connection with this Resolution shall not include hearing and deciding questions of interpretation and enforcement that may arise. The procedure for deciding such questions shall be as stated in this section and this Resolution. Under this Resolution the Board of Township Trustees shall only have the duties of this Resolution as provided by law, and of establishing a schedule of fees and charges as stated in Section 351 of this Resolution. Nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted to prevent any official of the Township from appealing a decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals to the courts as provided in Chapters 2505 and 2506 of the Ohio Revised Code. Any such appeal shall be made within thirty days of the Board of Zoning Appeals' written decision.

350. Board of Township Trustees.

The powers and duties of the Township Trustees pertaining to the Zoning Resolution are as follows:

1. Approve the appointments of members to the Zoning Commission.
2. Approve the appointments of member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.
3. Initiate or act upon suggested amendments to the Zoning Resolution text or Official Zoning District Map. Final action upon a suggested zoning amendment shall be undertaken at a public hearing.
4. Override a written recommendation of the Zoning Commission on a text or map amendment provided that such legislative action is passed by a majority vote of the Township Trustees.

351. Schedule of Fees.

The Board of Township Trustees shall by Resolution establish a schedule of fees for zoning permits, occupancy permits, amendments, appeals, variances, conditional use permits, plan approvals, and other procedures and services pertaining to the administration and enforcement of this Resolution, after considering the recommendations of the Zoning Director with respect to actual administrative costs, both direct and indirect. The schedule of fees shall be posted in the office of the Zoning Director, and may only be altered or amended by the Board of Township Trustees. Until all such appropriate fees, charges, and expenses have been paid in full, no action shall be taken on any application, appeal, or administrative procedure.

360. Responsibilities of Township Fiscal Officer.

The Township Fiscal Officer shall have the responsibility of maintaining the “official” zoning map; and the “official” text of this Zoning Resolution. The “official” zoning map shall be maintained on display in the Township Office and be made available to any citizen of the Township during normal business hours.

ARTICLE 4

AMENDMENTS, APPEALS AND VARIANCES

400. Procedure for Amendments or District Changes.

This Resolution may be amended by utilizing the procedures specified in Section 401 to Section 414, inclusive, of this Resolution and Section 519.12 of the Ohio Revised Code.

401. General.

The Union Township Board of Trustees may amend, supplement, alter, or repeal any portion of the enacted Zoning Resolution and/or the enacted Zoning District Map by resolution whenever deemed necessary to protect, preserve, or enhance the public health, safety, convenience, general welfare, morals, or when needed to remain consistent with good zoning practices, provided that the Board of Trustees is in receipt of recommendation thereon from the Union Township Zoning Commission prior to the passage of any such resolution, in accordance with the provisions established in Chapter 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

402. Initiation of Zoning Amendments.

Amendments to this Resolution may be initiated in one of the following ways:

1. By adoption of a motion by the Zoning Commission;
2. By adoption of a resolution by the Board of Township Trustees;
3. By the filing of an application by at least one (1) owner or lessee of property within the area proposed to be changed or affected by said amendment.

403. Contents of Application For Zoning Map Amendment.

1. Applications for amendments to the Official Zoning Map adopted as part of this Resolution shall contain at least the following information:
 - a. The name, address, and phone number of applicant;
 - b. A statement of the reason(s) for the proposed amendment;
 - c. Present use;
 - d. Present Zoning District; ;
 - e. Proposed use;
 - f. Proposed Zoning District;
 - g. A vicinity map at a scale approved by the Zoning Director showing property lines of the property to be rezoned and all abutting properties, thoroughfares, existing and proposed zoning, and such other items as the Zoning Director may require;
 - h. A list of all property owners and their mailing addresses who are within, contiguous to, or directly across the street from the parcel(s) proposed to be rezoned and others that may have a substantial interest in the case, except that addresses need not be included where more than ten parcels are to be rezoned;
 - i. A statement on the ways in which the proposed amendment relates to the Comprehensive Plan;
 - j. A fee as established by Resolution of the Board of Township Trustees.
2. Those applications meeting the following conditions shall submit plans in accordance with Article 11 of this Resolution:
 - a. Any Zoning Map Amendment, except any Zoning Map Amendment initiated by the Township.

Any application for Zoning Map Amendment not containing all of the above-specified information shall be deemed “incomplete” and shall be rejected until such time that all deficiencies are rectified by the applicant, as determined by the Zoning Director, or a designated representative. The revised application will be processed and placed in the next available hearing cycle, in accordance with the procedure established in Section 519.12 of the Ohio Revised Code.

404. Contents of Application For Zoning Text Amendment.

1. Applications for text amendments to the *Union Township Zoning Resolution* shall contain at least the following information:
 - a. The name, address, and phone number of the applicant;
 - b. The proposed amendment to text in a form consistent with the existing Zoning Resolution;
 - c. A statement of the reason(s) for the proposed amendment;
 - d. A statement explaining the ways in which the proposed amendment relates to the Comprehensive Plan;
 - e. A fee as established by Resolution of the Board of Township Trustees.

405. Transmittal to Zoning Commission.

Immediately after the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Township Trustees, the adoption of a motion by the Zoning Commission, or after the filing of an application initiating zoning amendments by at least one (1) owner or lessee of property, said resolution or application shall be transmitted to the Commission.

406. Submission to Director of Transportation.

Before any zoning amendment is approved affecting any land within three hundred (300') feet of the centerline of a proposed new highway or highway for which changes are proposed as described in the certification to local officials by the Director of Transportation, or within a radius of five hundred (500') feet from the point of intersection of said centerline with any public road or highway, the Commission shall give notice, by registered or certified mail, to the Director of Transportation. The Zoning Commission may proceed as required by law; however, the Board of Township Trustees shall not approve the amendment for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date the notice is received by the Director of Transportation. If the Director of Transportation notifies the Board of Township Trustees that he shall proceed to acquire the land needed, then the Board of Township Trustees shall refuse to approve the rezoning. If the Director of Transportation notifies the Board of Township Trustees that acquisition at this time is not in the public interest or upon the expiration of the one hundred twenty (120) calendar day period or any extension thereof agreed upon by the Director of Transportation and the property owner, the Board of Township Trustees shall proceed as required by law.

407. Public Hearing by Zoning Commission.

Upon the adoption of their motion, or upon receipt of either a resolution from the Board of Trustees, or an application for zoning amendment, the Zoning Commission shall schedule a public hearing. The date of the public hearing shall be not less than twenty (20) nor more than forty (40) calendar days from the date of adoption of such motion, transmittal of such resolution, or filing of such application.

408. Notice of Public Hearing in Newspaper.

Before holding the public hearing as enumerated in Section 407 and as otherwise required by the Ohio Revised Code, notice of such hearing shall be given by the Zoning Commission by at least one (1) publication in one (1) or more newspapers of general circulation in the Township at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of said hearing. This notice shall set forth the time and place of the public hearing, the nature of the proposed amendment, and a statement that after the conclusion of such public hearing the matter will be referred to the Board of Township Trustees for further determination.

409. Notice to Property Owners by Zoning Commission.

If the proposed amendment intends to rezone or redistrict ten (10) or less parcels of land as listed on the tax duplicate, written notice of the hearing shall be mailed by the Zoning Commission by first class mail, at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of the public hearing, to all owners of property within, contiguous to, and directly across the thoroughfare from such area proposed to be rezoned or redistricted to the address of such owners appearing on the list furnished by the applicant in Section 403.h of this Resolution, or the County Auditor's current tax list or the Treasurer's mailing list and/or such other list or lists that may be specified by the Board of Township Trustees. The failure to deliver the notice, as provided in this section, shall not invalidate any such amendment. The notice shall consist of a duplicate copy of the public notice as distributed to the newspaper of general circulation, or as otherwise specified in Section 408.

410. Recommendation by Zoning Commission.

Within thirty (30) days after the public hearing required by Section 407, the Zoning Commission shall recommend approval, denial, or the approval of some modification of the proposed amendment to the Board of Trustees. The written decision of the Zoning Commission shall indicate the specific reason(s) upon which the recommendation is

based, to include in the basis for their determination that the proposed amendment is or is not consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

411. Public Hearing by Board of Township Trustees.

Within thirty (30) calendar days from the receipt of the recommendation of the Zoning Commission, the Board of Township Trustees shall hold a public hearing. Notice of such public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation shall be given by the Board of Township Trustees as specified in Section 408.

412. Action by Board of Township Trustees.

Within twenty (20) calendar days after the public hearing required by Section 411, the Board of Township Trustees shall either adopt or deny the recommendation of the Zoning Commission or adopt some modification thereof. In the event the Board of Township Trustees denies or modifies the recommendation of the Commission, a majority vote of the Board of Township Trustees is required.

413. Effective Date and Referendum.

Such amendment adopted by the Board of Township Trustees shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of such adoption unless within thirty (30) calendar days after the adoption of the amendment there is presented to the Board of Township Trustees a petition, signed by a number of qualified voters residing in the unincorporated area of the Township or part thereof included in the zoning plan equal to not less than eight percent (8%) of the total vote cast for all candidates for Governor in such area at the last preceding general election at which a Governor was elected, requesting the Board of Township Trustees to submit the amendment to the electors of such area, for approval or rejection, at the next primary or general election. Any and all amendments adopted by the Board of Township Trustees concerning a Planned Unit Development are exempt from a referendum petition.

The petition shall be filed, accompanied by an appropriate map of the area affected by the zoning proposal, with the Board of Township Trustees, which shall then transmit the petition within two (2) weeks of its receipt to the Board of Elections, which shall determine the sufficiency and validity of the petition. The only responsibility of the Township Board of Trustees is to transmit said petition to the Board of Elections. No amendment for which such referendum vote has been requested shall be put into effect unless a majority of the votes cast on the issue is in favor of the amendment. Upon certification by the Board of Elections that the amendment has been approved by the voters it shall take immediate effect.

420. Appeals.

Appeals to the Board of Zoning Appeals concerning interpretation or administration of this Resolution may be taken by any person aggrieved or by any officer or bureau of the legislative authority of the Township affected by any decision of the Zoning Director. Such appeal shall be taken within twenty (20) calendar days after the decision by filing, with the Zoning Director and the Board of Zoning Appeals, a notice of appeal specifying the grounds upon which the appeal is being taken. The Zoning Director shall transmit to the Board of Zoning Appeals all the papers constituting the record upon which action appealed from was taken.

421. Stay of Proceedings.

An appeal stays all proceedings in furtherance of the actions appealed from, unless the Zoning Director from whom the appeal is taken certifies to the Board of Zoning Appeals after the notice of appeal is filed with him that by reason of facts stated in the application, a stay would, in his opinion, cause imminent peril to life and property. In such case, proceedings shall not be stayed other than by a restraining order which may be granted by a court of record on application, on notice to the Zoning Director from whom the appeal is taken on due cause shown.

430. Variances.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may authorize upon appeal in specific cases such variance from the terms of this Resolution as will not be contrary to the public interest where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this Resolution would result in unnecessary hardship. No nonconforming use of neighboring lands, structures, or buildings in the same district and no permitted or nonconforming use of lands, structures, or buildings in other districts shall be considered grounds for issuance of a variance. Variances shall not be granted on the grounds of convenience or profit, but only where strict application of the provisions of this Resolution would result in unnecessary hardship. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall have no authority to grant variances to increase the allowed density in residential or planned development district zones or authorize uses which are not otherwise permitted within the district in which the subject property is located.

431. Application Standards for Variances.

Except as otherwise permitted in this Resolution, no variance to the provisions or requirements imposed by this Resolution shall be granted by the Board of Zoning

Appeals unless the Board shall find that the written application for the requested variance contains all of the following requirements:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of applicant(s);
2. Legal description of property;
3. Description or nature of variance requested;
4. A fee as established by Resolution;
5. Narrative statements establishing and substantiating that the variance conforms to the following standards:
 - a. The granting of the variance shall be in accord with the general purpose and intent of the regulations imposed by this Resolution on the district in which it is located, and shall not be injurious to the area or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.
 - b. The granting of the variance will not permit the establishment of any use which is not otherwise permitted in the district.
 - c. There must exist special circumstances or conditions, fully described in the findings, applicable to the land or buildings for which the variance is sought, which are peculiar to such land or buildings and do not apply generally to land or buildings in the area, and which are such that the strict application of the provisions of this Resolution would deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of such land or building. Mere loss in value shall not justify a variance; there must be deprivation of beneficial use of land.
- a. There must be proof of hardship created by the strict application of this Resolution. It is not sufficient proof of hardship to show that greater profit would result if the variance were granted. Furthermore, the hardship complained of cannot be self-created; nor can it be established on this basis by one who purchases with or without knowledge of the restrictions; it must result from the application of this Resolution; it must be suffered directly by the property in question; and evidence of variances granted under similar circumstances need not be considered.
- b. The granting of the variance is necessary for the reasonable use of the land or building, and the variance as granted is the minimum variance that will accomplish this purpose.
- c. The proposed variance will not impair an adequate supply of light and air to adjacent property, substantially increase the congestion in the public streets, increase the danger of fire, endanger the public safety, or substantially diminish or impair property values of the adjacent area.

- d. The granting of the variance requested will not confer on the applicant any special privilege that is denied by this regulation to other lands, structures, or buildings in the same district.

Any application for variance not containing all of the above-specified information shall be deemed “incomplete” and shall be rejected until such time that all deficiencies are rectified by the applicant, as determined by the Zoning Director, or a designated representative. The revised application will be processed and placed in the next available hearing cycle, in accordance with the procedure established in Section 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

432. Additional Conditions and Safeguards.

The Board of Zoning Appeals may further prescribe any conditions and safeguards that it deems necessary to insure that the objectives of the regulations or provisions to which the variance applies will be met. Any violation of such conditions and safeguards, when they have been made a part of the terms under which the variance has been granted, shall be deemed a punishable violation under this Resolution.

433. Term of Variance.

No order of the Zoning Board of Appeals granting a variance shall be valid for a period longer than twelve (12) months from the date of such order unless the building permit or zoning approval is obtained within such period, and the erection or alteration of a building is started or the use is commenced within such period.

434. Authorized Variance.

Variances from the regulations of this Resolution shall not be granted unless the Board of Zoning Appeals makes specific findings of fact, based directly on the particular evidence presented to it, which support conclusions that the standards and conditions imposed in Section 431, and Section 432, if applicable, have been met by the applicant. Variances may be granted as guided by the following:

1. To permit any yard or setback less than the yard or setback required by the applicable regulations.
2. To permit the use of a lot or lots for a use otherwise prohibited solely because of the insufficient area or width of the lot or lots, but generally the respective area and width of the lot or lots should not be less than eighty percent (80%) of the required area and width.

3. To permit the same off-street parking facility to qualify as required facilities for two (2) or more uses, provided that substantial use of such facility by each user does not take place at approximately the same hours of the same days of the week.
4. To reduce the applicable off-street parking or loading facilities required, but generally by not more than thirty percent (30%) of the required facilities.
5. To allow for the deferment of required parking facilities for a reasonable period of time, such period of time to be specified in the variance.
6. To increase the maximum distance that required parking spaces are permitted to be located from the use served, but generally not more than forty percent (40%).
7. To increase the maximum allowable size or area of signs on a lot, but generally by not more than twenty-five percent (25%).
8. To increase the maximum gross floor area of any use so limited by the applicable regulations, but generally not more than twenty-five percent (25%).

440. Regulation of Conditional Uses.

In recent years, the characteristics and impacts of an ever-increasing number of new and unique uses, together with the broadening of numerous conventional uses, have fostered the development of more flexible regulations designed to accommodate these activities in a reasonable and equitable manner, while safeguarding both the property rights of all individuals and the health, safety, and general welfare of the community. Toward these ends, it is recognized that this Resolution should provide for more detailed evaluation of each use conditionally permissible in the specific district with respect to such considerations as location, design, size, method (s) of operation, intensity of use, public facilities requirements, and traffic generation. Accordingly, conditional use permits shall conform to the procedures and requirements of Sections 441 to 445 of this Resolution.

441. Contents of Conditional Use Permit Application.

Any owner, or agent thereof, of property for which a conditional use is proposed shall make an application for a conditional use permit by filing it with the Zoning Director, who shall place the application on the next available agenda for consideration by the Board of Zoning Appeals at the next Regular Meeting in accordance with the established hearing schedules and application deadlines. Such application at a minimum shall contain the following information:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant;
2. Legal description of the property;

3. Zoning District;
4. Description of existing use;
5. Description of proposed conditional use;
6. A plan of the proposed site for the conditional use showing the location of all buildings, parking and loading areas, streets and traffic accesses, open spaces, refuse and service areas, utilities, signs, yards, landscaping features, and such other information as the Board may require;
7. A narrative statement discussing the compatibility of the proposed use with the existing uses of adjacent properties and with the Comprehensive Plan , to include an evaluation of the effects on adjoining properties of such elements as traffic circulation, noise, glare, odor, fumes, vibration;
8. A list containing the names and mailing addresses of all owners of property adjacent to property in question;
9. A fee as established by Resolution;
10. A narrative addressing each of the applicable criteria contained in Section 442.

Any application for conditional use not containing all of the above-specified information shall be deemed “incomplete” and shall be rejected until such time that all deficiencies are rectified by the applicant, as determined by the Zoning Director, or a designated representative. The revised application will be processed and placed in the next available hearing cycle, in accordance with the procedure established in Section 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

442. General Standards for All Conditional Uses.

1. In considering an application for a conditional use the Board of Zoning Appeals shall give due regard to the nature and condition of all adjacent uses and structures; and in authorizing a conditional use the Board may impose such requirements and conditions with respect to location, construction, maintenance and operation in addition to those expressly stipulated in this Resolution for the particular conditional use as the Board may deem necessary for the protection of adjacent properties and the public interest.
2. In addition to the above and to the specific requirements for conditionally permitted uses as specified elsewhere in this Resolution, the Board shall review the particular facts and circumstances of each proposed use in terms of the following standards and shall find adequate evidence showing that such use at the proposed location:

- a. Is in fact a conditional use as established under the provisions of this Resolution and appears on the Schedule of District Regulations adopted for the Zoning District involved;
- b. Will be in accordance with the general objectives, or with any specific objective, of the Township's Comprehensive Plan and/or the Zoning Resolution;
- c. Will be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained so as to be harmonious and appropriate in appearance with the existing or intended character of the general vicinity and that such use will not change the essential character of the same area;
- d. Will not be hazardous or disturbing to existing or future neighboring uses;
- e. Will be served adequately by essential public facilities and services such as highways, streets, police and fire protection, drainage structures, refuse disposal, water and sewer, and schools; or that the persons or agencies responsible for the establishment of the proposed use shall be able to provide adequately any such services;
- f. Will not create excessive additional requirements at public cost for public facilities and services and will not be detrimental to the economic welfare of the community;
- g. Will not involve uses, activities, processes, materials, equipment and conditions of operation that will be detrimental to any persons, property, or the general welfare by reason of excessive production of traffic, noise, smoke, fumes, glare, or odors;
- h. Will have vehicular approaches to the property which shall be so designed as not to create an interference with traffic on surrounding public thoroughfares;
- i. Will not result in the destruction, loss, or damage of a natural, scenic, or historic feature of major importance.

443. Action on Conditional Use Applications.

Within thirty (30) days after the date of the public hearing required in Section 450, the Board of Zoning Appeals shall take one of the following actions:

- 1. Approve issuance of the conditional use permit by making an affirmative finding in writing that the proposed conditional use is to be located in a district wherein such use may be conditionally permitted, that all conditions for approval of such use in such district have been met, and that such use will neither result in

significant negative impacts upon nor conflict with surrounding uses. Such written finding may also prescribe supplementary conditions and safeguards as specified in Section 442. Upon making an affirmative finding, the Board shall direct the Zoning Director to issue a conditional use permit for such use which shall list all conditions and safeguards specified by the Board for approval.

2. Make a written finding that the application is deficient in information or is in need of modification and is being returned to the applicant. Such finding shall specify the information and/or modifications which are deemed necessary.
3. Make a written finding that the application is denied, such finding specifying the reason(s) for disapproval.

444. Violation of Conditions.

Any violation of conditions and safeguards, when made a part of the terms under which the conditional use is granted, shall be deemed a punishable violation of this Resolution.

445. Expiration of Conditional Use Permit.

A conditional use permit shall be deemed to authorize only one (1) particular conditional use, and said permit shall automatically expire if such conditionally permitted use has not been instituted or utilized within one (1) year of the date on which the permit was issued, or if for any reason such use shall cease for more than two (2) years.

450. Public Hearing by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Board of Zoning Appeals shall hold a public hearing within thirty (30) calendar days after the receipt of an application for an appeal or variance from the Zoning Director or an applicant.

451. Notice of Public Hearing in Newspaper.

Before conducting the public hearing required in Section 450, notice of such hearing shall be given in one (1) or more newspapers of general circulation in the Township at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of said hearing. The notice shall set forth the time and place of the public hearing, and the nature of the proposed appeal or variance.

452. Notice to Adjoining Property Owners.

Before conducting the public hearing required in Section 450, written notice of such hearing shall be mailed by first class mail, at least ten (10) calendar days before the day of the hearing to all owners of property within, contiguous to, and directly across the thoroughfare from such area making application to the Board of Zoning Appeals to the address of such owners appearing on the list furnished by the applicant in Section 441.8 of this Resolution, or the County Auditor's current tax list or the Treasurer's mailing list and/or such other list or lists that may be specified by the Board of Township Trustees. The notice shall contain the same information as required of notices published in newspapers as specified in Section 451 of this Resolution.

453. Action by Board of Zoning Appeals.

Within thirty (30) calendar days after the public hearing required in Section 450, the Board of Zoning Appeals shall either approve, approve with supplementary conditions as specified in Section 432, or disapprove the request for appeal or variance. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall further make a finding in writing that the reasons set forth in the application justify the granting of the variance that will make possible a reasonable use of the land, building or structure. Appeals from the Board of Zoning Appeals' decision shall be made in the manner specified in Section 340.

ARTICLE 5

GENERAL PROVISIONS

500. Purpose.

The purpose of this Article is to establish general conditions that shall be applied to all lots and all uses as indicated to protect the public health, safety, and welfare in the enforcement of this Resolution.

501. Administrative Standards.

Administrative decisions shall be in accord with the general purpose and intent of the regulations imposed by this Resolution, and shall not be injurious to the area or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.

502. Essential Services.

Essential services, as defined in Appendix A, including all buildings, facilities, structures, or improvements owned, occupied, maintained, and/or operated by Union Township, are exempt from the application of this Resolution, including all restrictions, use limitations, or setback requirements for any Zoning District, as regulated in this Resolution. However, nothing contained herein shall exempt such essential services from other regulations imposed by law or other Township regulations.

503. Pending Application for Building Permits.

Nothing herein contained shall require any change in the overall layout, plans, construction, size or designated use of any development, building, structure, or part thereof, for which official approvals and/or required building permits have been granted before the enactment of this Resolution and completion thereof carried on in a normal manner within the subsequent six (6) month period and not discontinued until completion, except for reasons beyond the builder's control.

504. Reduction of Area or Space.

No lot, yard, parking area, or other space shall be reduced in area or dimension if such reduction has the effect of making the lot, yard, parking area, or other space less than the minimum required by this Resolution. Furthermore, any lot, yard, parking area, or other space which is already less than the required minimum shall not be reduced further. However, nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to limit the power or the Board of Zoning Appeals in the granting of variances under this Resolution.

505. Exceptions to Height Regulations.

The height limitations contained elsewhere in this Resolution do not apply to spires, belfries, cupolas, water tanks, ventilators, or chimneys usually required to be placed above the roof level and not intended for human occupancy, except where the height of such structures will constitute a hazard to the safe landing and take-off of aircraft at an established airport.

506. Principal Building Per Lot.

No more than one (1) principal building or structure may be constructed upon any one (1) lot for the purposes of this Resolution. Rear dwellings shall be prohibited.

510. Supplemental Lot and Yard Requirements.

In addition to the lot and yard regulations specified in Article 6 and in other sections of this Resolution, Sections 511 through 518 inclusive, shall be enforceable for the specific situation as described herein.

511. Existing Lots of Record.

In any district where dwellings are permitted, a one-family detached dwelling may be erected on any lot of official record as of the original effective date of this Resolution, or subsequent amendments thereto, irrespective of its area or width, provided the owner of such lot does not own any adjoining property, except that no lot shall be deemed to be less than forty (40') feet wide for the calculation of yard requirements, and provided, further:

1. The sum of the side yard widths on any such lot need not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the width of the lot, but in no case shall the width of any side yard be less than ten percent (10%) of the width of the lot; provided, however, that on a corner lot, the width of the side yard adjoining the side street lot line shall not be less than eight (8') feet or twenty percent (20%) of the frontage, whichever is the greater.
2. The depth of the rear yard of any such lot need not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the depth of the lot, but in no case shall it be less than twenty (20') feet.

512. Irregular Shaped Lots.

For irregular shaped lots the following interpretation shall be used:

1. The average front yard width shall be not less than one-half ($1/2$) of the required width with the required width being provided at the minimum building setback line and the average lot width shall be not less than the required lot width. The minimum front yard setback line shall be measured from the nearest part of the front lot line to the face of the building.
2. The required minimum side yards shall be the average of the distance at the front and rear of the building to the side lot line with the minimum side yard not less than two-thirds ($2/3$) the required side yard.
3. The rear yard depth shall be the average depth from each corner of the building to the lot line for a skewed lot line with the minimum depth not less than two-thirds ($2/3$) the required depth.
4. The minimum building setback line on a panhandle lot shall be measured from the point where the lot achieves the minimum required lot width.

513. Lot Area Requirements.

The required lot area shall be computed exclusive of the street right-of-way and, where no street right-of-way is established, the assumed minimum right-of-way shall be fifty (50') feet measured twenty-five (25') feet each side of the center line of the existing pavement, but not less than fifteen (15') feet from the edge of pavement. This assumed right-of-way line shall also be used as the front lot line where no established right-of-way exists, or for cul-de-sac streets and private streets.

514. Setback Requirements for Buildings on Corner Lots.

The principal building located on any corner lot shall be required to have the same setback distance from all street right-of-way lines as required for the front yard in the district in which such structures are located.

515. Front Yard Setback.

In a residential district, when forty percent (40%) or more of the frontage on one (1) side of the street between two (2) intersecting streets is improved with buildings that have a front yard which is greater or less than the required front yard in the district, no building shall project beyond the average front yard so established, provided however, that a front yard depth shall not be required to exceed fifty percent (50%) in excess of the front yard otherwise required in the district in which the lot is located.

516. Yard Requirements for Multi-Family Dwellings.

Multi-family dwelling units within a single structure shall be considered as one (1) building for the purpose of determining front, side, and rear yard requirements. The entire group of units shall require one (1) front, one (1) rear, and two (2) side yards as specified for dwellings in the appropriate district. Each individual building shall meet all applicable fire code regulations for distance between buildings. The density calculations for multi-family shall exclude utility easements and all access streets on the property either private or public.

517. Architectural Projections.

Open structures such as porches, canopies, decks, bay windows, flues, chimneys, balconies, platforms, carports, covered patios, and similar architectural projections shall be considered parts of the building to which attached and shall not project into the required minimum front, side, or rear yard except that chimneys may be allowed to project up to a maximum of thirty (30") inches into the side yard.

518. Visibility at Intersections.

All intersections shall comply with sight distance triangles required by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

520. Screening.

Screening or buffering in compliance with the provisions of this Section shall be provided for any permitted, or conditionally permitted, nonresidential uses which abut any residential district, in addition to setback and yard requirements provided elsewhere in the Resolution. Applicants for a zoning permit may request a variance from yard or setback requirements in conjunction with a plan for screening, which the Board of Zoning Appeals may consider by weighing the relationship of the proposed screening plan and the requested dimensional variance with respect to their joint impact upon neighboring properties. Such requested variance for a conditionally permitted use shall be incorporated in the conditional use procedure specified in Article 4 of this Resolution. The following provisions shall apply with respect to screening.

1. Screening shall be provided for one (1) or more of the following purposes:
 - a. A visual barrier to partially or completely obstruct the view of structures or activities.
 - b. An acoustic screen to aid in absorbing or deflecting noise.
 - c. A physical barrier to contain debris and litter.
2. Screening shall consist of one (1) or more of the following:
 - a. A solid masonry wall;
 - b. A solidly constructed decorative fence;

- c. A louvered fence;
 - d. Dense vegetative plantings;
 - e. A landscaped mounding.
3. Height of screening shall be in accordance with the following:
- a. Visual screening walls, fences, plantings, or mounds shall be a minimum of five and one-half (5 ½') feet high in order to accomplish the desired screening effect, except in required front yards where maximum height shall be not greater than two and one-half (2 ½') feet. Plantings shall be a minimum of four (4') feet in height at the time of planting.
 - b. A dense vegetative planting with a minimum height of four (4') feet at planting and a mature height of at least five and one-half (5 ½') feet or greater, or a solidly constructed decorative fence, of a minimum height of five and one-half (5 ½') feet, shall be permanently maintained along the mutual boundary of an accessory parking area and adjacent land zoned for, or used for, residential purposes, in compliance with Section 518.
4. Screening for purposes of absorbing or deflecting noise shall have a depth of at least fifteen (15') feet of dense planting or a solid masonry wall in combination with decorative plantings. The height shall be adequate to absorb or deflect noise.
5. Whenever required screening is adjacent to parking areas or driveways, such screening shall be protected by bumper blocks, posts, or curbing to avoid damage by vehicles.
6. All screening shall be trimmed, maintained in good condition, and free of advertising or other signs, except for directional signs and other signs for the efficient flow of vehicles.

530. Nuisances.

The purpose of the following sections is to establish regulations to control specific uses which if permitted to occur without proper regulation, may create a nuisance for the neighboring property owners.

531. Required Refuse Collection Areas.

The refuse collection areas provided by all commercial, industrial, and multi-family residential uses for the collection of trash, garbage, and other refuse shall be enclosed on three (3) sides by a solid wall or fence of at least four (4') feet in height, unless within an enclosed building or structure. Provisions shall be made for regular and adequate vehicular access to such areas for collection purposes. In addition, the following requirements shall be met:

1. The storage of hazardous or toxic materials or waste shall not be permitted without documented approval of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
2. Materials or waste which might cause fumes or dust or otherwise constitute a fire hazard, of which may attract rodents or insects, shall be stored only in closed containers constructed of impervious materials.

532. Parking and Storage of Vehicles and Trailers.

1. Parking of vehicles accessory to a residential use shall be limited to those vehicles actually used by the resident for personal use, agricultural use, or temporary parking for guests. Vehicles not in keeping with residential character shall not be permitted.
2. No truck, van, construction equipment, or other vehicle of a business or industrial nature shall be parked upon a residential lot except:
 - i. A vehicle that is owned by the resident of a property—or the resident's business or place of employment—and is used by the resident on the job as well as a source of transportation to and from work;
 - ii. A pickup truck not to exceed fourteen-thousand (14,000) pounds of Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) and twenty-three (23) feet in length with a standard bed, special tool boxes, or cap not to exceed a total height of eight (8) feet. No tow truck, stake body, or dump truck may be parked on a residential lot;
 - iii. A passenger van not to exceed fourteen-thousand (14,000) pounds of Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) and twenty (20) feet in length. No step van or chassis van shall be parked on a residential lot without approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals. This subsection is not applicable for vans that are for persons with disabilities.

3. In no case shall a residential zoned parcel be used for the parking or storing of a semi-trailer or tractor.
4. No vehicles or trailers of any type without current license plates shall be parked or stored on any residential property other than in a completely enclosed building, or on any commercial property not authorized for such use.
5. No inoperable vehicle shall be parked or stored on any residential property, or on any commercial property not authorized for such use, other than in a completely enclosed building.
6. A maximum of one (1) boat, one (1) all-purpose trailer, or one (1) recreational vehicle having a current license, and appearing to be operable shall be stored on a paved driveway—or in the rear yard of any residentially zoned property if the boat, trailer, or recreational vehicle otherwise meets requirements for travel on any public or private street or thoroughfare, and meets the setback requirements of this Resolution for accessory structures.
7. No boat, trailer, or recreational vehicle may be parked on a commercially or industrially zoned property for a period of more than twenty-four (24) hours unless such vehicle is owned, operated, stored, and/or maintained in conjunction with an approved, lawfully-permitted use on the property which allows the short-term or long-term storage of boats, trailers, or other recreational vehicles.
8. No commercial vehicle, including but not limited to, commercial tractors, trucks, automobiles, buses, house trailers, or semi-trailers, shall be parked or stored on any commercial or industrially zoned property except for vehicles owned, operated, stored, and/or maintained in conjunction with approved, lawfully-permitted business use(s) on the commercially or industrially zoned property. Nothing in this Resolution shall prevent the parking or storage of commercial vehicle(s) that are conveying the necessary tools, inventory, materials, and/or equipment to a location where inventory is sold or stored in conjunction with the business use(s), or where labor using such tools, materials, and equipment is to be performed during the actual time of parking.

533. Junk.

The accumulation or storage of garbage, household waste, junk, inoperable vehicles, disabled or inoperative machinery or equipment, vehicles or machinery parts, discarded construction materials or debris, or any other discarded objects or debris shall be prohibited, outside of an approved junk yard, in order to protect residents from unsightly conditions and/or an environment conducive to the infestation and breeding of vermin, insects, and rodents.

ARTICLE 6

ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS

600. Purpose.

The purpose of this Article is to establish permitted uses and the regulation of those uses for each of the zoning districts established in Section 180 in order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare.

601. Compliance with Regulations.

The regulations for each district set forth by this Resolution shall be minimum regulations and shall apply uniformly to each class or kind of structure or land, except as hereinafter provided:

1. No building, structure, or land shall be used or occupied and no building or structure or part thereof shall be erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, or structurally altered except in conformity with all of the regulations herein specified for the district in which it is located, unless otherwise exempted pursuant to this Resolution;
2. No structure shall be erected or altered:
 - a. To provide for greater height or bulk;
 - b. To accommodate or house a greater number of families;
 - c. To occupy a greater percentage of lot area;
 - d. To have narrower or smaller rear yards, front yards, side yards, or other open spaces, than herein required, or in any other manner be contrary to the provisions of this Resolution.
3. No yard or lot existing at the time of passage of this Resolution shall be reduced in dimension or area below the minimum requirements set forth herein. Yards or lots created after the effective date of this Resolution shall meet at least the minimum requirements set forth herein.

4. No building, structure or land shall be used or occupied and no building or structure or part thereof shall be erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, or structurally altered except in conformity with all of the regulations specified in this Resolution.

602. Lot Area and Setback Requirements.

The required lot area and building setback requirements for each zone shall be as specified in Figures 1 and 2.

Article 6, Section 602, Figure 1

Zoning District	Minimum Lot Area	Maximum Lot Area	Minimum Yard Setback Depth			Minimum Width of Street Side Yard	Width of Lot at Setback Line ²	Minimum Frontage of Corner Lot	Minimum Floor Area	Maximum Height of Building
			Front ¹	Rear	Side					
ER	2 Acres	NA	50 Feet	50 Feet	20 Feet	50 Feet	175 Feet	200 Feet	1-Story: 1,000 SF 2-Story: 1,200 SF	35 Feet 2 ½ Strs
R-1	20,000 SF	NA	40 Feet	40 Feet	15 Feet	40 Feet	100 Feet	125 Feet	1-Story: 1,000 SF 2-Story: 1,200 SF	35 Feet 2 ½ Strs
R-2	10,000 SF	NA	30 Feet	30 Feet	10 Feet	30 Feet	75 Feet	90 Feet	1-Story: 1,000 SF 2-Story: 1,200 SF	35 Feet 2 ½ Strs
R-3	See Sections 640 – 648 for R-3 Standards									
R-4	See Sections 650 – 658 for R-4 Standards									
B-1	40,000 SF	5 Acres	40 Feet	10 Feet ³	10 Feet ³	40 Feet	NA	NA	NA	75 Feet 6 Stories
M-1	40,000 SF	NA	40 Feet	10 Feet ⁴	20 Feet ⁴	40 Feet	NA	NA	NA	45 Feet 3 Stories
PD	See Sections 680 – 687 for PD Standards									

1 – Measured from the right-of-way

2 – See Section 512.1

3 – See Section 661

4 – See Section 671

Article 6, Section 602, Figure 2

Accessory Use Type	Lot Size	Maximum Floor Area ¹	Maximum Height	Minimum Yard Setback Depth			Maximum Number of Structures
				Rear	Side	Front	
Accessory Structure (Garage, Shed, etc.)	1 Acre or More	2,000 SF ²	20 Feet	5 Feet	5 Feet	120% behind max front setback ³	3 ⁴
	25,001 SF – 1 Acre	1,500 SF	20 Feet	5 Feet	5 Feet	Not Allowed	3
	10,000 – 25,000 SF	1,000 SF	20 Feet	5 Feet	5 Feet	Not Allowed	3
	Less than 10,000 SF	750 SF	20 Feet	5 Feet	5 Feet	Not Allowed	3
Deck (<i>Detached</i>)	See Above/Sections 711.1 – 711.7		4 Feet	5 Feet	5 Feet	Not Allowed	3
Deck (<i>Attached</i>)	NA	NA	NA	5 Feet	5 Feet	Applicable Zoning District Setback	NA
Fence	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Not Allowed	NA
Pool	See Sections 713 – 714 for Accessory Standards						
Compost ⁵	See Section 718.7 for Accessory Standards						
Beekeeping ⁵	See Section 718.8 for Accessory Standards						
Chicken Coop ⁶	NA	60 - 125 SF ⁶	7 Feet	20 Feet	20 Feet	Not Allowed	N/A

1 – The total square-footage devoted to all accessory structures on the lot

2 – See Section 711.1 & 711.3

3 – See Section 711.8 for 2 Acres or more; See Section 602 for FY Setback

4 – See Section 711.2

5 – See Section 718 – No Permit Required

6 – See Section 719

610. “ER” Estate Residential District.

The purpose of the “ER” Estate Residential District is to promote an exclusive area for increased property valued projects while controlling indiscriminate development which can adversely affect the current open space and agricultural uses within the zone.

611. Principal Permitted Uses.

1. Single family dwellings such that there shall be a restriction of one (1) single-family detached dwelling unit per lot, and lot area shall be a minimum of two (2) acres.
2. Roadside stands offering for sale only agricultural products grown on the premises which shall be kept clear of any right-of-way.
3. Public and private forests and wildlife reservations, so long as they exceed two (2) acres in area.
4. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.
5. Public parks, playgrounds, and recreational and community center buildings and grounds, provided that any principal building used therefore shall be located not less than forty (40') feet from any lot line, and upon a lot of not less than two (2) acres.
6. Public service facilities provided that all permanent buildings be located not less than forty (40') feet from any lot line and that adequate screening is provided to buffer structures other than buildings from adjacent residential uses.
7. Nature preserves provided that improvements are limited to parking facilities and walking trails.
8. Class I Type B group residential facilities.
9. Type B family day-care homes.
10. Agriculture:
 - a. In any platted subdivision approved under Section 711.05, or 711.09, or 711.10 of the Revised Code, or in any area consisting of fifteen (15) or more lots approved under Section 711.131 of the Revised Code that are contiguous to one another and adjacent to one side of a dedicated public road, and the balance of which are contiguous to one another and adjacent to the opposite side of the same dedicated public road:

(1) Agriculture is a permitted use except no dairying, animal husbandry or poultry husbandry shall be permitted on lots less than five (5) acres under the conditions set forth in Section 519.21(B)(3) of the Revised Code.

b. On parcels other than those described in Subsection (a) above, agriculture is a permitted use.

612. Conditional Uses.

Pursuant to the regulations set forth in Article 4, the following conditional uses may be requested:

1. Riding stables subject to the following conditions:

- a. The lot shall not be less than five (5) acres in area.
- b. All buildings used to house animals shall be located at least two hundred (200') feet from any property lines.
- c. The applicant shall submit a plan indicating safe traffic ingress and egress, traffic circulation, and on-site parking.
- d. One (1) sign not exceeding twelve (12 sq.ft.) square feet in area.

2. Cemeteries and crematories subject to the following conditions:

- a. The site shall have direct access to a major thoroughfare which the Board of Zoning Appeals determines is adequate to serve the size of the facility proposed.
- b. Any new cemetery shall be located on a site containing not less than twenty-five (25) acres.
- c. All buildings, including but not limited to mausoleums and maintenance buildings, shall not be located within one hundred (100') feet of any property line.
- d. All graves or burial lots shall be set back not less than fifty (50') feet from any property line.

3. The construction, location, erection, reconstruction, alteration, change, use or enlargement of telecommunication towers, upon application and compliance with Ohio Revised Code Section 519.211 and this Resolution if the Board finds that the applicant has satisfied all of the following standards:

- a. Proof shall be provided by the applicant in a form satisfactory to the Board that the proposal has been reviewed and/or approved by all agencies and

governmental entities with jurisdiction, if required, including but not limited to the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Aviation, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Federal Communication Commission, or the successors to their respective functions.

- b. The applicant shall demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that its tower antennae cannot be located on any other communication tower, building or structure in the geographic area to be served, and that all reasonable means have been undertaken to avoid any undue negative impact caused by the “clustering” of towers within an area. In the event of the construction of new facilities by the applicant, the applicant shall agree to the use of such facilities by other public utilities engaged in the provision of telecommunication services; upon payment of reasonable fees for such use.
- c. An application shall be disapproved unless the applicant demonstrates that technically suitable and feasible sites are not available in a nonresidential district not within one hundred (100’) feet of a residential dwelling and that the site is located in the least restrictive district that includes a technically suitable and feasible site.
- d. Monopole installations are required. It is required that any building constructed to service a telecommunications tower be designed in an architecturally compatible manner to adjacent buildings. It is further required that the tower itself and any support equipment located on the ground shall be painted or have a finish in earth tones to reduce visual impact.
- e. Pole, tower and/or structure placement be only on a lot meeting not less than the square footage requirements of zone district located within, with a maximum height being one hundred fifty (150’) feet. The minimum setback shall be as indicated in the following table:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>MINIMUM SETBACK</u>	<u>MINIMUM SCREENING</u>
ER	50 FEET	40 FEET
R-1	40 FEET	30 FEET
R-2	30 FEET	20 FEET

MINIMUM SETBACK IS FROM ALL PROPERTY LINES

- f. For reasons of aesthetics and public safety such facilities shall be effectively screened on each side which adjoins premises in any residential zone districts. Screening shall consist of a solid masonry wall or solid fence, not less than four (4’) nor more than six (6’) feet in height, a tight screen of hardy evergreen shrubbery, or natural or existing screening not less than four (4’) feet in height. The use of razor or barbed wire shall be

prohibited. Screening walls and fences shall meet the minimum setback requirement as indicated in the table in Subsection (e) above. Spaces between any screening device and adjacent property lines shall be including, but not limited to grass, hardy shrubs, evergreen ground cover, etc. All screening devices and landscape materials shall be maintained in good condition.

- g. The applicant (or its successors) shall, within thirty (30) days of ceasing operation at the site of a telecommunication tower, give notice of such ceasing of operation to the Union Township Zoning Department. Facilities shall be removed from the site within twelve (12) months of ceasing operations. Resale or renting of facilities is permissible only to other telecommunication systems subject to the obtainment of a zoning certificate from the Union Township Zoning Department.
 - h. Any special zoning certificate issued under this section shall be revocable and may be revoked after notice and hearing if any continuing conditions of the certificate has been violated and is not remedied within thirty (30) days of written notice from the Zoning Director.
 - i. The permit application shall list the location of every tower, building or structure within a half (½) mile radius, that could support the proposed antenna so as to allow it to service its intended function.
 - j. An antenna or tower may not be illuminated, nor may lighting fixtures or advertisement signs be attached to the structure, except such lighting as may be required by law.
- 4. Child Day Care Center / Type A Family Day-Care Home subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Outdoor playgrounds, tot lots, exercise areas, etc. shall be fully enclosed by a fence, the height and design which shall be approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
 - b. The applicant shall submit a parking and traffic circulation plan to the Board of Zoning Appeals for approval. The design, location, and surface of the parking areas and vehicular approaches shall be subject to approval by the Board of Zoning Appeals so as to reduce congestion, promote safety, and reduce the impact on the residential character of the neighborhood. The plan shall provide for the separation of incoming and outgoing vehicles during high volume periods and shall provide a safe drop off point for children that will not impede other traffic.
 - c. One (1) sign, not exceeding four (4 sq.ft.) square feet in area and mounted flush against the building, shall be permitted.

5. Bed / Breakfast Home subject to the following conditions:
 - a. No more than two (2) adults shall occupy each sleeping room. Children under twelve (12) years of age are permitted in the same occupancy provided that no more than five (5) persons occupy one (1) room.
 - b. Fire exit instructions shall be posted in each sleeping room.
 - c. All applicable provisions of the fire code shall be met and certification of such compliance by the appropriate official shall accompany the application.
 - d. The facility shall be operated so that guests reside at the home for not longer than one (1) continuous week.
 - e. The facility shall contain not more than four (4) sleeping rooms for guests.
6. Home Occupations subject to the following conditions (see Section 715 for home occupations as accessory uses):
 - a. There shall be no more than two (2) nonresidential employees or volunteers to be engaged in the proposed use.
 - b. Sales of commodities not produced on the premises may be permitted, provided that the commodities are specified in the application and are reasonably related to the home occupation.
 - c. The home occupation may be permitted to be conducted in a structure accessory to the residence, provided the application so specifies.
 - d. Outside storage related to the home occupation may be permitted, if totally screened from adjacent residential lots, provided the application so specifies.
 - e. Not more than thirty percent (30%) of the gross floor area of any residence shall be devoted to the proposed home occupation.
 - f. The external appearance of the structure in which the use is to be conducted shall not be altered, and not more than one nameplate, no larger than two (2 sq.ft.) square feet shall be mounted flush to the wall of the structure.
 - g. Minor or moderate alterations in accordance with Union Township and Clermont County building codes may be permitted to accommodate the proposed use, but there shall be no substantial construction or reconstruction.
 - h. No equipment, process, materials or chemicals shall be used which create offensive noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odor, heat, glare, x-rays, radiation, or electrical disturbances.

- i. No more than two (2) additional parking spaces may be proposed in conjunction with the home occupation, which shall not be located in a required front yard.
 - j. For the purposes of this Resolution, a conditional use permit issued for a home occupation shall cease to be valid at such time as the premises for which it was issued is no longer occupied by the holder of said permit. Such conditional use permit shall also be immediately invalidated upon the conduct of the home occupation in any manner not approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- 7. Class I Type A, Class II Type A, and Class II Type B group residential facilities subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The proposed facility meets the certification, licensing, or approval requirements of the appropriate state agency.
 - b. The proposed facility meets local fire safety requirements for the proposed use and level of occupancy.
 - c. The proposed facility will not generate an unreasonable increase in traffic volume or require special off-street parking.
 - d. Such facilities shall comply with the district regulations applicable to other properties in the zoning district in which they are located.
 - e. No such facility may be located within six hundred (600') feet of another such facility.
 - f. No signs shall be erected by such facility for purposes of identification except a permitted street address sign.
 - g. The exterior of all such facilities shall not be altered in character but shall be compatible with other residential dwellings. However, any improvement required by code or necessitated by licensing requirements shall not be deemed incompatible.
 - h. Such facility shall be reasonably accessible, by virtue of its location or transportation provided by the applicant, to medical, recreational, and retail services required by its residents, and to employment opportunities, if applicable, and shall be in a relatively safe and stable neighborhood.
 - i. The applicant shall provide a plan indicating the manner in which the facility will maintain contact with neighborhood residents, to include a structured procedure whereby their grievances may be filed and resolved.
 - j. The applicant shall provide documentation indicating the need for the facility, the specific clientele it will serve, and the location and type of similar facilities operated by the applicant.

8. Churches, and other places of worship and buildings for religious teaching; schools and colleges for academic instruction; public buildings including libraries, museums, art galleries, and hospitals; and institutional building of a charitable or philanthropic nature subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The lot area shall be adequate to accommodate the required off street parking requirements of the use.
 - b. The principal structure shall be located a minimum of fifty (50') feet from any adjacent residential property line.
 - c. The parking area shall be located a minimum of ten (10') feet from the street right-of-way, fifty (50') feet from all property lines and comply with Section 520 for visual screening.
 - d. The applicant shall submit a plan indicating safe traffic ingress and egress, traffic circulation, and on-site parking.
 - e. A cemetery associated with a church shall be subject to the conditions of Section 612.2.
9. Country clubs, golf courses and other private non-commercial recreation areas and facilities or recreation centers subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The lot shall be not less than ten (10) acres in area.
 - b. The principal building shall be located not less than fifty (50') feet from the front property line and two hundred (200') feet from the side or rear property lines.
 - c. Swimming pools shall comply with Section 714.
 - d. The applicant shall submit a plan indicating safe traffic ingress and egress, traffic circulation, and on-site parking.
10. Greenhouses, arborists, and landscape services and supplies subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The use or storage of materials, structures, vehicles, and equipment shall be arranged to minimize interference with adjoining residential uses or districts.
 - b. At least a one hundred (100') foot setback for buildings, equipment, and materials shall be maintained from adjoining residential uses or districts.
 - c. Provisions shall be made for the containment of materials, dirt, and dust.
 - d. Parking shall be provided in accordance with Article 8.

- e. All equipment and materials, except for licensed motorized vehicles, licensed trailers, self-motorized riding equipment (e.g., tractors), plants, and bulk landscape supplies shall be stored in an enclosed building or screened area.

613. Accessory Uses, Provided A Principal Permitted Use Exists.

- 1. Accessory uses, buildings or other structures customarily incidental to any aforementioned permitted use, including barns, stables and garages under conditions specified herein, provided that such accessory uses shall not involve the conduct of any business, trade or industry, or any private way or walk providing access to such activity or any billboard, or sign other than hereinafter authorized.
- 2. Accessory structures, as regulated in Section 711.
- 3. Customary home occupations as regulated in Section 715.
- 4. Swimming pools subject to the regulations set forth in Sections 713 – 714.
- 5. Real estate, small announcement or professional signs subject to the provisions of Article 9, Sign Regulations.

614. Prohibited Uses.

- 1. Any use which is not specifically permitted is prohibited.

615. General Provisions.

- 1. The minimum residential floor area for single family detached dwellings (excluding basement and garage areas) shall be one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units less than two (2) stories and one thousand two hundred (1,200 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units two (2) stories or more.
- 2. All exterior lighting used to extend the operating hours of permitted uses, such as country clubs, or other similar conditional uses, shall be directed away from adjacent residential uses and shall be extinguished by 11:00 p.m. This restriction shall not be construed to prohibit customary security lighting for doors, entryways, and walkways, provided such lighting is either low-intensity “bollard style” lighting, or if building mounted, flat-lens, downward-directed and shielded in a manner consistent with the requirements enumerated in Article 11, Section 1116 of this Resolution.

3. Parking for all uses shall be in accordance with Article 8, Off-Street Parking and Loading Facilities.

620. “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

The purpose of the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone is to provide land for single family detached housing units.

621. Principal Permitted Uses.

1. Single family detached dwellings such that there shall be a restriction of one (1) single family detached dwelling unit per lot, and lot area shall be a minimum of twenty thousand (20,000 sq.ft.) square feet.
2. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.
3. Public parks, playgrounds, and similar community facilities providing buildings and structures are located not less than forty (40') feet from any lot line.
4. Class I Type B group residential facilities.
5. Public service facilities provided that all permanent building be located not less than forty (40') feet from any lot line and that adequate screening is provided to buffer structures other than buildings from adjacent residential uses.
6. Type B family day-care homes.

7. Agriculture:

- a. In any platted subdivision approved under Section 711.05, or 711.09, or 711.10 of the Revised Code, or in any area consisting of fifteen (15') or more lots approved under Section 711.131 of the Revised Code that are contiguous to one another and adjacent to one side of a dedicated public road, and the balance of which are contiguous to one another and adjacent to the opposite side of the same dedicated public road:
 - (1) On lots of less than five (5) acres but greater than one (1) acre agriculture is a permitted use provided that all structures used to house animals are located no less than two hundred (200') feet from any property line and have a gross floor space of no more than three-hundred (300 sq.ft.) square feet and a building height no greater than fifteen (15') feet and where at least thirty five percent (35%) of the lots in the subdivision are developed with at least one (1) building, structure or improvement that is subject to real property taxation or that is subject to the tax on manufactured homes.
 - (2) On lots less than one (1) acre, all agricultural uses are prohibited.
- b. On parcels other than those described in Subsection (a) above, agriculture is a permitted use.

622. Conditional Uses.

Pursuant to the regulations set forth in Article 4, the following conditional uses may be requested:

1. Cemeteries provided they are adjacent to or are an extension of existing cemeteries and meet the requirements of Section 612.
2. Child Day Care Center / Type A Family Day Care Home provided they meet the requirements of Section 612.
3. Class I Type A group residential facilities provided they meet the requirements of Section 612.
4. Home occupations subject to the requirements of Section 612.
5. Churches, and other places of worship and buildings for religious teaching; schools and colleges for academic instruction; public buildings including libraries, museums, art galleries, and hospitals; and institutional buildings of a charitable or philanthropic nature subject to the requirements of Section 612.

6. Country clubs, golf courses and other private non-commercial recreation areas and facilities or recreation centers subject to the requirements of Section 612.
7. Telecommunication towers subject to the requirements of Section 612.

623. Accessory Uses, Provided a Principal Permitted Use Exists.

The following uses are approved accessory uses subject to requirements of Article 7.

1. Accessory structures, as regulated in Section 711.
2. Home occupations.
3. Private swimming pools.
4. Real estate, small announcement or professional signs subject to the provisions of Article 9, Sign Regulations.

624. Prohibited Uses.

1. Any use which is not specifically permitted is prohibited.

625. General Provisions.

1. The minimum residential floor area for single family detached dwellings (excluding basement and garage areas) shall be one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units less than two (2) stories, and one thousand two hundred (1,200 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units two (2) stories or more.
2. All exterior lighting used to extend the operating hours of permitted uses, such as country clubs, or other similar conditional uses shall be directed away from adjacent residential uses and shall be extinguished by 11:00 p.m. This restriction shall not be construed to prohibit customary security lighting for doors, entryways, and walkways, provided such lighting is either low-intensity “bollard style” lighting, or if building mounted, flat-lens, downward-directed and shielded in a manner consistent with the requirements enumerated in Article 11, Section 1116 of this Resolution.
3. Parking for all uses shall be in accordance with Article 8, Off-Street Parking and Loading Facilities.

630. “R-2” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

The purpose of the “R-2” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone is to provide land for medium-density single family detached housing units.

631. Rezoning Date.

After July 13, 1999, no property in Union Township shall be rezoned to “R-2” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

632. Principal Permitted Uses.

1. Single family detached dwellings such that there shall be a restriction of one (1) single family detached dwelling unit per lot, and lot area shall be a minimum of ten thousand (10,000 sq.ft.) square feet.
2. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.
3. Any principal permitted use permitted and as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Residential Zone.

633. Conditional Uses.

Any conditional use permitted and as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

634. Accessory Uses, Provided a Principal Permitted Use Exists.

Any accessory use or structure permitted and as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

635. Prohibited Uses.

1. Any use which is not specifically permitted is prohibited.

636. General Provisions.

1. The minimum residential floor area for single family detached dwellings shall be one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units less than two (2) stories and one thousand two hundred (1,200 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units two (2) stories or more.
2. All exterior lighting used to extend the operating hours of permitted uses, such as country clubs, shall be directed away from adjacent residential uses and shall be extinguished by 11:00 p.m. This restriction shall not be construed to prohibit customary security lighting for doors, entryways, and walkways, provided such lighting is either low-intensity “bollard style” lighting, or if building mounted, flat-lens, downward-directed and shielded in a manner consistent with the requirements enumerated in Article 11, Section 1116 of this Resolution.
3. Parking for all uses shall be in accordance with Article 8, Off-Street Parking and Loading Facilities.

640. “R-3” Planned Multifamily Residential Zone.

The purpose of the “R-3” Planned Multifamily Residential Zone is to provide sites for multifamily housing at appropriate locations in relation to the existing and potential development of their surroundings, to afford an attractive setting for multifamily housing uses, and to harmonize such uses with their surroundings. These regulations are established pursuant to authorization under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 519.021, as amended, for townships to adopt Planned-unit Development zoning.

641. Rezoning Date.

After July 13, 1999, no property in Union Township shall be rezoned to “R-3” Planned Multifamily Residential Zone.

642. Principal Permitted Uses.

The following uses shall be permitted within the R-3 Planned Multifamily Residential Zone, and shall be subject to the conditions and provisions contained within this section as follows:

1. Multifamily dwellings with minimum lot area for two-family of eight thousand (8,000 sq.ft.) square feet per family; for three-family or four-family, six thousand five hundred (6,500 sq.ft.) square feet per family; for more than four (4) families, six thousand (6,000 sq.ft.) square feet per family.
2. Any principal permitted use permitted and as regulated in the “R-2” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.
3. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.

643. Conditional and Accessory Uses.

1. Conditional Uses
 - a. Any conditional use permitted and as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

2. Accessory Uses

- a. Any accessory use or structure permitted and as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential

644. Provisions Governing Multifamily Developments.

1. Harmonious Relationship to Neighborhood. The size and location of the tract and the density of the development in relation to surrounding property shall be such that the proposed development, including landscaping and screening and other adjustments to the abutting land uses, can be made to harmonize with the neighborhood.
2. Location and Arrangement. In furthering this objective, the location and arrangement of buildings, parking structures and areas, walks, lighting, and appurtenant facilities shall be adjusted to surrounding land uses, and any part of the site not used for buildings or other structures, or for parking, loading or access shall be landscaped with grass, trees, and shrubs or pedestrian walks in accordance with Section 520.
3. Common Open Space. Twenty (20%) percent of the land developed in any project shall be reserved for common open space and recreational facilities for the residents or users of the area being developed. The open space shall be disposed of as required in the next paragraph of this subsection. Open space may be partially or fully waived by the Township Trustees when the developer donates land and/or improvements for public uses.
4. Disposition of Open Space. The required amount of common open space land reserved under a development may be held in ownership by owners of the project area for the use of each owner who buys property within the development and retained as common open space for parks, recreation, and related uses, or donated by developer for public uses. Public utility and similar easements and rights-of-way, for water courses, and other similar channels are not acceptable for common open space dedication to the County, unless such land or right-of-way is usable as a trail or other open space.
5. Maintenance of Open Space. The responsibility for the maintenance of all open spaces shall be specified by the Developer before approval of the preliminary plan.
6. Parking as required in Article 8 of this Resolution.
7. Special Land Characteristics. In a case where the topography or other physical features of the tract or its relation to surrounding property may make complete compliance with the yard requirements, as prescribed in this section, unnecessary or undesirable, the Township Trustees may modify such requirements provided the surrounding property and the public welfare are adequately protected.

8. Height and Area Requirements.

- a. No multifamily building shall exceed two and one-half (2 ½) stories or thirty-five (35') feet in height.
- b. No multifamily building shall be closer than forty-five (45') feet to any front or rear lot line or closer than twenty (20') feet to any side lot line, nor closer than thirty (30') feet to any side street lot line.
- c. Minimum floor area requirements are as follows:

EfficiencySix-Hundred (600 sq.ft.) square feet

One (1) bedroomSeven-Hundred-Twenty (720 sq.ft.) square feet

Two (2) bedroomsEight-Hundred-Sixty (860 sq.ft.) square feet

Three (3) bedroomsOne Thousand Ten (1,010 sq.ft.) square feet

645. Review Procedure for Approval of Multifamily Residential Dwelling Units.

The review process shall consist of the following:

1. Pre-application Meeting.

The Pre-application Meeting is an informal meeting with the developer and Planning & Zoning Director to discuss the proposed project before it is officially submitted for review. The developer shall prepare a "sketch" plan to be used as a basis for discussion. Representations made by the Zoning Director or staff members shall be non-binding on the Township Zoning Commission or Township Trustees.

2. Application for Zone Change / Concept Plan Review.

The owner or owners of a tract of land may submit an application for a planned multifamily zone to the Planning & Zoning Director. Fifteen (15) copies of a Concept Plan, containing all the information required in Section 646 must accompany the application. The application will be reviewed and acted upon by the Township Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees according to the requirements in Article 4.

If the application is not approved by the Township Trustees, the process ends, however, the applicant may resubmit a new application and Concept Plan for

review. If the application is approved, the applicant will then submit a Formal Plan.

3. Formal Plan Review.

In Lieu of submitting a Concept Plan as described in Section 645.2 of this Resolution, the owner or owners of a tract of land may alternatively elect to file a combined Concept/Formal Development Plan. In such case, the applicant shall submit fifteen (15) copies of the Formal Plan to the Planning & Zoning Director for review by the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees. The Formal Plan must contain all the information required in Section 646.

If the development involves the subdivision of land then the plans must also be submitted to the Clermont County Planning Commission in accordance with the Clermont County Subdivision Regulations. The results of the Clermont County Planning Commission's action will be sent to the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees.

The Formal Plan must be submitted, reviewed and approved by the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees within two (2) years of the date of approval of the Concept Plan. If the Formal Plan is not approved within two (2) years, the Concept Plan will be considered void unless an extension in writing is requested by the developer and subsequently granted by the Township Trustees. The Board of Trustees may grant extensions of any length. In the event that substantial active construction activities have commenced relative to any approved R-3 plan, successive one-year extensions may be granted by the Zoning Director, extending up to a maximum of five (5) years from the effective date of any Concept Plan and/or Formal Development Plan approval.

4. The Township Zoning Commission and/or Township Trustees may request other County, State or Federal agencies, such as the Clermont County Planning Commission, County Engineer, Water and Soil Conservation Service, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, or Ohio EPA to review and comment on the submitted plans.

646. Content of Plan.

1. Concept Plan Contents.

In addition to the standard requirements fixed by this Resolution for application for a map amendment, the required Concept Plan shall:

- a. Be drawn to an adequate scale and clearly show the boundaries of the tract.

- b. Show the adjoining property owners and the existing zoning and land uses within two hundred (200') feet of the tract.
- c. Show the existing topographic features (at two (2') foot intervals) of the site and all property within two hundred (200') feet of the site. Show all existing structures, easements, utilities and right-of-way.
- d. Show any environmentally sensitive or geologic hazard areas. A separate data resource map delineating all the soil types must accompany the Concept Plan.
- e. Show the location of any existing streets abutting or within the subject property. The Concept Plan should show the dedication of forty (40') feet of right-of-way where the property fronts on an existing street.
- f. Show all proposed access points to the site and when applicable, the internal street system, both public streets and private drives.
- g. Show all proposed screening, buffering, landscaping and open space.

Failure of the plan to demonstrate all required criteria shall result in rejection of the plan by the Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees.

2. Formal Plan Contents.

The required Formal Plan shall:

- a. Be drawn to an adequate scale and clearly show the boundaries of the tract.
- b. Show the adjoining property owners and the existing zoning and land uses within two hundred (200') feet of the tract.
- c. Show the layout and numbers of dimension of each lot if the subdivision of land is involved.
- d. Show the existing topographic features (at two (2') foot intervals) of the site and all property within two hundred (200') feet of the site.
- e. If applicable, show all flood plains, storm water retention areas, and any other environmentally sensitive or geologic hazard area.
- f. Show all existing structures, easements, utilities and right-of-way.
- g. Show the location of all existing or proposed sewer lines, water lines, culverts and other underground structures within or adjacent to the site.
- h. Show the final location, height, floor area and use for all proposed and/or existing buildings.

- i. Provide a calculation, in acres or square feet, for land area in yards or open space, parking facilities, streets or drives, building lot coverage and building floor area.
- j. Show the final location, dimension and arrangement of all streets, driveways, parking area, and other vehicular and pedestrian rights-of-way. Show the dedication of forty (40') feet of right-of-way where the property fronts on an existing public street.
- k. Show the final number and arrangement of all parking spaces.
- l. Show a typical cross-section of streets and drives from right-of-way line to right-of-way line. The typical section shall show the location of all utility lines and storm sewers.
- m. Show a typical cross-section of all landscaped buffer yards. The plan should include a note detailing the type of vegetation to be used.
- n. Show the location and site of all signs.
- o. Show the location and design of all lighting.
- p. If the proposed development involves the subdivision of land, the Formal Plan must meet all the relevant requirements of the Clermont County Subdivision Regulations.
- q. Contain the following owner certification: "I (We) do hereby certify that I am (we are) the only owner(s) of the property shown herein, and do adopt this as my (our) development for the property."
- r. Contain the following Township certification to be signed by the Chairperson of the Township Trustees or designated appointee after final approval of the Formal Plan has been granted: "I do hereby certify that this Formal Plan meets the requirements set by Union Township and is approved."

Failure of the plan to demonstrate all required criteria shall result in rejection of the plan by the Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees.

647. Procedure to Amend an Approved "R-3 Planned Multifamily Residential District" Plan.

1. A property owner may request amendment to any unexpired "R-3 Planned Multifamily Residential District" Concept or Formal Plan . Plan amendment does not re-commence the start date of the expiration period. However, for major amendments, the Board of Trustees in its discretion may by motion re-commence the expiration start date at the date of the amendment approval. Plan amendment

shall be considered an administrative action, not subject to Ohio Revised Code Section 519.12, as amended.

2. The Planning & Zoning Director shall determine whether the proposed amendment is a major or minor amendment.
3. For minor amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
 - a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Five (5) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform to Section 646, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned "Minor Amendment."
 - d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application, and at the Director's sole discretion, approve or deny the minor amendment. An applicant may appeal a denial of a minor amendment to the Board of Trustees.
 - e. Prior to entering a decision, the Planning & Zoning Director may require the applicant to submit written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, or other agencies evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development.
4. For major amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
 - a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Ten (10) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform to Section 646, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned "Major Amendment."

- d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application and draft a report for review by the Board of Trustees.
- e. Unless waived by the Planning & Zoning Director, prior to submission to the Board of Trustees, the applicant shall provide written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, and any other agencies as deemed necessary by the Planning & Zoning Director evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development or amendment.
- f. Thereafter, the Planning & Zoning Director shall place the amendment on the Board of Trustees' docket. The Board of Trustees shall consider the amendment and adopt a motion approving, denying, or modifying the amended plan. Prior to entering a final decision, the Board of Trustees may direct that further data be provided if necessary to make an informed decision.

648. Delay in Construction.

- 1. In the event the construction of the development is not started within five (5) years from the effective date of approval of the Formal Development Plan by the Township Trustees, the plan shall no longer be valid and a zoning permit shall not be issued until a new plan is submitted and approved in the same manner as the previous plans.
- 2. In the event the construction is not started within the prescribed time, the Township Zoning Commission may begin proceedings to amend the "R-3" Planned Multifamily Residential Zone to that which the Township Zoning Commission feels is appropriate for the site.

649. Violation of the Formal Development Plan.

The Formal Development Plan approved in accordance with the article shall be an integral part of the zoning amendment and any departure from the plan or any modification thereof, except when specifically approved by the Township Trustees, shall be a violation of the Zoning Resolution and shall be subject to the provisions and penalties in Article 2.

650. “R-4” Single Family Variable Structure Residential Zone.

These regulations are established pursuant to authorization under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 519.021 as amended, for townships to adopt Planned-unit Development zoning. The purpose of the “R-4” Single Family Variable Structure Residential Zone is to encourage development for single family dwelling units which:

1. Is in harmony with existing residential areas located in proximity to the site to be developed.
2. Displays a creative street and lot arrangement which reflects a sensitivity to the physical characteristics of the site to be developed.
3. Provides common open spaces for the preservation of the site’s physical assets and/or recreational utilization by the occupants of the development.
4. Allows for creativity in the developer’s planning and local government decision making regarding housing choice, legal requirements, recreation space availability, auto traffic and pedestrian movement and other considerations.

651. Principal Permitted Uses.

1. Single family detached units as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.
2. Single family dwelling units in a variety of structures either detached or having common walls or other physically shared attachments in a clustering of units to include, but not necessarily limited to: townhouses, quadrominiums, patio homes, stacked units, etc., at a density that is consistent with the characteristics of the development and the use of the land.
3. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.

652. Conditional Uses.

Any conditional use as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

653. Accessory Uses.

Any accessory use or structure as regulated in the “R-1” Single Family Detached Structure Residential Zone.

654. Provisions Governing Single Family Variable Structure Residential Zone Developments.

Because of the special characteristics of these developments, special provisions governing the development of land for this purpose are required. Whenever there is a conflict of difference between the provisions of this article and those of the other articles of this Resolution, the provisions of this article shall prevail for the development of land for variable structure developments. Subjects not covered by this article shall be governed by the respective provisions found elsewhere in this Resolution. The following provisions apply to the development, land use and requirements governing single family variable structure developments.

1. Residential Floor Area. The minimum residential floor area for single family detached dwellings shall be one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units less than two (2) stories and one thousand two hundred (1,200 sq.ft.) square feet for dwelling units two (2) stories or more.
2. Common Open Space. Twenty percent (20%) of the land developed in any project shall be reserved for common open space and recreational facilities for the residents or users of the area being developed. The open space shall be disposed of as required in the next paragraph of this subsection. Open space may be partially or fully waived by the Township Trustees when the developer donates land and/or improvements for public uses.
3. Disposition of Open Space. The required amount of common open space land reserved under a development may be held in ownership by owners of the project area for the use of each owner who buys property within the development and retained as common open space for parks, recreation, and related uses, or donated by developer for public uses. Public utility and similar easements and rights-of-way, for water courses, and other similar channels are not acceptable for common open space dedication to the County, unless such land or right-of-way is usable as a trail or other open space.
4. Maintenance of Open Space. The responsibility for the maintenance of all open spaces shall be specified by the Developer before approval of the preliminary plan.

655. Review Procedure For Approval of Variable Structure Residential Dwelling Units.

The review process shall consist of the following:

1. Preapplication Meeting.

An informal meeting shall occur between the developer and Township Zoning Director to discuss the proposed project before it is officially submitted for review. The developer shall prepare a “sketch” plan to be used as a basis for discussion. Representations made by the Zoning Director or staff members shall be nonbinding on the Township Zoning Commission or Township Trustees.

2. Application for Zone Change / Concept Plan Review.

The owner or owners of a tract of land may submit fifteen (15) copies of an application for a single family variable structure residential zone Concept Plan to the Township Zoning Director. A Concept Plan, containing all the information required in Section 656 shall accompany the application. The application will be reviewed and acted upon by the Township Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees according to the requirements in Article 4.

If the application is disapproved by the Township Trustees, the process ends, however, the applicant may resubmit a new application and Concept Plan for review. If the application is approved, the applicant will then submit a Formal Plan.

3. Formal Plan Review.

In Lieu of submitting a Concept Plan as described in Section 655.2 of this Resolution, the owner or owners of a tract of land may alternatively elect to file a combined Concept/Formal Development Plan. In such case, fifteen (15) copies of the Formal Development Plan shall be submitted to the Township Zoning Director for review by the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees. The Formal Plan must contain all the information required in Section 656.

If the development involves the subdivision of land then the plans must be submitted to the Clermont County Planning Commission in accordance with the Clermont County Subdivision Regulations. The results of the Clermont County Planning Commission’s action will be sent to the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees.

The Formal Development Plan must be submitted, reviewed and approved by the Township Zoning Commission and Township Trustees within two (2) years of the date of approval of any Concept Plan. If the Formal Development Plan is not approved within two (2) years, the Concept Plan or Formal Plan will be considered void unless an extension is requested by the developer and granted in writing by the Township Zoning Director. Successive one-year extensions may be granted by the Zoning Director, extending up to a maximum of five (5) years

from the effective date of any Concept Plan and/or Formal Development Plan approval.

4. The Township Zoning Commission and/or Township Trustees may request other County, State or Federal agencies, such as the Clermont County Planning Commission, County Engineer, Water and Soil Conservation Service, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, or Ohio EPA to review and comment on the submitted plans.
5. For property under substantial active construction, the Planning & Zoning Director may, within the Director's sole discretion, grant reasonable extensions of the "R-4" plan.

656. Content of Plan.

1. Concept Plan Contents.

In addition to the standard requirements fixed by this Resolution for application for a map amendment, the required Concept Plan shall:

- a. Be drawn to an adequate scale and clearly show the boundaries of the tract.
- b. Show the adjoining property owners and the existing zoning and land uses within two hundred (200') feet of the tract.
- c. Show the existing topographic features (at two (2') foot intervals) of the site and all property within two hundred (200') feet of the site. Show all existing structures, easements, utilities and right-of-way.
- d. Show any other environmentally sensitive or geologic hazard areas. A separate data resource map delineating all the soil types must accompany the Concept Plan.
- e. Show the location of any existing streets abutting or within the subject property. The Concept Plan should show the dedication of forty (40') feet of right-of-way where the property fronts on an existing street.
- f. Show all proposed access points to the site and when applicable, the internal street system, both public streets and private drives.
- g. Show all proposed screening, buffering, landscaping and open space.

Failure of the plan to demonstrate all required criteria shall result in rejection of the plan by the Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees.

2. Formal Plan Contents.

The required Formal Plan shall:

- a. Be drawn to an adequate scale and clearly show the boundaries of the tract.
- b. Show the adjoining property owners and the existing zoning and land uses within two hundred (200') feet of the tract.
- c. Show the layout and numbers of dimension of each lot if the subdivision of land is involved.
- d. Show the existing topographic features (at two (2') foot intervals) of the site and all property within two hundred (200') feet of the site.
- e. If applicable, show all flood plains, storm water retention areas, and any other environmentally sensitive or geologic hazard area.
- f. Show all existing structures, easements, utilities and right-of-way.
- g. Show the location of all existing or proposed sewer lines, water lines, culverts and other underground structures within or adjacent to the site.
- h. Show the final location, height, floor area and use for all proposed and/or existing buildings.
- i. Provide a calculation, in acres or square feet, for land area in yards or open space, parking facilities, streets or drives, building lot coverage and building floor area.
- j. Show the final location, dimension and arrangement of all streets, driveways, parking area, and other vehicular and pedestrian rights-of-way. Show the dedication of forty (40') feet of right-of-way where the property fronts on an existing public street.
- k. Show the final number and arrangement of all parking spaces.
- l. Show a typical cross-section of streets and drives from right-of-way line to right-of-way line. The typical section shall show the location of all utility lines and storm sewers.
- m. Show a typical cross-section of all landscaped buffer yards. The plan should include a note detailing the type of vegetation to be used.
- n. Show the location and site of all signs.
- o. Show the location and design of all lighting.

- p. If the proposed development involves the subdivision of land, the Formal Plan must meet all the relevant requirements of the Clermont County Subdivision Regulations.
- q. Contain the following owner certification: “I (We) do hereby certify that I am (we are) the only owner(s) of the property shown herein, and do adopt this as my (our) development for the property.”
- r. Contain the following Township certification to be signed by the Chairperson of the Township Trustees or designated appointee after final approval of the Formal Plan has been granted: “I do hereby certify that this Formal Plan meets the requirements set by Union Township and is approved.”

Failure of the plan to demonstrate all required criteria shall result in rejection of the plan by the Zoning Commission and the Township Trustees.

657. Procedure to Amend an Approved “R-4 Single Family Variable Structure Residential District” Plan.

- 1. A property owner may request amendment to any unexpired “R-4 Single Family Variable Structure Residential District” Concept t or Formal Plan. Plan amendment does not re-commence the start date of the expiration period. However, for major amendments, the Board of Trustees in its discretion may by motion re-commence the expiration start date at the date of the amendment approval. Plan amendment shall be considered an administrative action, not subject to Ohio Revised Code Section 519.12, as amended.
- 2. The Planning & Zoning Director shall determine whether the proposed amendment is a major or minor amendment.
- 3. For minor amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
 - a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Five (5) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform to Section 656, with the following exceptions.
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned “Minor Amendment.”

- d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application, and at the Director's sole discretion, approve or deny the minor amendment. An applicant may appeal a denial of a minor amendment to the Board of Trustees.
 - e. Prior to entering a decision, the Planning & Zoning Director may require the applicant to submit written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, or other agencies evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development.
 - f. For property under substantial active construction, the Planning & Zoning Director may, within the Director's sole discretion, grant reasonable extensions of the "R-4" plan.
4. For major amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
- a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Ten (10) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform the Section 656, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned "Major Amendment."
 - d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application and draft a report for review by the Board of Trustees.
 - e. Unless waived by the Planning & Zoning Director, prior to submission to the Board of Trustees, the applicant shall provide written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, and any other agencies as deemed necessary by the Planning & Zoning Director evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development or amendment.
 - f. Thereafter, the Planning & Zoning Director shall place the amendment on the Board of Trustees docket. The Board of Trustees shall consider the amendment and adopt a motion approving, denying or modifying the amended plan. Prior to entering a final decision, the Board of Trustees may direct that further data be provided if necessary to make an informed decision.

- g. For property under substantial active construction, the Planning & Zoning Director may, within the Director's sole discretion, grant reasonable extensions of the "R-4" plan.

658. Delay in Construction.

1. In the event the construction of the development is not started within five (5) years from the effective date of approval of the Formal Development Plan by the Township Trustees, the plan shall no longer be valid and a zoning permit shall not be issued until a new plan is submitted and approved in the same manner as the previous plans.
2. In the event the construction is not started within the prescribed time, the Township Zoning Commission may begin proceedings to amend the "R-4" Single Family Variable Structure Residential Zone to that which the Township Zoning Commission feels is appropriate for the site.

659. Violation of the Formal Development Plan.

The Formal Development Plan approved in accordance with this article shall be an integral part of the zoning amendment and any departure from the plan or any modification thereof, except when specifically approved by the Township Trustees, shall be a violation of the Zoning Resolution and shall be subject to the provisions and penalties in Article 2.

660. “B-1” Business Zone.

The purpose of the “B-1” Business Zone is to centralize the commercial activity within the Township and to prevent commercial activities from intruding into other areas of the Township as incompatible uses, on parcels less than five (5) acres.

661. Principal Permitted Uses.

1. Office Uses. The following uses shall be located a minimum of fifty (50’) feet from any residential zone unless otherwise indicated.
 - a. Financial institutions.
 - b. Professional offices.
 - c. Medical or dental clinics.
 - d. Post offices.
 - e. Real estate offices.
 - g. General offices of federal, state or local governments, individuals or corporations devoted to office use and not used for manufacturing, storage, or warehousing.
2. Personal Service Uses. The following uses shall be located a minimum of fifty (50’) feet from any residential zone unless otherwise indicated.
 - a. Photocopying establishments.
 - b. Barber shops, beauty parlors, nail salons, tattoo artists, and tanning salons.
 - c. Photographic or artist studios.
 - d. Dressmaking, tailoring, and shoe repair.
 - e. Repair of household appliances.
 - f. Funeral home or mortuary.
3. Quasipublic Uses. The following uses shall be located a minimum of fifty (50’) feet from any residential zone unless otherwise indicated.
 - a. Churches and other places of religious assembly and teaching.

- b. Hospitals, sanitariums, homes for the aged, nursing homes, and rest homes.
 - c. Libraries, museums, and art galleries.
 - d. Child care centers and educational facilities.
4. Trade Services. The following uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from any residential use or zone unless otherwise indicated.
- a. Automobile service stations, minor repair of vehicles, automobile washing facilities and automobile storage garages.
 - b. Laundromats, dry cleaning and pressing establishments.
 - c. Trade or business schools, provided machinery used for instructional purposes is not objectionable due to noise, fumes, smoke, odor or vibration.
 - d. Carpenter, paper hanging, electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, printing, publishing, or lithographic shops.
 - e. Furniture upholstering.
 - f. Animal hospital, veterinary clinic or kennel, not including any exercise runway.
 - h. Automobile, motorcycle, truck, trailer, and farm implement establishments, for display, hire, sale and major repair, including sales lots, provided all operations, other than display and sales, shall be conducted within a completely enclosed building.
 - h. Automobile parking lots subject to the provisions of Article 8.
 - i. Self service storage facilities.
5. Retail Uses. The following uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from any residential use or zone unless otherwise indicated.
- a. Any retail business such as a grocery, fruit or vegetable store, drugstore, carry out, convenience store, drapery and curtain shop.
 - b. Bakery, provided all products are sold at retail on the premises.
 - c. Home furnishings, home improvements and equipment.
 - d. Nurseries and garden supplies.
 - e. General merchandise and supermarkets.

6. Entertainment Uses. The following uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from any residential use or zone unless otherwise indicated.
 - a. Hotels, motels, and motor hotels.
 - b. Video or game parlors and amusement centers providing coin or token operated mechanically or electronically operated games for tabulated scores; not for cash or other prizes, or remuneration of any type.
 - c. Bar, restaurant, cocktail lounge, night club, banquet hall, billiard parlor, pool hall, bowling alley, dance hall, roller skating rink, and theater, provided that such use is conducted within a completely enclosed building and is at least one hundred fifty (150') feet from any residential use or zone.
 - d. Drive-in eating and drinking establishments, summer gardens and restaurants, including entertainment and dancing, provided the principal building is distant at least one hundred and fifty (150') feet from any residential use or zone.
 - e. Commercial baseball and soccer fields, swimming pools, skating rinks, golf driving ranges, miniature golf courses, tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts, and go-kart tracks if located at least two hundred (200') feet from any residential use or zone.
 - f. Indoor recreation and community centers.
 - g. Membership sports, health, and recreation clubs.
 - h. Clubs, lodges, fraternal organizations.
7. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.

662. Conditional Uses.

Pursuant to the regulations set forth in Article 4, the following conditional uses may be requested:

1. Temporary buildings to house a permitted use during construction or reconstruction of the permanent building provided they meet the following conditions:
 - a. The temporary building shall be removed from the property within fifteen (15) days of the date of the occupancy permit;

- b. The temporary building shall comply with the regulations of the Clermont County Building Department;
 - c. Adequate landscaping and screening as required by Section 520 shall be provided.
- 2. Telecommunication towers falling within one hundred (100') feet of a residential dwelling upon compliance with Ohio Revised Code Section 519.211 and Section 612.3 of the Zoning Resolution.
- 3. State-licensed Marijuana Medical Dispensaries, any Recreational Marijuana Dispensaries, any Marijuana Testing Laboratories, and other similar uses provided they meet the following conditions:
 - a. These uses shall be located a minimum of five hundred (500') feet from:
 - i. The boundaries of a property containing the same or a similar use.
 - ii. The boundaries of a property containing a school, daycare, church, public library, public playground or public park.
 - iii. The boundaries of a property containing a Drug Rehabilitation Clinic.
 - b. These uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from the boundaries of a property containing any residential use or located in any residential zone.
 - c. Adequate landscaping and screening as required by Section 520 shall be provided.
 - d. The hours of operation for these uses shall not extend beyond 9:00 p.m.
 - e. All exterior lighting must be downward-directed, fully shielded, dark-sky compliant, and be less than, or equal to 1.0-foot candle at the edge of any adjacent roadway and / or property lines adjoining a commercial or industrial use. All exterior lighting adjoining residential uses must also be downward-directed, and be less than, or equal to 0.5-foot candle(s).

- f. The Owner of the use shall agree to participate in a Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) and shall further consent and cooperate in the establishment and participation thereto.
- g. The Owner of the use as set forth herein shall be required to make a one-time payment to the Township representing an Impact Fee, to compensate the Township for public safety, infrastructure improvements, and future development costs related to the use. The Impact Fee shall be established at \$50,000.00, which shall be distributed to the Township's General Fund to address capital expenditures. The Impact Fee payment shall be due to the Township prior to the issuance of a Zoning Permit for the use.
- h. An existing Medical or Recreational Marijuana Dispensary, Cultivator, Processor, or Testing Facility use operating prior to the enactment of these regulations, or any such subsequent use receiving approval pursuant to this Section, that is discontinued or abandoned for more than three-hundred sixty-five (365) consecutive days shall be determined to be voluntarily discontinued, and shall not be reestablished except in conformance with these regulations.
- i. All State-licensed Medical and/or Recreational Marijuana Dispensaries, Marijuana Testing Laboratories, Marijuana Cultivators, or Processors, or other similar uses that exist within any zoning district within Union Township at the time of the effective date of these regulations shall not be further expanded, altered, or otherwise modified in any way whatsoever, except in conformance with the requirements of this Section.
- j. The maximum number of Medical Marijuana and/or Recreational Marijuana Dispensaries, Marijuana Testing Facilities, or other similar uses shall be limited to a cumulative total of two (2) locations within the unincorporated limits of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.
- k. The uses regulated by this Section shall be prohibited within any residential district or within the PD Planned Development District.

663. Accessory Uses.

- 1. Accessory uses and structures not otherwise prohibited, that are customarily accessory and incidental to any permitted principal use.
- 2. Exterior signs which pertain to a permitted use on the premises subject to the provisions of Article 9.
- 3. Off-premises advertising signs and structures subject to the provisions of Article 9.

4. Dwelling or dwellings only when in conjunction with a principal permitted use.

664. Prohibited Uses.

1. Any use which is not specifically permitted is prohibited.

670. “M-1” Industrial Zone.

The purpose of the “M-1” Industrial Zone is to centralize and provide lands for various light industrial, manufacturing and warehouse uses and to avoid conflicts in land use relationships between industry and other land use districts.

671. Principal Permitted Uses.

The following uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100’) feet from any residential use or zone unless otherwise indicated.

1. Exempt Public Service Facilities meeting the definition provided within Appendix A of this Resolution.
2. Assembly or manufacture of appliances, industrial or electronic instruments, accessories and devices.
3. Laboratories: experimental, photo or motion picture, film, medical or testing.
4. Manufacture of pottery and figurines or other similar ceramic products, using only previously pulverized clay and kilns fired only by electricity or gas.
5. Manufacture, fabrication and maintenance of electric and neon signs, billboards, commercial advertising structures and very light sheet metal products including heating and ventilating ducts.
6. Manufacture of small precision instruments, watches, clocks, toys, novelties, rubber and metal hand stamps.
7. Printing, lithographing, type composition, ruling and binding establishment.
8. Plastic products manufacture, but not including the processing of raw materials.
9. Processing or assembling of parts for production of finished equipment.
10. Storage of merchandise, material, or equipment within a completely enclosed building, except for the following: offal or dead animals, petroleum by-products in excess of any amount necessary for use on the premises, and solid fuels in excess of heating needs.
11. Crematory, if located not less than two hundred (200’) feet from any residential district or use.
12. Terminal warehousing, transfer depots, freight stations, warehouses, trucking and motor freight stations, if located not less than two hundred (200’) feet from any residential district or use.

13. Building materials sales yards including concrete mixing, lumber yards including millwork, open yards for storage and sale of feed and/or fuel, provided all operations are conducted not less than two hundred (200') feet from any residential district or use.
14. Offices.
15. Recycling centers provided all materials are kept within a completely enclosed building or designated storage containers.
16. Nurseries and Landscaping operations.
17. Contractor and Trades Services.
18. Retail uses.
19. Drug Rehabilitation Clinic, provided such uses are located exclusively within the M-1 District, on a minimum lot area of ten (10) acres, and provided that said uses are conducted not less than three hundred (300) feet from any residential district or use.

672. Conditional Uses.

1. Telecommunications towers falling within one hundred (100') feet of a residential dwelling upon compliance with Ohio Revised Code Section 519.211 and Section 612.3.
2. State-licensed Medical Marijuana Cultivators, Marijuana Processors, or Recreational Marijuana Cultivators, Marijuana Processors situated on a minimum lot size of five (5) acres, up to a maximum lot size not to exceed twenty (20) acres, and other similar uses, provided they meet the following conditions:
 - a. These uses shall be located a minimum of five hundred (500') feet from:
 - i. The boundaries of a property containing the same or a similar use.
 - ii. The boundaries of a property containing a school, daycare, church, public library, public playground or public park.
 - iii. The boundaries of a property containing a Drug Rehabilitation Clinic.
 - b. These uses shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from the boundaries of a property containing any residential use or located in any residential zone.

- c. Medical or Recreational Marijuana Cultivators and/or Marijuana Processors shall be situated on a minimum of five (5) contiguous acres, up to a maximum lot size not to exceed twenty (20) acres, and shall meet the following screening and security requirements:
 - i. All Marijuana Cultivators and/or Marijuana Processors shall be fenced, walled, or otherwise secured in a manner that prevents unauthorized access and/or public view.
 - ii. Fencing for the perimeter of the growing area of plants must be solid and must be at least six (6) feet in height and be designed to be harmonious with the surrounding area to the extent feasible.
 - iii. Slatted and chain link fences, and barb-wire and razor-wire fencing shall not be permitted.
 - iv. Cultivation and processing activities shall be conducted in compliance with state law.
- d. Adequate landscaping and screening as required by Section 520 shall be provided.
- e. The hours of operation for these uses shall not extend beyond 9:00 p.m.
- f. All exterior lighting must be downward-directed, fully shielded, dark-sky compliant, and be less than, or equal to 1.0-foot candle at the edge of any adjacent roadway and / or property lines adjoining a commercial or industrial use. All exterior lighting adjoining residential uses must also be downward-directed, and be less than, or equal to 0.5-foot candle(s).
- g. The Owner of the use as set forth herein shall be required to make a one-time payment to the Township representing an Impact Fee, to compensate the Township for public safety, infrastructure improvements, and future development related to the use. The Impact Fee shall be established at \$50,000.00, which shall be distributed to the Township's General Fund to address capital expenditures.
- h. The Impact Fee shall be due to the Township prior to the issuance of a Zoning Permit for the use.
- i. The Owner of the use shall agree to participate in a Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) and shall further consent and cooperate in the establishment and participation thereto.
- j. An existing Marijuana Dispensary, Cultivator, Processor, or Testing Facility use operating prior to the enactment of these regulations, or any such subsequent use receiving approval pursuant to this Section, that is discontinued or abandoned for more than three-hundred sixty-five (365)

consecutive days, shall be determined to be voluntarily discontinued, and shall not be reestablished except in conformance with these regulations.

- k. All State-licensed Medical and/or Recreational Marijuana Dispensaries, Marijuana Testing Laboratories, Marijuana Cultivators, or Processors, or other similar uses that exist within any zoning district within Union Township at the time of the effective date of these regulations shall not be further expanded, altered, or otherwise modified in any way whatsoever, except in conformance with the requirements of this Section.
- l. The maximum number of Medical Marijuana and/or Recreational, Marijuana Cultivators or Processors, or other similar uses, shall be limited to a cumulative total of two (2) locations within the unincorporated limits of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio
- m. The uses regulated by this Section shall be prohibited within any residential district or within the PD Planned Development District.

673. Accessory Uses.

- 1. Accessory uses and structures not otherwise prohibited, that are customarily accessory and incidental to any permitted principal use.
- 2. Exterior signs which pertain to a permitted use on the premises subject to the provisions of Article 9.
- 3. Off-premises advertising signs and structures subject to the provisions of Article 9.
- 4. Retail sales and services are permitted as accessory uses when clearly incidental to a principal permitted use. Such uses shall be conducted wholly within the principal building, and without exterior advertising or display. These activities shall be conducted solely for the convenience of the employees, patients, patrons, students, or visitors and not for the general retail public.

674. Prohibited Uses.

- 1. Any use which is not specifically permitted is prohibited.

680. “PD” Planned Development District.

The “PD” District’s purpose is to provide sites for business or mixed business/residential developments at appropriate locations in relation to existing and potential land uses; to afford an attractive setting for developments; and to harmonize proposed developments with surrounding land uses. These regulations are established pursuant to authorization under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 519 (2001), as amended, for townships to adopt Planned-unit Development zoning.

681. Regulation Conflict.

If a conflict arises between these “PD” regulations or an approved “PD” plan and other sections of this resolution, the “PD” regulations and approved plan shall prevail for land zoned Planned Development District.

682. Approved Plan Governs Use.

Land use for any property in the “PD” District shall be consistent with the use, design, and details contained in the approved “PD” plan for that property and any conditions of approval. Other applicable regulations from this resolution, such as nuisance regulations, also apply to “PD” property. Pursuant to an approved plan, allowed uses in the “PD” District may include those stated in the “B-1” and “M-1” Districts, or substantially similar uses as determined by the Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees. Integrated single family and/or multi-family residential use with or without commercial development may be considered for approval in the “PD” District, as deemed appropriate by the Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees.

683. Procedure to Rezone Property to “PD.”

1. The property owner may submit an application for a zone change to “PD” Planned Development District to the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department. The application shall contain fifteen (15) copies of the completed form, attachments, a site plan conforming to the “site plan requirements” below, and the required fee.
2. The application shall be processed in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 519 (2001), as amended.

684. “PD” Plan Requirements.

1. All site plans shall contain the elements stated in Section 1131. In addition, the following shall be included on the plan:
 - a. Building lot area coverage percentage.
 - b. Residential density, if applicable.
 - c. Detailed description of façade materials for all proposed structures.
2. The site plan shall contain on the cover the following signature lines to be signed by the property owner and Planning & Zoning Director before a zoning certificate is issued:

I certify that this “PD” plan meets the requirements set by Union Township and is the approved “PD” plan for this property.

_____(date)
Director of Planning & Zoning

I certify that I am the owner of the property shown herein and adopt this “PD” plan as my development for the property. I must obtain a zoning certificate prior to construction.

_____(date)
_____(print name)

3. A separate landscaping page shall be included in the plan, illustrating the following:
 - a. Landscaping over ten percent (10%) of the lot area. Detention/retention areas are not considered part of the ten percent (10%) requirement.
 - b. Location and description of landscape plantings, groundcover, and specific treatment of any other open spaces.
 - c. A ten (10’) foot landscaped buffer yard along any public right-of-way or private street easement. A continuous three (3’) foot grass (or other plant covered) berm or continuous row of three foot tall (at planting) shrubs, setback at least three (3’) feet from the right-of-way or easement line, shall be provided within the buffer yard.
 - d. A twenty (20’) foot landscaped buffer yard along any adjoining residential zone. The buffer yard must also contain one of the following screening mechanisms:
 - (1) A continuous wood privacy fence at least six (6’) feet high and at least one (1) tree four (4’) feet tall (at planting) spaced every ten (10’) feet on the neighbor’s side of the fence; or

- (2) A continuous row of evergreens at least six (6') feet tall (at planting), spaced no more than ten (10') feet apart, in a staggered planting arrangement; or
 - (3) A continuous grass (or other plant covered) berm at least five (5') feet tall and at least one (1) tree four (4') feet tall (at planting) spaced every ten (10') feet along the berm crest.
 - (4) If existing natural vegetation is proposed as screening, the landscape plan must provide detail of existing conditions sufficient to show screening equivalent to the above exists, and with sufficient detail for future zoning enforcement purposes.
- e. Buffer yards must be landscaped and may not contain any other uses. Landscaped detention/retention may be placed in the buffer yard provided it does not interfere with the adjoining property.
 - f. In addition to the ten percent (10%) general landscaping requirement, internal planting islands equal to five percent (5%) of the entire parking lot area shall be placed within parking lots. The islands shall be dispersed so to breakup the pavement expanse. Internal planting islands shall be curbed, and contain a minimum area of one hundred twenty (120 sq.ft.) square feet and eight (8') feet of width. At least one (1) shade-type tree a minimum of eight (8') feet tall at installation shall be included for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of internal planting area. Developments with twenty (20) or fewer total parking spaces are exempt from this requirement.

685. Expiration of an Approved "PD" Plan.

- 1. Any approved "PD" plan (including "PD" Concept, Design, or Formal Plans under prior regulations) for which development is not completed within five (5) years of the date of the Board of Trustees' approval shall expire. The property shall remain zoned "PD," however, no development shall occur or continue until a new plan is approved for the property, or the property is otherwise rezoned.
- 2. For property developed in accordance with an approved "PD" plan, the plan shall remain forever in effect, and the plan along with these regulations shall govern the use of the property, subject to any future amendments or rezoning.
- 3. For property partially developed in accordance with an approved "PD" plan, but not fully developed as contemplated by the plan, the following shall apply:
 - a. Subject to Subparagraph 685.3.c., any part of an approved "PD" plan (including "PD" Concept, Design, or Formal Plans under prior regulations) for which development is not completed within five (5) years of the date of the Board of Trustees' approval, shall expire. That

part of the property shall remain zoned “PD”, however, no development shall occur or continue until a new plan is approved for that part of the property, or the property is otherwise rezoned.

- b. Subject to Subparagraph 685.3.c., for property developed in accordance with part of an approved “PD” plan, the governing part of the “PD” plan shall remain forever in effect, and the plan along with these regulations shall govern the use of the property so developed, subject to any future amendments or rezoning.
 - c. Failure to comply with an approved “PD” plan is a violation of the Zoning Resolution and subject to enforcement in accordance with applicable criminal procedures and Ohio Revised Code Chapter 519 (2001), as amended. Only where no development at all occurs, or where development phasing is intended by the plan (e.g., captioned “future addition,” shown as a separate development parcel, etc.) and the part not completed is limited to such an entire future phase, shall failure to implement and follow the entire approved “PD” plan be excused under Subparagraph 685.3.a.
- 4. Submission of a new plan for property zoned “PD,” but which the governing plan or plan part has expired, shall be processed in accordance with Section 683.
 - 5. For property under substantial active construction, the Planning & Zoning Director may, within the Director’s sole discretion, grant reasonable extensions of the “PD” plan.

686. Procedure to Amend an Approved “PD” Plan.

- 1. A property owner may request amendment to any unexpired “PD” plan. Plan amendment does not re-commence the start date of the expiration period. However, for major amendments, the Board of Trustees in its discretion may by motion re-commence the expiration start date at the date of the amendment approval. Plan amendment shall be considered an administrative action, not subject to Ohio Revised Code Section 519.12 (2001), as amended.
- 2. The Planning & Zoning Director shall determine whether the proposed amendment is a major or minor amendment. Major amendments shall include, but are not necessarily limited to: any increase in, or significant movement or relocation of, density; changes in use that result in an increased intensity (as determined by the Planning & Zoning Director); movement of primary access locations; the elimination of roadway connections to adjacent tracts or subdivisions; and the elimination or reduction of open space, recreational uses, or bufferyard features. Any amendment which is not deemed to be a major amendment shall be considered a minor amendment.
- 3. For minor amendments, the following procedure shall apply:

- a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Five (5) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform to Section 684, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned, "Minor Amendment."
 - d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application, and at the Director's sole discretion, approve or deny the minor amendment. An Applicant may appeal a denial of a minor amendment to the Board of Trustees.
 - e. Prior to entering a decision, the Planning & Zoning Director may require the applicant to submit written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, or other agencies evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development.
4. For major amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
- a. The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director.
 - b. Ten (10) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
 - c. The submitted plan shall conform to Section 684, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) One (1) copy shall highlight all changes from the previously approved plan.
 - (2) The plan shall be captioned, "Major Amendment."
 - d. The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application and draft a report for review by the Board of Trustees.

- e. Unless waived by the Planning & Zoning Director, prior to submission to the Board of Trustees, the applicant shall provide written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, and any other agencies as deemed necessary by the Planning & Zoning Director evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the development or amendment.
 - f. Thereafter, the Planning & Zoning Director shall place the amendment on the Board of Trustees docket. The Board of Trustees shall consider the amendment and adopt a motion approving, denying, or modifying the amended plan. Prior to entering a final decision, the Board of Trustees may direct that further data be provided if necessary to make an informed decision.
5. For property approved under prior “PD” regulations that have an unexpired Concept or Design Plan in effect, the developer shall proceed under Subparagraph 686.4 to obtain “PD” plan approval. For these properties only, the expiration date shall automatically re-commence at the date of Trustee approval.

687. Supplemental Provisions.

- 1. Signage shall be consistent with the nature and scope of the development exclusive of Article 9.
- 2. Buffer yards, screening, landscaping, vegetation, and all other plan elements shall be in place by the time the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department issues a certificate of occupancy, or at such time as construction substantially ceases, whichever occurs first.
- 3. The failure to maintain open spaces, hard surfaces, and landscaping in good condition is a violation of the “PD” plan.
- 4. Forty (40’) feet of right-of-way shall be dedicated for all properties fronting on public streets. The forty (40’) feet of right-of-way is “half” right-of-way, i.e., measured from the center of the road. By specific motion, the Zoning Commission or Board of Trustees may exempt a development from this requirement if appropriate. If total right-of-way equals eighty (80’) feet or more, no additional right-of-way shall be required unless necessary for special circumstances or improvements.

5. Prior to issuance of a zoning certificate, the property owner shall provide to the Planning & Zoning Department copies of executed and recorded cross easements to all adjoining property owners that share a common street frontage (public or private) with the “PD” property. The cross easements shall allow, at a minimum, use by automobile and delivery vehicle traffic. The general location of the cross connections shall be shown on the “PD” plan. By specific motion, the Zoning Commission or Board of Trustees may waive this requirement if appropriate. The requirement is waived automatically if a publicly dedicated frontage road serves both the development and adjoining properties.
6. Prior to issuance of a zoning certificate, the applicant shall record all necessary plats consolidating, dividing, and dedicating right-of-way consistent with the boundaries represented on the “PD” plan and/or conditions or approval.
7. Any exterior pole lighting, canopy lighting, or similar lighting shall be flat lens design and shielded so that all light is down directed. Sag lens lighting is prohibited. Where the “PD” property adjoins or is within one hundred fifty (150’) feet of a residential zone, lighting shall be directed away from the residential property. Any building mounted lighting shall contain shields directing lighting downward preventing spillover onto adjoining property. If within fifty (50’) feet of a residential zone, building mounted lighting facing the residential property (other than recessed soffit mounted lights) shall be installed no higher than four (4’) feet from grade.
8. Parking requirements shall comply with Article 8, Off-Street Parking and Loading Regulations, unless otherwise modified in the plan. A justification note shall accompany any modification on the plan.
9. Building lot area coverage may not exceed thirty-five (35%) percent and building height may not exceed seventy-five (75’) feet.
10. Minimum building separation shall be maintained in accordance with fire and building codes. The number of buildings per lot, minimum setbacks (except for right-of-way buffer yards), and minimum lot size are otherwise variable for the “PD” District.
11. The applicant shall make available in advance of any hearing by the Zoning Commission the results of any site distance or traffic study requested by the Clermont County Engineer. The applicant shall also provide confirmation from the appropriate governmental agency showing resolution of any issues raised pertaining to the development. Failure to provide this information in adequate time or advance review by Zoning Commission members may be grounds for denial of the application.
12. The standards and conditions stated in these regulations are minimums. The Planning & Zoning Director, Zoning Commission, and Board of Trustees may impose higher standards if warranted based upon the unique circumstances of a given development.

13. No construction shall proceed prior to the issuance of a zoning certificate. No property shall be used or occupied prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy endorsement from the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department.
14. The Board of Zoning Appeals is without authority to alter or amend “PD” plans.

ARTICLE 7

SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS

700. Purpose.

The purpose of supplementary district regulations is to set specific conditions for various uses, classifications of uses, or areas wherein problems may occur, in order to alleviate or preclude such problems, and to promote the harmonious exercise of property rights without conflict. Any use not specifically permitted is prohibited.

701. Conversions of Dwellings to More Than One Unit.

A Residence may not be converted to accommodate an increased number of dwelling units unless all of the following conditions are met:

1. The conversion is in compliance with all other local codes and resolutions, and any applicable State or Federal regulations;
2. The district within which the residence is located is so regulated as to allow such an increase in dwelling units;
3. The yard dimensions still meet the yard dimensions required by the Zoning Resolution for new structures in that district;
4. The lot area per family equals the lot area requirements for new structures in that district;
5. The floor area per dwelling unit is not reduced to less than that which is required for new construction in that district;
6. The conversion is in compliance with all other relevant codes and resolutions.

710. Regulation of Accessory Uses.

It is the purpose of Sections 710 to 717 inclusive of this Resolution to regulate accessory uses in order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare. It is the intent of these Sections to permit such uses to be established and maintained in a manner which makes them compatible with principal uses and harmonious with uses upon adjacent properties.

711. Accessory Structures, Permit Required

Except as otherwise provided in this Resolution, accessory structures shall be permitted in association with principal structures provided that:

1. In any Residential zone, no accessory building shall exceed the following floor area limitations, as determined by measuring the footprint of the structure (including the overhang):
 - a) "Lots that are one (1) acre in size or larger: the total square footage devoted to accessory structures on the lot shall not exceed two-thousand square feet (2,000 sq. ft.), plus 500 square feet for every additional full acre over one (1) acre.
 - b) Lots that are greater than or equal to twenty-five thousand square feet (25,000 sq. ft.) but less than one (1) acre in size: the total square footage devoted to accessory structures on the lot shall not exceed one-thousand five-hundred square feet (1,500 sq. ft.).
 - c) Lots that are greater than or equal to ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) but less than twenty-five thousand (25,000 sq. ft.) square feet: the total square footage devoted to accessory structures on the lot shall not exceed one-thousand square feet (1,000 sq. ft.).
 - d) For all other existing pre-existing, non-conforming ER, R-1, or R-2 lots of record, lots with less than ten thousand (10,000 sq. ft.) square feet: the total square footage devoted to accessory structures on the lot shall not exceed seven hundred and fifty (750 sq. ft.) square feet.

2. In any residential zone, the maximum number of permissible accessory structures, as set forth herein, shall be determined by the total lot area.
 - a) Lots with a total area less than two (2) acres: A maximum of three (3) accessory structures are permitted—not to exceed the total floor area limitations set forth in item 1 of this Section.
 - b) Lots with a total area of two (2) acres and larger: A maximum of four (4) accessory structures are permitted, plus 1 additional accessory structure for each additional 2 acres of total lot area—not to exceed the total floor area limitations set forth in item 1 of this Section.
3. No individual residential accessory structure shall exceed four thousand square feet (4,000 sq. ft.).
4. Accessory structures in residential zones shall not contain or be used as dwelling units, home occupations, or for commercial or industrial purposes.
5. Accessory structures shall not exceed twenty feet (20') in height, as measured from finished grade to the peak of the structure, in residential zones.
6. Residential decks, if attached to the principal structure, shall be set back not less than five (5') from the side or rear property line(s), and can be situated in the front yard if the proposed setback is equal to, or greater than, the required front yard setback for the applicable zoning district. Residential decks, if attached to the principal structure, shall be excluded from the size, area, and number restrictions established by this Section.
7. Freestanding decks, platforms, or other similar structures or installations that are not attached to the principal structure shall be considered to be accessory structures, regulated pursuant to this Section, and shall be subject to the size, area, and number restrictions established herein. Such structures shall be located entirely within the rear yard, and shall be set back not less than five (5') feet from any side or rear property line. Such structures shall be limited to a height not greater than four (4') as measured from finished grade.

8. An accessory structure may be situated in the front yard of a property provided: a) the lot is at least 2 acres in size; b) the proposed structure is located at least 120% behind the front-yard building setback requirement for the zoning district in which it is located; c) it can meet the minimum side and rear setbacks set forth in this Section; and d) there is no public utility or drainage easement, or other public or governmental easement which would prohibit or restrict the proposed placement of the accessory structure. Accessory structures that do not meet the aforementioned requirement must otherwise be located behind the front wall of the principal structure of the property—in the side or rear yard of the site.
9. Accessory structures shall be located no closer than five (5') feet to any property line or right-of-way, as measured from the overhang of the eaves or any architectural projection, as applicable, unless otherwise defined in this Resolution.
10. Accessory structures in nonresidential zones are permitted as regulated in the appropriate zone.
11. A permit shall be required for any accessory structure regulated under this Section.
12. The following are considered incidental accessory uses that do not require zoning permits (a building permit may be required) and can be located within in all yards. They include walks, driveways, curbs, retaining walls, lattice work screens, trees, shrubs, flowers, plants, mail boxes, name plates, lamp posts, basketball poles, bird baths, benches, and structures of a like nature. In addition, direct television satellite dishes, which are less than 26 inches in diameter and ground mounted, are permitted within the front yard. Playground equipment and similar uses do not require a zoning permit (building permit may be required) but are required to be located in the side or rear yards unless a significant portion of the side and rear yard areas both exceed twenty-five percent (25%) slope or greater—in which case the property owner may seek relief from this particular provision by submitting a written appeal to the Development Director or his or her designee.

712. Fences as Accessory Uses.

Fences are permitted as accessory uses in all districts provided they are not located within any street right-of-way or within the front yard. On corner lots, fences may project into the minimum street side yard. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the fence in a safe manner in good condition in compliance with Section 518.

713. Private Swimming Pools as Accessory Uses.

A private swimming pool, but not including farm ponds, and stormwater retention basins, as regulated herein or as otherwise regulated by federal, state, or local regulations, shall be any pool above or below ground, pond, lake or open tank, not located within a completely enclosed building, and containing, or normally capable of containing water to a depth at any point greater than one and one-half (1 ½') feet. No swimming pool shall be allowed in any residential District except as an accessory use in compliance with following conditions and requirements:

1. The pool is intended and is to be used solely for the enjoyment of the occupants and/or guests of the principal use of the property on which it is located.
2. It shall not be located closer than any accessory structure setback requirement to any property line of the property on which it is located and shall not be located within the front yard.
3. The swimming pool, or the entire property on which it is located, shall be fenced so as to prevent uncontrolled access by children from the street or adjacent properties. Said fence to be not less than four feet (4') high and a minimum of four (4') feet from the edge of the pool. All pool enclosures installed pursuant to this Section, whether in-ground, or above-ground, shall include a gate with a lockable mechanism and shall be secured to prevent uncontrolled entry from adjacent properties. Above ground pools with fencing that meets the requirements of Sub-paragraph (4) below are exempted from the requirements of this paragraph.
4. The fencing for an above ground pool may be located on the outer pool walls. The combined height of the pool walls and fence shall be a minimum of six (6') feet above grade. All pool access points are to be provided with a lockable fence gate and removable or retractable ladders to prohibit access to the pool when not in use.
5. The required fencing must be in place when the pool construction is completed.

714. Community or Club Swimming Pools as Accessory Uses.

A community or club swimming pool shall be any pool constructed by an association of property owners, for a multi-family development, or by a private club or association, for use and enjoyment by members, residents, and their families. Such swimming pools shall comply with the following requirements:

1. The pool is intended solely for, and is used solely for, the enjoyment of the members and families and guests of members of the association or club under whose ownership or jurisdiction the pool is operated.
2. The pool and accessory structures thereto, including the area used by the bathers, shall not be located closer than seventy-five (75') feet to any property line.
3. The swimming pool, its accessory facilities, and all of the area used by the bathers shall be so walled or fenced as to prevent uncontrolled access by children from the street or adjacent properties. The said fence or wall shall not be less than six (6') feet in height and maintained in good condition with a gate and lock. The required fencing must be in place when pool construction is complete. The area surrounding the enclosure, except for the parking spaces, shall be suitably landscaped with grass, hardy shrubs, and trees and maintained in good condition.
4. Exterior lighting shall be so shaded or directed that it does not cast light directly upon adjacent properties.

715. Home Occupations as Accessory Uses.

A home occupation shall be a permitted use when in compliance with the following requirements:

1. The external appearance of the structure in which the use is conducted shall not be altered, and not more than one nameplate, no larger than two (2 sq.ft.) square feet, shall be mounted flush to a wall of the structure.
2. No internal or external alterations, construction, or reconstruction of the premises to accommodate the use shall be permitted.
3. There shall be no outside storage of any kind related to the use, and only commodities produced on the premises may be sold on the premises; no display of products may be visible from the street.

4. Not more than two hundred fifty (250 sq.ft.) square feet of the gross floor area of the dwelling shall be devoted to the use.
5. No equipment, process, materials or chemicals shall be used which create offensive noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odor, heat, glare, x-rays, radiation, or electrical disturbances.
6. No additional parking area shall be created.
7. No person who is not a resident of the premises may participate in the home occupation as an employee or volunteer.
8. Home occupations shall not be located in an accessory structure.
9. Home occupations shall comply with the provisions set fourth in Section 720.

716. Long-Term Parking Facilities As Accessory Uses.

In addition to complying with all other provisions of this Resolution, long-term parking facilities are permitted as accessory uses in commercial and industrial districts subject to the following requirements:

1. That no boundary of the proposed parking area is within fifty (50') feet of a residential district boundary.
2. That the proposed parking area will not prevent access to adjacent properties by fire safety equipment.
3. That the proposed parking area will be screened in such a manner that the vehicles thereon parked will not be visible from the ground level of any adjacent residential properties.
4. That fencing and lighting of the facility will be sufficient to provide for its reasonable security.
5. That no service work, maintenance work, repair work, painting work, or other vehicular work shall take place on the premises.

717. Antennae as Accessory Uses.

1. Ground-mounted satellite dish antennae are considered accessory structures, and are permitted as accessory uses in any district. In addition to the provisions of this Resolution pertaining to accessory structures, and any regulations enforced by other agencies, the following provisions shall apply to ground-mounted satellite dishes:
 - a. The maximum diameter of any ground-mounted satellite dish shall not exceed twelve (12') feet;
 - b. The maximum height of any ground-mounted satellite dish shall not exceed fifteen (15') feet above the finished grade;
 - c. The satellite dish apparatus shall be painted a color which complements its environment, and shall bear no advertisement, lettering, picture, or visual image;
 - d. The apparatus shall not be located in a side yard or a front yard;
 - e. The site of the ground-mounted apparatus shall be screened with shrubbery and/or landscaped to a minimum height of six (6') feet as proposed in the zoning permit application;
 - f. The apparatus shall be mounted upon a solid concrete slab, and shall be constructed in such manner that it will withstand wind forces of up to seventy-five (75 m.p.h.) miles per hour;
 - g. Only metal supports of galvanized construction shall be used;
 - h. Any guy wires attached to a satellite dish apparatus shall be enclosed by an approved fence.
 - i. Any driving motor shall be limited to one hundred ten (110v) volt maximum power and shall be encased in a protective guard;
 - j. All wiring between the apparatus and any other structure shall be placed underground in approved conduit;
 - k. The apparatus shall be bonded to an approved eight (8') foot grounding rod.

2. Roof-mounting satellite dish antennas are considered as accessory structures, and are permitted as accessory uses in all districts. In addition to the provisions of this Resolution pertaining to accessory structures, and any regulations enforced by other agencies, the following provisions shall apply to roof-mounted satellite dishes:
 - a. The maximum diameter of any roof-mounted satellite dish shall not exceed three (3') feet;
 - b. The height of any roof-mounted satellite dish shall not exceed the roof height of the building upon which it is mounted by more than four (4') feet;
 - c. The apparatus shall be painted a color which complements its environment, and shall bear no advertisement, picture, lettering or visual image;
 - d. All wiring and grounding of the apparatus, the apparatus, its mounting and all supporting devices, shall be constructed and erected directly upon the roof of the principal building in accordance with all applicable regulations of the currently adopted and enforced electrical and building code(s) of the Clermont County Building Department, and shall not be mounted upon a spire, tower, turret, chimney, pole, or any appurtenances thereto attached;
 - e. The satellite dish apparatus shall be so designed and installed as to withstand wind forces up to seventy-five (75 m.p.h.) miles per hour.
3. Amateur (ham) radio towers shall be permitted as accessory uses with all districts. In addition to the provisions of this Resolution pertaining to accessory structures and any regulations enforced by other agencies, the following provisions shall apply to amateur (ham) radio towers:
 - a. The maximum base shall not exceed one hundred (100 sq.ft.) square feet;
 - b. Maximum height shall comply with FCC regulations;
 - c. The apparatus shall not be located in a side yard or a front yard;
 - d. The site of the apparatus shall be screened with shrubbery and/or landscaped as proposed in the zoning permit application;
 - e. The apparatus shall be mounted upon a solid concrete slab, and shall be constructed in such manner that it will withstand wind forces of up to seventy-five (75 m.p.h.) miles per hour;

- f. Only metal supports of galvanized construction shall be used;
- g. Any guy wires attached to a satellite dish apparatus shall be enclosed by an approved fence;
- h. Any driving motor shall be limited to one hundred ten (110v) volt maximum power and shall be encased in a protective guard;
- i. All wiring between the apparatus and any other structure shall be placed underground in approved conduit;
- j. The apparatus shall be bonded to an approved eight (8') foot grounding rod.

718. Permitted Accessory Uses in Residential Districts; No Permit Required.

The following accessory uses shall be permitted in all Residential Districts with no permit required to establish such accessory use, provided that such use is not located within a front yard and is situated not less than five (5') feet from any side or rear property line:

- 1. Gardens, for the purposes of growing flowers or produce for the property owner(s);
- 2. Firewood/wood piles, provided that no pile of wood may exceed four (4') in height, and shall be stacked in an orderly and neat manner;
- 3. Patios that are not enclosed with a roof, wall(s), or other architectural projection;
- 4. Walkways, stone or concrete stairs, or fire pit areas;
- 5. Swing sets, trampoline sets, or outdoor recreational gym sets;
- 6. Children's outdoor play structures, tree houses, or play houses; no play structure may be converted to storage without first obtaining a permit;
- 7. Compost piles or compost bins, provided that any compost pile or bin shall not exceed twenty-four (24 sq. ft.) square feet in area, or a height of four (4') feet;
- 8. Beekeeping, provided that the beehives are kept in the following manners:
 - i. No more than two (2) hives may be permitted on lots less than one (1) acre.

- ii. Beehives shall only be kept in the rear yard, and shall be no closer than 20 feet to any lot line and no closer than 25 feet to any residential structure on an adjacent lot.
- iii. A solid fence or dense hedge, known as a flyaway barrier, at least five (5) feet in height shall be placed around the beehive. A boundary fence or hedge at least five feet in height may be used to meet this requirement. No such flyway barrier shall be required if all beehives are located at least 25 feet from all property lines.
- iv. No Africanized bees may be kept on a property.
- v. Beekeeping that does not meet the specifications and terms noted herein shall require a Variance from the Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as a zoning permit for approved Variances.

719. Chickens as Accessory Uses.

On any lot located within any residential zone, the keeping of chickens is a permitted accessory use to any compliant single-family residential use, provided that such accessory use meets the following requirements:

- 1. The sole purpose of keeping chickens on any residentially zoned lot is for the private consumption of their eggs by members of the household, and not for commercial purposes. In no case shall any product produced or made as a result of the keeping of chickens as provided in this section be offered for sale on any property zoned for residential use.
- 2. A maximum of five (5) hens is permitted. The keeping of roosters is prohibited.
- 3. All chickens shall be housed in a coop with a maximum of five (5) square feet per chicken, and an enclosed run area no larger than one hundred (100 sq. ft.) square feet. The minimum size of a chicken coop, including an enclosed run area, shall be 12 square feet per chicken. Chicken coops shall be considered to be accessory structures, and as such shall require a zoning permit, and shall be subject to the size, area, and numerical restrictions established in Section 711 of this Resolution.
- 4. The maximum allowable height of the coop shall be seven (7') feet above the elevation of the surface of the ground.
- 5. The coop and the run shall be set back not less than twenty (20') feet from all property lines and not less than ten (10') feet from the principal structure.

6. All chickens, the coop, and the run area shall be located entirely within the rear yard, subject to the following additional conditions:
 - a. On a corner lot, the chickens, coop, and run area shall be located entirely within the rear yard of the structure and shall not be placed beyond the building setback line of the principal structure to any public or private street, or right of way.
 - b. For double-frontage lots other than corner lots as described herein, the chickens, coop, and run area shall be located entirely within the designated rear yard, as determined by the orientation of the principal structure to the public or private street or right-of-way where the primary access (driveway, front door) is located.
 - c. On panhandle lots, the chickens, coop, and run area shall be located entirely within the rear yard of the structure.
7. In addition to the requirements for an enclosed coop and run area, the rear yard of property where the chickens are located must be enclosed by a solid wall or fence, not less than six (6') feet in height, sufficient to keep the chickens on the property where they are being kept. Such fencing shall be installed prior to the establishment of chickens as an accessory use. Properties exceeding one (1) acre in size shall be exempt from the privacy fencing requirement stated herein. New fencing for chickens, as set forth in this Section, shall require a zoning permit.
8. The chickens shall be kept in the coop from sunset to sunrise.
9. All food and waste material shall be stored in tight fitting containers and located a minimum of twenty (20') feet from all property lines, and placed entirely within the rear yard.
10. The slaughtering of chickens in residential districts is prohibited.
11. Chickens and their enclosures shall be kept in neat, clean, and sanitary condition, with the coop structure maintained in good condition, and being free from offensive odors, excessive noise, or any other condition that would constitute a nuisance. Any condition in violation of this subsection shall constitute a violation under Section 720 of this Resolution.

720. Objectionable, Noxious, or Dangerous Uses, Practices or Conditions.

No land or building in any district shall be occupied or used, including home occupations, in any manner which creates or contributes to the existence of conditions which are dangerous, injurious, harmful, noxious, or objectionable, or which may otherwise adversely affect surrounding areas or adjoining premises, except that any use permitted by this Resolution may be undertaken or maintained if acceptable measures and safeguards to reduce any dangerous or objectionable conditions to acceptable limits, as established in this Section, are properly exercised. Specifically, the occupation or use of any land or building in any district shall be in violation of this Resolution if one or more of the following conditions are found to exist at any time:

1. The use or storage of flammable or explosive materials is not adequately protected by fire-fighting and fire protection equipment or by such safety devices as are normally required for such activities.
2. Activities involving the use and storage of flammable and explosive materials are not removed from adjacent facilities or activities to a distance compatible with the potential danger involved;
3. Radioactivity or air pollution is present in violation of the regulations of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency;
4. Hazardous wastes are present in violation of the regulations of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency;
5. Objectionable noise due to volume, frequency or beat is present;
6. Vibration discernible without instruments is present on an adjoining lot or property;
7. Direct or reflected glare is present which is visible from any street or from any property not within a manufacturing district;
8. Erosion caused by wind or water is carrying objectionable substances onto any adjacent lot or property;
9. Water pollution or contamination is present is violation of the regulation of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency or the local storm water management and sediment control regulations.
10. The accumulation of junk, trash, household waste, construction debris, or other discarded debris or items contemplated within Section 533 of this Resolution, manifesting unsightly conditions and/or an environment conducive to the infestation and breeding of vermin, insects, and rodents.

11. The accumulation of noxious waste, treated or untreated, offal or dead animals, treated or untreated animal and/or human sanitary waste, medical waste products, including infectious waste considered to constitute a hazard to life, property, or public health and safety, outside of an approved containment area, and lacking specific safeguards to prevent proliferation of noxious odors, or otherwise resulting in contaminated stormwater runoff onto adjacent properties.

721. Assurance Requirements and Plans.

Prior to the issuance of a zoning permit, written assurances and plans, indicating the manner in which dangerous and objectionable aspects or elements of processes or operations entailed in certain uses or occupations are to be eliminated or reduced to acceptable limits and tolerances, shall be submitted.

722. Enforcement Provisions.

Any occupancy, use, conditions or circumstances existing in violation of Section 720 and 721 of this Resolution shall constitute a violation of this Resolution and be subject to the enforcement procedures contained in this Resolution.

730. Temporary Uses.

The following regulations are necessary to govern certain uses which are of a non-permanent nature. For such uses requiring temporary zoning permits, at least seven (7) days before the instigation of such use, an application for a zoning permit shall be made to the Zoning Director which shall contain a graphic description of the property to be used, a description of the proposed use, and a site plan with sufficient information to determine the yard, setback, parking, and sanitary facility requirements for the proposed temporary use.

The following uses are deemed to be temporary uses and shall be subject to the specified regulations and time limits that follow, as well as the regulations of any district in which they are located:

1. Real estate sales offices, which shall contain no living accommodations, shall be permitted within any district for any new subdivision. Such offices shall be located within the subdivision and shall be removed upon the completion of the sales of the lots herein.

2. Temporary buildings, offices, and equipment and storage facilities required in conjunction with construction activity may be permitted within any district for a period of one (1) year, except that six (6) month extensions may be granted if construction is substantially underway. Such uses shall be removed immediately upon completion of the construction, or upon expiration of the zoning permit, whichever occurs first.
3. Temporary sales and services may be permitted within parking areas within any commercial district. A zoning permit valid for a period not to exceed four (4) consecutive days shall only be issued three (3) times within any twelve (12) month period to any individual or organization. The application for the temporary zoning permit shall be accompanied by written permission of the property owners, and shall be prominently displayed at the site. The Zoning Director shall not issue a permit for such temporary use if he/she determines that it encroaches upon more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the required parking area.
4. Temporary retail sales and services, such as sales of plants, flowers, arts and crafts, farm produce, or similar items on lots other than parking lots, including any lot on which an existing business is operating or on which a business is vacated, may be permitted for any for-profit individuals or organization in any commercial district. A zoning permit valid for a period not to exceed two (2) consecutive days shall only be issued three (3) separate times for any particular lot within any twelve (12) month period, and not more than one (1) permit may be issued at the same time for any lot. The applicant must submit a current vendor's license or transient vendor's license, and a written statement from the property owner giving his permission for such use. This section shall not be interpreted to prohibit any such use in any case where a valid covenant or deed restriction specifically authorizes such use. In any case, the zoning permit shall be prominently displayed at the site.
5. Temporary seasonal sales, including but not limited to fruits and vegetables, Christmas trees and greenery, Halloween decorations and pumpkins, and holiday flower sales, shall be permitted within the "B-1" zone as an accessory use. The application for the temporary zoning permit shall be accompanied by written permission of the property owners.
6. A permit in advance is required for all yard, garage or other similar type sales. A maximum of nine (9) permits per calendar year may be issued for any parcel of record.

750. Purpose & Intent of Solar Energy Systems (SES)

The purpose of this Section, and those that follow up to Section 762, is to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of Solar Energy Systems (SES) of all types in Union Township. The regulations set forth herein have been formulated to provide opportunities for solar harvesting operations while ensuring that specific conditions are met to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public as these improvements are commissioned. The provisions of this Article regarding SES will:

1. Establish a reasonable and efficient process for the review and approval of SES applications;
2. Prescribe required distances for setbacks for SES from buildings, property lines, and easements;
3. Institute minimum performance regulations for SES;
4. Create standards for the removal of SES and their appurtenant structures.

751. Definitions

Agrioltaics: A solar energy system co-located on the same parcel of land as agricultural production, including crop production, grazing, apiaries, or other agricultural products or services.

Ground Mounted Solar Energy System: An SES that is structurally mounted to the ground and does not qualify as an Integrated SES. For purposes of the Township zoning code, any solar canopy that does not qualify as an Integrated SES shall be considered a Ground Mounted SES, regardless of where it is mounted.

Ground Mounted SES, Small: A ground mounted SES with a site use size of less than or equal to ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) that is used exclusively for private purposes and not used for commercial resale of energy, except for the surplus electrical energy back to the electrical grid. *See also Private Solar Energy System and Solar Energy System–Accessory (SES-A)

Ground Mounted SES, Medium: A ground mounted SES with a site use size of larger than ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) but less than or equal to twenty (20) acres. *See also Solar Energy System–Commercial (SES-C)

Ground Mounted SES, Large: A ground mounted SES with a site use size of larger than twenty (20) acres. *See also Solar Energy System–Commercial (SES-C)

Integrated Solar Energy System: An SES where solar materials are incorporated into building materials, such that the two are reasonably indistinguishable, or where solar materials are used in place of traditional building components, such that the SES is structurally an integral part of a house, building, or other structure. An Integrated SES may be incorporated into, among other things, a building facade, skylight, shingles, canopy, light, or parking meter. *See also Solar Energy System–Accessory (SES-A)

Rooftop Solar Energy System: An SES that is structurally mounted to the roof of a house, building, or other structure and does not qualify as an Integrated SES. *See also Solar Energy System–Accessory (SES-A)

Site Size: The calculated area that includes the perimeter of the outermost panels together with any and all equipment necessary for the function of the SES, including transformers and inverters but not including perimeter fencing and landscaping buffers.

Solar Energy System (SES): A device or structural design feature that provides for the collection of solar energy for electricity generation, consumption, or transmission, or for thermal applications.

Solar Energy System–Accessory (SES-A): A Small Ground Mounted SES, Integrated SES, or Rooftop SES. *See also Ground Mounted SES, Small.

Solar Energy System–Commercial (SES-C): A Medium Ground Mounted SES or Large Ground Mounted SES.

752. Solar Energy Systems (SES) Not Requiring a Zoning Permit

Rooftop SES and Integrated SES, both SES-As, may be established to serve permitted uses. Rooftop and Integrated SES-As may exceed the maximum allowed building height of the building or structure in which it is located by up to three (3) feet in all zoning districts; however, the collector surface and mounting devices for Rooftop SES shall not extend beyond the exterior perimeter of the building on which the system is mounted or built, unless the collector and mounting system has been explicitly engineered to safely extend beyond the edge, and an extension in these circumstances meets all applicable zoning setback standards. Although a zoning permit meeting the criteria in this Section may not be required for Rooftop and Integrated SES-As and appurtenant structures of this type, a building permit may be required and if necessary, must be applied for and approved prior to any site work.

753. General Requirements for all Solar Energy Systems (SES)

The design and construction of all SES shall meet the following standards:

1. The construction, operation, maintenance, repair, removal, modification, restoration or enlargement of an SES following the effective date of this Section shall strictly comply with all applicable regulations of this Zoning Resolution in effect on the earlier of performance of the work or the date of application for Union Township's permission to perform such work;
2. All property owners shall obtain, at their own expense, all permits and licenses required by applicable law, rule, regulation or code, and must maintain the same, in full force and effect, for as long as required by Union Township or any other governmental entity or agency having jurisdiction over the applicant;
3. With respect to any SES that requires a permit from Union Township pursuant to this Section, all applicants shall apply to the Township to modify the height, relocate or rebuild such structure or appurtenant facilities and associated improvements;
4. All SES shall conform to applicable industry standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and be approved by a solar certification program recognized by the American Council on Renewable energy (ACORE) or the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA). All SES that are over twenty (20) feet in height, when oriented at maximum tilt, must be designed by a professional engineer. The engineer must certify that the structures that are intended to be built for the SES is within acceptable code and industry standards—given local soil and climate conditions.

754. Design and Construction

The design and construction of all SES shall meet the following standards:

- A. The foundation and attachments shall meet all local, Township, State and Federal structural requirements for loads, including wind and ice loads. Footing inspections may be required for all SES having footings;
- B. All utilities at a SES site—except for transformers, inverters, substation, and controls—shall be installed underground and in compliance with all laws, resolutions, ordinances, rules and regulations of the Township;
- C. Ground-mounted SES shall not be located over an existing utility easement, unless approval is obtained by the applicable utility providers;

- D. Solar Energy Systems, and any and all accessory or associated facilities shall maximize the use of building materials, colors and textures designed to blend with and/or to harmonize with the natural surroundings;
- E. All SES using a reflector to enhance solar production shall minimize glare from the reflector affecting adjacent or nearby properties.
- F. Rooftop SES on pitched roofs that are visible from the nearest edge of the front road right-of-way shall have the same finished pitch as the roof on the structures on which they are intended to be mounted, and be no more than three (3) feet above the existing roof(s)—whether it is a pitched or flat roof.
- G. All SES and supporting structures must consist of a non-reflective, unobtrusive color. No signage shall be permitted; however, the manufacturer's identification with ratings and the owner's contact information is allowed.
- H. At Solar Energy Systems—Commercial (SES-C) project sites, an acceptable access and turn-around area shall be provided to assure adequate emergency and service access. Maximum use of existing roads, whether public or private, shall be made to the extent practicable. Road construction shall at all times minimize ground disturbance and the cutting of vegetation. Road grades shall closely follow natural contours to assure minimal visual disturbance and reduce soil erosion.
- I. If an easement is required for location of a SES on the property, the easement shall be staked by a licensed and registered land surveyor so as to provide proof that the improvements have been constructed within the easement.
- J. As set forth in Article 5 of this Resolution, the outside storage of materials, vehicles, products, parts or other similar items shall be prohibited unless approved as a principal permitted use through Site Plan Review (See Article 11). In situations where outside storage exists or is proposed, the Development Director or designee shall have the authority to determine the appropriate screening.

755. Solar Energy Systems – Accessory (SES-As)

This Section applies to all zoning districts in Union Township.

- A. Permits: A zoning permit, as set forth in Article 2 of this Resolution, shall be required prior to the construction, erection, placement, modification, or alteration of a Solar Energy System—Accessory (SES-A), except where exempted as applicable by Section 752 of this Article. A building permit may also be required.
- B. Applicability: Any lawfully established SES-A, as defined, shall meet the Solar Energy System standards set forth in this Section.
- C. Location:
 - 1. Rooftop SES shall be placed only on the roof of a structure.
 - 2. Ground-mounted SES shall be placed within areas that meet the permitted setback requirements for accessory structures, in the applicable zoning district associated with the property.
- D. Height Limit: The height of any Ground-Mounted SES is limited to twenty (20) feet, as measured from the natural grade below each panel to the top of each panel at its maximum tilt in the vertical direction. Rooftop and Integrated SES-As may exceed the maximum allowed building height of the building or structure in which it is located by up to three (3) feet in all zoning districts.
- E. Residential Design: In areas zoned Residential, Ground-Mounted SES shall be located behind the front of the principal residential structure.
- F. Decommissioning: SES-As that are no longer producing energy for consumption using electricity shall be removed no later than six (6) months after final energy production occurs.
- G. Declaration of Public Nuisance: Any SES-A, structure or portion thereof declared to be unsafe by the Township, by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, fire hazard, damage or abandonment is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or removal in accordance with best practices.

756. Pre-Application Meeting

Prior to the submittal of an application that does not involve an exempt SES structure (as set forth in Section 752 of this Article) or a Solar Energy Systems – Accessory (SES-A), the applicant is required to contact the Township and its designated representatives to schedule a pre-application meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to address potential issues, which will help expedite the review and permitting process. The pre-application meeting shall include a site visit, if there has not been a prior site visit for the proposed site.

757. Solar Energy Systems – Commercial (SES-Cs)

This Section applies to all Industrial (M-1) zoning districts. For SES-Cs that are proposed to be located in an Estate Residential (ER) zoning district or a Business (B-1) zoning district, a Conditional Use Permit must be obtained.

- A. Permits: A Site Plan Review, in accordance with criteria set forth in Article 11 of this Resolution, shall be required prior to the construction, erection, placement, modification, or alteration of any SES-C. A building permit may also be required.
- B. Applicability: Any lawfully established SES-C, as defined, shall meet the SES standards set forth in this Section.
- C. Location:
 - 1. Minimum Setback from Adjacent Non-Participating Properties: Any SES-C equipment, excluding perimeter fencing, poles, and wire necessary to connect the facility to an electric utility, must be setback at least one-hundred-and-fifty feet (150) feet from any property line of a non-participating landowner.
 - 2. Minimum Setbacks from Adjacent Primary Structures for Non-Participating Properties: Any SES-C equipment, excluding perimeter fencing, poles, and wire necessary to connect the facility to an electric utility, must be setback at least two-hundred (200) feet from any primary structure(s) on property that is not part of the SES-C.
 - 3. Minimum Setbacks from Adjacent Properties for Participating Properties: Property line setbacks between separate parcels of different ownership—both or all of which are participating as part of an SES-C—may be waived upon agreement of the landowners.

4. Minimum Setbacks from Principal Structures for Participating Properties: Any SES-C equipment, excluding perimeter fencing, poles, and wire necessary to connect the facility to an electric utility, must be setback at the same distance as the nearest primary structure on property that is part of the SES-C.
5. Minimum Setbacks from Adjacent Properties for Participating Properties: Any SES-C equipment, excluding perimeter fencing, poles, and wire necessary to connect the facility to an electric utility, must be setback at the same distance as a primary structure in the zoning district in which it is located—except for any pieces of equipment (such as inverters) that create objectionable sound levels during normal operations, which must meet the 150-foot setback set forth in item C1 of this Section for Adjacent Non-Participating Properties.

D. Design:

1. Height Limit: The height of any SES-C ground-mounted solar equipment is limited to twenty (20) feet, as measured from the natural grade below each panel to the top of each panel at its maximum tilt in the vertical direction. Rooftop and Integrated SES may exceed the maximum allowed building height of the building or structure in which it is located by up to three (3) feet in all zoning districts.
2. Fencing: All SES-Cs and their appurtenant structures shall be located, fenced or otherwise secured in a manner that prevents unauthorized access. SES-C sites must have a completely fenced perimeter that is wildlife-friendly and can include clearance at the bottom of six (6) inches or less. The fencing for the perimeter must be at least six (6) feet in height with locking gate access and be designed to be harmonious with the natural surroundings to the extent feasible. Alternative fencing can be requested as part of the Site Plan Review process if the site is either incorporating agrivoltaics, or if the applicant is proposing alternative fencing and / or other barriers—including those that are natural— that are determined by Union Township to be equal to or better than the Resolution requirements and the intent of this Article.
3. Access: The operator of a SES-C must provide an emergency (knox) box with keys to the site and equipment lockers on site at the main entrance or an alternative emergency access solution to the site approved by the Development Director, or designee.

4. Visual Buffers: A SES-C shall have, to the extent reasonably practicable, a visual buffer that is at least twenty (20) feet wide and provides a reasonable visual and lighting screen to reduce the view of the SES-C from: 1) the exterior perimeter of the fenced area of the site; and 2) non-participating residential uses and structures on adjacent lots, including those lots located across a road right-of-way (as set forth earlier in this Section). Visual buffers must be established and maintained in accordance with the most recent landscaping and bufferyard plan, and must meet the requirements below:
 - a. The buffer shall be installed to obscure the SES-C and shall contain staggered evergreen trees or bushes planted not less than eight (8) feet apart linearly. The Township may consider an alternative landscape buffer as a part of the zoning review, provided the alternative provides adequate screening, as determined by Union Township.
 - b. Plantings shall be least four (4) feet tall at time of planting and shall reach a height of ten (10) feet within three (3) growing seasons.
 - c. The trees may be trimmed but must maintain a height of at least ten (10) feet after the third growing season.
 - d. Good husbandry techniques shall be followed with respect to vegetation, including but not limited to, proper pruning, proper fertilizing, and proper mulching, so that the vegetation will reach maturity as soon as practical and will have maximum density in foliage. Dead or diseased vegetation shall be removed and must be replanted in a manner consistent with this Section at the next appropriate planting time.
 - e. Plants or grasses not part of the buffer area shall be maintained not to exceed a height of twelve (12) inches. The Township may approve a taller height upon a finding that it will not result in a nuisance.
5. Ground Cover: Pollinator-friendly seed mixes and native plants are required around ground-mounted SES. *The Development Director or his or her designee may approve the redistribution of some of the required ground cover landscaping to other locations on the site, including required bufferyards.

6. **Drainage:** All Solar Energy Systems must meet the requirements of the County and Township regarding drainage and erosion control. Stormwater design and calculations must be done in accordance with Clermont County Water Management and Sediment Control (WMSC) regulations. Additionally, permits must also be obtained from Clermont County where applicable.
7. **Lighting:** Exterior lighting for a SES-C site shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes. If lighting is required, the Applicant shall provide a detailed lighting plan that meets all applicable Township, State and Federal regulations.
8. **Signage:** All Solar Energy Systems – Commercial (SES-Cs) and their appurtenant structures shall contain a standard metal road sign no larger than four (4) square feet in order to provide the name(s) of the owner(s) and operator(s) of the SES-C as well as emergency phone number(s) and the address of the site. This sign shall be visible from the access point of the site—but shall be located just outside of the road right-of-way, outside of the sight triangles in either direction—and shall not be lighted, unless lighting is required by applicable law, rule or regulation. A four (4) square-foot warning sign concerning voltage must also be placed at the base of all pad-mounted transformers and substations in a conspicuous location. No other signage, including advertising, shall be permitted.
9. **Safety and Security:** A safety and security plan must be submitted and must contain adequate provisions for site security and safety—including those involving emergency service responders. Union Township will share the plan with all affected service providers and obtain comments for the plan from each, along with their acknowledgment that they are capable of performing their respective duties under the plan. If necessary, the applicant will be responsible for providing training to Union Township service providers to ensure they can provide adequate services to the SES-C pursuant to the safety and security plan.

E. Decommissioning: A decommissioning plan, which must be prepared by a professional engineer, contractor, or other person with expertise or experience in decommissioning and removal of SES-C, shall be provided indicating the method of removing the SES-C at the end of its serviceable life, or upon discontinuance or abandonment of the SES-C.

1. Content: The decommissioning plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Written assurances shall be provided that the SES-C will be properly decommissioned upon discontinuance, abandonment, of the expiration of the serviceable life of the SES-C.

a. Discontinuation: Any SES-C shall be considered abandoned and a discontinued use, if at any time, any of the following apply:

i. The system has been abandoned for a period of one hundred-eighty (180) days in any three hundred-sixty-five (365) day period. For properties involving foreclosure, vacant residential structures, or for other unusual or extreme circumstances, a waiver may be requested to extend this time period. All waiver requests of this specific type must be submitted in writing to the Development Director or designee and may be issued only if the waiver is determined to be necessary and if the requested waiver does not adversely affect the other requirements of this Article;

ii. The system falls into such a state of disrepair that it creates a health or safety hazard;

b. Removal: An applicant's obligations shall include removal of all physical material pertaining to the project improvements to no less than a depth of four (4) feet below ground level. Said work shall be completed within 365 days of the discontinuation or abandonment of the SES-C. The restoration of the project area shall result in as near as practicable the condition of the site immediately before construction of such improvements.

- c. Waste Management: All solid waste, whether generated from supplies, equipment, parts, packaging, operation, or maintenance of the system and associated facilities (including old parts and equipment) shall be removed from the site in a timely manner consistent with industry standards. All hazardous waste generated by the operation and maintenance of the facility, including but not limited to lubricating materials, cleaning materials, batteries, etc. shall be handled in a manner consistent with local, State, and Federal waste disposal rules and regulations and shall not be allowed to seep into the ground or come into contact with any open water.
 - d. Written Notices: In the event Union Township reasonably believes an SES-C has not been properly decommissioned in accordance with this Section, the Township shall provide written notice to the SES-C owner and / or operator setting forth the alleged noncompliance with this Section. Such notice shall provide the owner and / or operator a reasonable time period, not to exceed sixty (60) days unless the Development Director determines good cause is shown for an extension, to resolve the issue. If the owner and / or operator fails to resolve the issue, the Township may take any available remedial action to enforce this Section.
 - e. Costs Incurred by the Township: If Union Township removes a SES-C and/or appurtenant facilities, it may sell the salvage to defray the costs of removal. Each permittee, by virtue of the issuance of its construction permit or inspection certificate grants a license to Union Township to enter the property and to remove all commercial SES and/or appurtenant facilities pursuant to the terms of its approved decommissioning plan.
- F. Declaration of Public Nuisance: Any SES-C, structure or portion thereof declared to be unsafe by the Township, by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, fire hazard, damage or abandonment is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or removal in accordance with the approved decommissioning plan.

758. Solar Energy Systems – Commercial (SES-Cs) Requiring Conditional Use Permit

For SEC-Cs that require conditional use approval from the Township (in accordance with Article 4 of this Resolution), the Township may disapprove a conditional use application for any of the following reasons (in addition to any other reason set forth in Article 4):

1. Conflict with safety and safety-related codes and requirements;
2. Conflict with the historic nature or character of a neighborhood or historical district;
3. Conflict with a purpose of an existing, specific zoning or land use designation;
4. The placement and location of the SES would create an unacceptable risk, or the reasonable probability of such, to residents, the public, employees and agents of the Township, or employees of the service provider or other service providers;
5. Conflicts with the provisions of this Resolution.

759. Retention of Expert Assistance and Reimbursement by Applicant

The Township may require a 3rd party, independent review by experts to assist Township staff in reviewing and evaluating SES-C applications, particularly those involving new construction or one or more significant modification(s) of the site. The Applicant shall bear all reasonable costs associated with the 3rd party expert evaluation and consultation(s) to the Township. Where it is deemed applicable and necessary, the Township must agree to the scope and complexity of the project before a reputable, mutually agreed upon 3rd party expert can be selected by both the Township and Applicant. At minimum, the 3rd party expert must evaluate and analyze the application in consideration of all of the applicable Township ordinances, must determine whether the application is complete or not, and must identify if there are any compliance issues or a need for one (1) or more Variances.

760. Maintenance and Inspections

Any physical modification to the SES-C must be reported to the Development Director or his or her designee to determine if it is necessary to have the SES-C re-certified by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Ohio and to determine if a new zoning permit is required.

The Union Township Development Director or his or her designee will be responsible for contacting all owners or operators of a SES-C that does not meet applicable codes and regulations. Once notified in writing, the owner or operator of a SES-C will be required to address any repairs or alterations within thirty (30) days after receiving notice—or within a longer period of time mutually acceptable to both parties. During this time period, the owner or operator of a SES-C may retain a licensed 3rd party professional engineer familiar with SES-C systems to prepare and submit to the appropriate Union Township officials a written report which addresses the repairs or alterations required, and which suggests alternate methods for addressing the concerns or provides evidence that said repairs or alterations are unnecessary. The Union Township Development Director or his or her designee will consider any such written report and determine whether the repairs or alterations should be made as originally requested, or as suggested in the written report.

762. Variances

The Board of Zoning Appeals may grant a Variance for any requirement of this Article if it determines that such action is warranted given the nature of an individual project, and that such action will serve to preserve the purpose and intent of these regulations.

ARTICLE 8

OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REGULATIONS

800. General Parking Requirements.

In all districts, at any time any building, structure or use of land is erected, enlarged, increased in capacity, or used, there shall be provided for every use off-street parking spaces for automobiles in accordance with the provisions of this Article. A parking plan shall be required for all uses except for single or two-family residential uses. The parking plan shall be submitted to the Zoning Director as part of the applications for a zoning permit. The plan shall show the boundaries of the property, parking spaces, access driveways, circulation patterns, drainage and construction plans, and boundary walls, fences and a screening plan as appropriate.

Whenever a building or use constructed or established after the effective date of this Resolution is changed or enlarged in floor area, number of employees, number of dwelling units, seating capacity, or otherwise to create a need for an increase of ten percent (10%) or more in the number of existing parking spaces, such spaces shall be provided on the basis of the enlargement or change.

Whenever a building or use existing prior to the effective date of this Resolution is enlarged to the extent of fifty percent (50%) or more in floor area or in area used, such building or use shall then and thereafter comply with the parking requirements set fourth herein.

801. Off-Street Parking Design Standards.

All off-street facilities including entrances, exits, maneuvering areas, and parking spaces shall be in accordance with the following standards and specifications:

1. **Parking Space Dimensions:** Each off-street parking space shall have an area of not less than one hundred sixty-two square feet in a nine (9') foot by eighteen (18') foot space exclusive of access drives or aisles, and shall be of usable shape and condition.
2. **Access:** There shall be adequate provision for ingress and egress to all parking spaces. Where the lot or parking spaces do not provide direct

access to a public street or alley, an access drive shall be provided, with a dedicated easement of access, as follows:

- a. For one single-family, two-family, or three-family residential dwelling, the access drive shall be a minimum of nine (9') feet in width and a maximum of twenty-four (24') feet except in the following circumstances(s):
 - (1.) A turnaround adjacent to an access drive may accommodate a maximum of two (2) parking spaces.
 - (2.) An access drive to accommodate a three (3) car garage may extend up to thirty (30') feet in width.
 - b. For all other uses, the access drive shall be a minimum of eighteen (18') feet in width.
 - c. All parking spaces, except those required for single-family, two-family, or three-family dwellings, shall have access to a public street or alley in such a manner that any vehicle leaving or entering the parking area from or into a public street or alley shall be traveling in a forward motion.
 - d. Except where an access drive is required in connection with a use permitted in a residential district, no access drive shall be located in any residential district.
3. Setbacks: The location of off-street parking facilities for more than five (5) vehicles may be located in required yards as specified elsewhere in this Resolution. However, off-street parking facilities within any "R" district are limited within the front yard to the required access drive. In no case shall any vehicle be located closer than five (5') feet to any street, alley, or right-of-way.
 4. Screening: In addition to the setback requirements specified in this Resolution for off-street parking facilities for more than five (5) vehicles, screening shall be provided on each side of a parking area that abuts any Residential District or use. Screening shall comply with the requirements of Section 520 of this Resolution.
 5. Paving: All required parking spaces, driveways, and other circulation areas, shall be hard-surfaced with a pavement having an asphalt or concrete binder. Permitted uses within any "M" District located at least two hundred (200') feet from any "R" District are exempt from the paving requirement. Variances from the paving requirement may be requested for school auditoriums, assembly areas, sports fields and other community meeting or recreation areas provided that paved areas shall be provided for

daily use parking areas. Where paving is not required, proper dust control measures shall be undertaken and maintained.

6. Drainage: All parking spaces, driveways, aisles, and other circulation areas shall be graded and drained so as to dispose of surface water which might accumulate within or upon such area, and shall be designed to prevent the excess drainage of surface water onto adjacent properties, walkways, or onto the public streets. Adequate arrangements shall be made to insure acceptable diversion to an adequate storm water drainage system in conformance with the applicable storm water detention regulations.
7. Barriers: Whenever a parking lot extends to a property line, fencing, wheel stops, curbs, or other suitable barriers shall be provided in order to prevent any part of a parked vehicle from extending beyond the property line.
8. Visibility: Access or driveways for parking areas shall be located in such a way that any vehicle entering or leaving such parking area shall be clearly visible for a reasonable distance by any pedestrian or motorist approaching the access or driveway from a public or private street or alley and must conform to the requirements of Section 518.
9. Marking: All parking areas for ten (10) or more spaces shall be marked with paint lines, curb stones, or in some other manner approved by the Zoning Director, and shall be maintained in a clearly visible condition.
10. Maintenance: Any owner of property used for parking areas shall maintain such areas in good condition without holes and free of all dust, trash, or other debris.
11. Signs: Where necessary due to multiple curb cuts, the entrances, exits, and the intended circulation pattern of the parking area shall be clearly marked.
12. Lighting: Any lights used to illuminate a parking lot shall be flat lens, downward directed, and shall be so arranged, shielded, and installed as to direct the light away from adjoining property.

802. Determination of Required Spaces.

In computing the number of parking spaces required by this Resolution, the following rules shall apply.

1. Where the floor area is designated as the standard for determining parking space requirements, floor area shall be the sum of the gross horizontal area of all the floors of a nonresidential building measured from the faces of

the exterior walls, excluding only stairs, washrooms, elevator shafts, and similar non-useable areas.

2. Where seating capacity is the standard for determining parking space requirements, the capacity shall mean the number of seating units installed or indicated or each eighteen (18") lineal inches of benches, or pews, except where the occupancy standards are set by the Fire Marshal.
3. Fractional numbers shall be increased to the next whole number.

803. Joint or Collective Parking Facilities.

The joint or collective provision of required off-street parking areas shall comply with the following standards and requirements:

1. All required parking spaces shall be located on the same lot with the building or use served, except that where an increase in the number of spaces is required by a change or enlargement of use, or where such spaces are provided collectively or used jointly by two (2) or more buildings or establishments, the required spaces may be located not farther than five hundred (500') feet from the building served.
2. Not more than fifty percent (50%) of the parking spaces required for theaters, bowling alleys, dance halls, night clubs, taverns and similar uses, and up to one-hundred (100%) percent of the parking spaces required for churches, schools, auditoriums and similar uses may be provided and jointly used by banks, offices, retail stores, repair shops, service establishments and similar uses that are not normally open, used, or operated during the same hours as the uses with which such spaces are jointly or collectively used.
3. In any case where the required parking spaces are not located on the same lot with the building or use served, or where such spaces are collectively or jointly provided and used, a written agreement thereby assuring their retention for such purposes shall be properly drawn and executed by the parties concerned, approved as to form by legal counsel, and filed with the application for a zoning permit.

804. Off-Street Stacking Areas For Drive-In Services.

In addition to the general parking requirements, establishments that by their nature create lines of customers waiting to be served within automobiles shall provide off-street stacking areas at least twenty (20') feet in length for each

vehicle and at least ten (10') feet in width in accordance with the following requirements.

1. Photo pickups, restaurants, drive-thru beverage docks, and other similar commercial establishments that can normally serve customers in three (3) minutes or less shall provide no less than five (5) stacking spaces per window. Drive-in restaurants and other similar uses which require an additional stopping point for ordering shall provide a minimum of three (3) additional stacking spaces for each such stopping point.
2. Other commercial establishments such as banks, savings and loan offices, or other similar facilities with service or money windows shall provide no less than four (4) stacking spaces per window.
3. Self-serve automobile washing facilities shall provide no less than three (3) stacking spaces per stall. All other automobile washing facilities shall provide a minimum of six (6) stacking spaces per entrance.
4. Motor vehicle service stations shall provide no less than two (2) stacking spaces for each accessible side of a gasoline pump island. Gasoline pumps shall not be located closer than fifteen (15') feet to any street right-of-way line.

805. Parking of Disabled Vehicles.

The parking of a disabled, and/or unlicensed and/or apparently inoperable vehicle within any residential district, or on any property located within any commercial district not otherwise authorized and permitted for such use, for a period of more than thirty (30) days, shall be prohibited, except that such vehicle may be stored in an enclosed garage or other accessory building, provided that no business shall be conducted in connection therewith while such vehicle is parked or stored.

810. Parking Space Requirements.

For the purposes of this Resolution the following parking space requirements shall apply.

811. Residential Uses.

1. Single-family: two (2) for each unit.

2. Apartments or multi-family dwellings: two (2) for each unit.
3. Manufactured housing: two (2) for each unit.

812. Business Related Uses.

1. Animal hospitals and kennels: one (1) for each four hundred (400 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) for each two (2) employees.
2. Motor vehicle repair station: one (1) for each four hundred (400 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) for each employee.
3. Motor vehicle salesroom: one (1) for each four hundred (400 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) for each employee.
4. Motor vehicle service stations: two (2) for each service bay and one (1) for every two (2) gasoline pumps.
5. Car washing facilities: one (1) for each employee.
6. Banks, financial institutions, post offices, and similar uses: one (1) for each two hundred fifty (250 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) for each employee.
7. Barber and beauty shops, nail salons, and other similar personal service uses: three (3) for each barber, technician, or stylist, as applicable.
8. Carryout and drive through restaurants: one (1) for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) per each two (2) full-time employees.
9. Drive-in restaurants: one (1) for each one hundred twenty-five (125 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area and one (1) per each two (2) employees.
10. Hotels, motels: one (1) for each sleeping room plus one (1) space for each two (2) employees.
11. Boarding, rooming, tourist and bed/breakfast home: one (1) for each sleeping room.
12. Furniture, appliance, hardware, machinery or equipment sales and service, and wholesale establishments: two (2) plus one (1) additional space for each three hundred (300 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area over one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet.

13. Consumer and trade service uses not otherwise specified: one (1) for each employee.
14. Funeral homes, mortuaries and similar types uses: one (1) for each fifty (50 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area in slumber rooms, parlors, or service rooms.
15. Laundromats: one (1) for every two (2) washing machines.
16. Administrative, business and professional office uses: one (1) for each three hundred (300 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
17. Sit-down restaurants, taverns, night clubs, and similar uses: one (1) for each three (3) persons capacity.
18. Retail stores: one (1) for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
19. Shopping centers: one (1) for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
20. All other types of business or commercial uses permitted in any business district: one (1) for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
21. Photographic or artist studios: one (1) for each four hundred (400 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
22. Dry cleaning, dressmaking, tailoring, shoe repair: one (1) for each three hundred (300 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area.
23. Self-service storage facilities: one (1) space for every one hundred (100) individual storage spaces, two (2) spaces for the manager, plus one (1) space per employee.
24. Nurseries and greenhouses: one (1) space per one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area plus one (1) space per two thousand (2,000 sq.ft.) square feet of land area.

813. Recreational and Entertainment Uses.

1. Bowling alleys: four (4) for each alley or lane; one (1) for each three (3) persons of capacity of the area used for restaurant, cocktail lounge, or similar use; and one (1) for each three (3) employees;

2. Pool and billiard halls: two (2) for each table; one (1) for each three (3) persons of capacity of the area used for restaurant, cocktail lounge, or similar use; and one (1) for each three (3) employees;
3. Dance halls, skating rinks: one (1) for each one hundred (100 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area used for the activity; one (1) for each three (3) persons of capacity in the area used for a restaurant, snack bar, or cocktail lounge; and one (1) for each three (3) employees.
4. Outdoor swimming pools (public, community or club): one (1) for each ten (10) persons of capacity, and one (1) for each three (3) persons of capacity for a restaurant.
5. Auditoriums, sport arenas, theaters, and similar uses: one (1) for each four (4) seats.
6. Miniature golf courses: two (2) for each hole and one (1) for each employee.
7. Private clubs and lodges: one (1) for each ten (10) members.
8. Tennis facilities, racquetball facilities or similar uses: two (2) for each playing area; one (1) for each employee; and one (1) for each one hundred (100 sq.ft.) square feet of other activity area.
9. Video or game parlors and amusement centers: one (1) space for each one hundred (100 sq.ft.) square feet of gross floor area.
10. Athletic fields: ten (10) spaces for each field.
11. Golf courses: four (4) spaces for each green plus one (1) space for each employee on the largest shift plus fifty (50%) percent of the requirements for any associated use.
12. Golf driving range and outdoor batting cages: one (1) space per tee plus one (1) space per employee on the largest shift.
13. Basketball or volleyball courts: five (5) spaces per court or one (1) space for each four (4) seats, whichever is greater.
14. Membership sports, health, and recreation clubs: one (1) space for each two hundred (200 sq.ft.) square feet of gross floor area.
15. Go-kart tracks: one (1) space for each five hundred (500 sq.ft.) square feet of land area.

814. Institutional Uses.

1. Churches and other places of religious assembly: one (1) for each eight (8) seats in the main assembly room, or one (1) for each classroom, whichever is greater.
2. Hospitals: one (1) for each three (3) beds.
3. Sanitariums, homes for the aged, nursing homes, rest homes, or similar uses: one (1) for each three (3) beds.
4. Medical, dental, and veterinary clinics: three (3) spaces plus one (1) additional for each four hundred (400 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area over one thousand (1,000 sq.ft.) square feet.
5. Libraries, museums, and art galleries: ten (10) spaces, and one (1) additional for each three-hundred (300 sq.ft.) square feet of floor area in excess of two-thousand (2,000 sq.ft.) square feet.

815. Educational Institution (Public, Parochial, or Private) Uses.

1. Elementary schools and kindergartens: four (4) for each classroom; one (1) for every four (4) seats in the auditoriums or assembly halls; and one (1) for each additional non-teaching employee.
2. High schools and middle schools: one (1) for every ten (10) students, or one (1) for each teacher and employee, or one (1) for every four (4) seats in auditoriums, assembly areas or sports fields, whichever is greater.
3. Business, technical and trade schools: one (1) for each two (2) students.
4. Child care centers, nursery schools, and similar uses: four (4) for each classroom.

816. Manufacturing Uses.

1. All types of manufacturing, storage, and wholesale uses permitted in any manufacturing district: one (1) for every employee (on the largest shift for which the building is designed), and one (1) for each motor vehicle used in the business.

2. Cartage, express, parcel delivery, and freight terminals: one and one-half (1.5) for every employee (on the largest shift for which the building is designed) and one (1) for each motor vehicle maintained on the premises.
3. Laboratories and research and development facilities: one (1) space per employee plus one (1) for each motor vehicle used in the business.

817. Handicapped Parking.

Parking facilities serving buildings and facilities required to be accessible to the physically handicapped shall have conveniently located designated spaces provided by the Ohio Basic Building Code.

818. Elderly Housing Parking.

Each parking space provided for an elderly housing facility shall as a minimum measure ten (10') feet in width and twenty (20') feet in length, with aisles measuring twenty-one (21') feet in width. There shall be provided one (1) such parking space per dwelling unit and per regular shift employee, except that the Board of Zoning Appeals may approve a parking plan for an elderly housing facility which provides three (3) such parking spaces for every four (4) dwelling units and one (1) per regular shift employee, if the site plan includes a set-aside of landscaped area, which set-aside is not part of any open-space requirements and which is accessible to egress/entrance for parking purposes, should additional parking spaces be deemed necessary by the Board of Zoning Appeals subsequently.

820. Off-Street Loading Space Requirements.

In any district in connection with every building or part thereof hereafter erected and having a gross floor area of three thousand (3,000 sq.ft.) square feet or more, which is to be occupied by manufacturing, storage, warehouse, goods display, retail store, wholesale store, hotel, hospital, mortuary, laundry, dry cleaning, or other uses similarly requiring the receipt or distribution by vehicles of material or merchandise, there shall be provided and maintained, on the same lot with the building, at least one (1) off-street loading space, and one (1) additional loading space for each ten thousand (10,000 sq.ft.) square feet or fraction thereof of gross floor area so used in excess of three thousand (3,000 sq.ft.) square feet up to a maximum of four (4) such off-street loading spaces per building. However, warehouse and distribution operations shall provide off-street loading spaces in accordance with the total gross floor area of the building.

821. Off-Street Loading Design Standards.

All off-street loading spaces shall be in accordance with the following standards and specifications:

1. Loading Space Dimensions: Each loading space shall have minimum dimensions not less than twelve (12') feet in width, sixty-five (65') feet in length, and a vertical clearance of not less than fourteen (14') feet.
2. Setbacks: Notwithstanding other provisions of this Resolution, off-street loading spaces may be located in the required rear or side yard of any business district provided that not more than ninety percent (90%) of the required rear or side yard is occupied, and not part of any loading space shall be permitted closer than fifty (50') feet to any "R" District or use nor closer than five (5') feet from any street or alley.
3. Screening: In addition to the setback requirements specified above, screening shall be provided on each side of an off-street loading space that abuts any Residential District or use. Screening shall comply with the requirements of Section 520 of this Resolution.
4. Access: All required off-street loading spaces shall have access from a public street or alley in such a manner that any vehicle leaving the premises shall be traveling in a forward motion.
5. Paving: All required off-street loading spaces, driveways, aisles, and other circulation areas, shall be surfaced with an asphaltic or portland cement binder pavement in order to provide a durable or dust-free surface. Permitted uses within any "M" District located at least two hundred (200') feet from any "R" District are exempt from the paving requirement. Where paving is not required, proper dust control measure shall be undertaken and maintained.
6. Drainage: All loading spaces, together with driveways, aisles, and other circulation areas, shall be designed to prevent the excess drainage of surface water onto adjacent properties, walkways or onto the public streets. Arrangements shall be made to insure acceptable diversion to an adequate storm water drainage system in conformance with the applicable storm water detention regulations.
7. Lighting: Any lights used to illuminate a loading area shall be so arranged as to reflect the light away from adjoining property.

ARTICLE 9

SIGNS

900. General.

The purpose of this Article is to promote and protect the public health, welfare, and safety by regulating existing and proposed outdoor advertising, outdoor advertising signs, and outdoor signs of all types. It is intended to protect property values, create a more visually attractive economic and business climate, enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, and preserve the scenic and natural beauty of designated areas. It is further intended to reduce sign and advertising clutter, distraction, and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents, reduce hazards that may be caused by signs overhanging or projecting over public rights-of-way, provide more open space, curb the deterioration of the natural environment, and enhance community development by permitting signs which are compatible with their surroundings.

901. Governmental Signs Excluded.

For the purpose of this Resolution “sign” does not include signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by any law, ordinance, or governmental regulation, such as street signs, stop signs, etc.

902. General Requirements for All Signs and Districts.

The Regulations contained in this section shall apply to all signs and all use districts.

1. Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall employ only light emitting a light of constant intensity, and no sign shall be illuminated by or contain flashing, rotating, intermittent, or moving light or lights. In no event shall an illuminated sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination there from to be directed or beamed upon a public thoroughfare, highway, sidewalk, or adjacent premises so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard or nuisance;

2. No sign shall employ any parts or elements that revolve, rotate, whirl, spin or otherwise make use of motion to attract attention. Lighted electronic information displays whose only movement is the periodic changing of information against a solid, colorless, background shall be allowed as on-premises signs (i.e., electronic message centers, time and temperature units). Signs illuminated by bulbs shall have automatic dimmers and glare screens. Any sign under this section must meet all other zoning requirements;
3. All wiring, fittings, and materials used in the construction, connection, and operation of electrically illuminated signs shall be in accordance with all applicable regulations of the currently adopted and enforced electrical and building code(s) of the Clermont County Building Department;
4. No projecting sign shall be erected or maintained from the front or face of a building a distance of more than two (2') feet, including those projecting from the face of any theater, hotel, or motel marquee;
5. No roof signs are permitted; wall signs that project above the roof line shall be screened so the sign appears to be a continuation of the face of the building;
6. No temporary or portable sign shall be placed on any building or on any premises, except as provided in Section 905;
7. No permanent sign or part thereof shall contain or consist of banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, balloons, or other similar moving or inflatable devices. In addition, such devices, as well as strings of lights, shall not be used for the purpose of advertising or attracting attention when not part of a sign;
8. No sign of any classification shall be installed, erected, or attached in any form, shape, or manner to a fire escape or any door or window giving access to any fire escape;
9. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain all signs on the property in a safe and sound structural condition. Should any sign be or become unsafe or be in danger of falling, the owner thereof or the person maintaining the same shall, upon receipt of written notice from the Zoning Director, proceed at once to put such sign in a safe and secure condition or remove the sign as per the Regulations stated in Section 920;
10. No sign shall be placed in any public right-of-way except publicly-owned signs, such as traffic control signs and directional signs. Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property but bearing no advertising matter shall be permitted on any property;

11. All signs shall be so designed and supported as to carry the weight of the sign, and shall comply with the local building code in effect;
12. All signs shall be secured in such a manner as to prevent significant movement due to wind;
13. No advertising signs shall be attached to or supported by a tree, utility pole, trash receptacle, bench, vending machine, or public shelter;
14. No sign shall be attached in such manner that it may interfere with any required ventilation openings;
15. No sign shall be located on a vacant lot, except for the purpose of advertising the lot for sale or lease, or for such purpose as the notification of present danger or prohibition of trespassing, except as otherwise herein permitted;
16. No sign shall be located nearer than eight (8') feet vertically or four (4') feet horizontally from any overhead electrical wires, conductors, or guy wires;
17. No vehicle or trailer may be parked or stored on a business premises or a lot for the purpose of advertising a business product, service, event, object, location, organization, or the like;
18. The surface area of a sign shall be computed as including the entire area within a regular, geometric form or combinations of regular, geometric forms comprising all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. Frames and structural members not being advertising matter shall not be included in computation of surface area.

903. Permit Required.

1. No person shall locate or maintain any sign, or cause a sign to be located or maintained, unless all provisions of this Article have been met. To assure compliance with these regulations, a sign permit issued pursuant to this Resolution shall be required for each sign unless specifically exempted in this Article;
2. A sign for which a permit has been issued shall not be modified, altered or replaced, nor shall design elements of any building or lot upon which such sign is maintained be modified, altered or replaced if any such design element constituted a basis for approval of such sign, unless a new or amended permit is obtained consistent with these regulations;

3. The painting, changing of parts and/or preventive maintenance of signs to restore to, or to maintain the original condition, shall not be deemed alterations requiring a new or amended sign permit.

904. Signs Permitted in All Districts: Permit Not Required.

1. Signs advertising the sale, lease, or rental of the premises upon which the sign is located, shall not exceed twelve (12 sq.ft.) square feet in area, except in all Residential Districts where the area of the sign shall not be more than six (6 sq.ft.) square feet;
2. Professional name plates not to exceed four (4 sq.ft.) square feet in area;
3. Signs denoting the name and address of the occupants of the premises, not to exceed two (2 sq.ft.) square feet in area;
4. Election signs.
5. Signs directing and guiding traffic and parking on private property, but bearing no advertising matter.

905. Signs Permitted in Any District: Permit Required.

1. Signs or bulletin boards customarily incidental to places of worship, libraries, museums, social clubs, or societies, which signs or bulletin boards shall not exceed thirty-two (32 sq.ft.) square feet in area and which shall be located on the premises of such institution;
2. Temporary signs not exceeding fifty (50 sq.ft.) square feet in area, announcing special public or institutional events, the erection of a building, the architect, the builders, or the contractors may be erected for a period of sixty (60) days plus the construction period, or a total of three hundred sixty-five (365) days, whichever is less. Such temporary signs shall conform to the general requirements listed in Section 902, the setback requirements in Sections 910-912 and, in addition, such other standards deemed necessary by the Zoning Director to accomplish the intent of this Article as stated in Section 900.
3. In the event an existing permanent sign is damaged by an unavoidable accident or Act of God, such as lightning storm, windstorm, hailstorm, rainstorm, or tornado, the property owner may, pursuant to obtaining a zoning permit, erect a temporary sign during the period of replacement of

the damaged sign. Said temporary sign shall be permitted for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days and may not be renewed.

906. Subdivision Signs and Entry Monuments: Permit Required.

1. Up to two (2) permanent on-premise entry monuments may be installed at each primary entrance of residential and industrial subdivisions and office parks, no closer than ten (10') feet to the right-of-way line. No part of any monument shall exceed twelve (12') feet in height. Entry monuments may be constructed only of brick, stone, or masonry. Internal and neon lighting is prohibited.
2. One entry monument may also be installed in subdivision to subdivision transition areas, to within two (2') feet of right-of-way.
3. Entry monuments may contain wording or designs announcing the name of the subdivision, limited to a maximum of one-fourth (1/4) the face area of the monument or thirty-five (35 sq.ft) square feet per monument, whichever is less.
4. The following temporary signs may be installed for sales offices in subdivisions during new home construction by that builder.
 - a. One (1) on-premise sign, not to exceed twenty-five (25 sq.ft.) square feet in area and six (6') feet in height providing information about the builder and sales office. The sign may be placed to within five (5') feet of the right-of-way.
 - b. One (1) wall sign a maximum area of fifteen (15 sq.ft.) square feet identifying the entrance to the sales office and builder.
 - c. With the written permission of the property owner, one (1) off-premise directional sign containing an arrow, the words "model home," and the builder's name may be placed within the new subdivision. This sign may contain a maximum of six (6 sq.ft.) square feet and three (3') feet in height and may be placed to within two (2') feet of the right-of-way.
5. During new home construction, one (1) temporary on-premise sign not to exceed forty (40 sq.ft.) square feet in area and ten (10') feet in height announcing the developer, current home builder(s) within the subdivision, and subdivision information may be erected at each primary entrance to within ten (10') feet of the right-of-way. The sign shall be removed within two (2) years of the zoning certificate date, or a new application may be submitted if construction is ongoing. Failure to allow co-location shall

result in revocation of zoning authorization and removal of any previously authorized sign.

6. The subdivision developer may permanently brand its name and logo into an entry monument. The total area of such brand shall not exceed one (1 sq.ft.) square foot for each entrance or transition location.
7. Each active builder is allowed to provide temporary yard/directional signs associated with subdivision under construction, not to be placed for any period of time other than from Friday night beginning at 5:00 p.m. through Monday morning ending at 6:00 a.m., and said signs may be installed only upon compliance with a registration procedure to be established by the Planning & Zoning Director. No more than one (1) yard/directional sign may be placed in any one (1) location for any builder. Such signs may not be placed in violation of Section 902 or on any public property of right-of-way. Such signs shall not exceed twenty-four (24") inches by twenty-four (24") inches and be installed no more than two (2') feet above the ground from the base.
8. All other signs not specifically provided for herein are prohibited.

907. Signs Permitted in Commercial and Industrial Districts: Permit Required.

The regulations set forth in this section shall apply to signs in all Commercial and Industrial Districts and such signs shall require a permit.

1. In a Commercial or Industrial District, each business shall be permitted flat or wall on-premises signs. Projection of wall signs shall not exceed two (2') feet measured from the face of the main building. The area of all wall signs for any single business enterprise shall not exceed an area equivalent to one and one-half square feet (1.5 sq. ft.) of sign area for each lineal foot of building width, or part of a building, occupied by such enterprise.
2. Free-standing on-premises signs may be erected to serve business establishments, provided each such sign shall not exceed twelve feet (12') in height. There shall be only one (1) free-standing sign per street frontage for each lot of record. The area of free-standing signs may be an area equivalent to one square foot (1 sq. ft.) of sign area for each lineal foot of street frontage, not to exceed one hundred fifty square feet (150 sq. ft.) in area for single business developments. In the case of multiple business developments (two (2) or more separate uses in one (1) building or in a collection of buildings so as to give the visual impression of a unified development) the free-standing sign may not exceed two hundred (200 sq. ft.) square feet in area.

A lot of record containing a portable sign is limited to one (1) free-standing sign with an area no greater than one square foot (1 sq. ft.) of sign area for each lineal foot of street frontage, not to exceed one hundred square feet (100 sq. ft.) in area for single business developments. In the case of multiple business developments with a portable sign, the free-standing sign may not exceed one hundred fifty square feet (150 sq. ft.) in area.

3. In a Commercial or Industrial District, one off-premises sign with a total area not exceeding three hundred square feet (300 sq. ft.) may be permitted at a single location. Off-premises signs shall not exceed twelve feet (12') in height.

For the purposes of this Article, outdoor advertising off-premises signs classified as a business use and be permitted in all districts zoned for Industry or Commerce or lands used for agricultural purposes. In addition, regulation of signs along interstate and primary highways shall conform to the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 5516, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

4. One (1) banner or portable sign per lot of record is permitted for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days per calendar quarter. Such sign must conform to the general requirements listed in Section 902, the setback requirements in Sections 910-912 and, in addition, such other standards deemed necessary by the Zoning Director to accomplish the intent of this Article as stated in Section 900 and may not exceed thirty-two (32 sq.ft) square feet in area. Failure to comply with the thirty (30) day permit period shall be cause for denial of additional portable sign permits. A lot containing a portable sign is subject to the restrictions stated in Section 906.2.
5. One search / beacon light or one (1) inflatable per lot of record is permitted for a period not to exceed seven (7) days per calendar quarter. Beacon lights must conform to the setback requirements in Sections 910-912 and, in addition, such other standards deemed necessary by the Zoning Director to accomplish the intent of this Article as stated in Section 900. Failure to comply with the seven (7) day permit period shall be cause for denial of additional beacon light permits.

908. Wall Signs Pertaining to Nonconforming Uses.

On-premises wall signs pertaining to a nonconforming use shall be permitted on the same premises of such use, provided in the area of such sign does not exceed twelve (12 sq.ft.) square feet. This is the only sign permitted for the nonconforming use.

910. Sign Setback Requirements.

Except as modified in Sections 911-912, on-premises signs where permitted shall be set back from the established right-of-way line of any thoroughfare at least ten (10') feet.

911. Setbacks for Public and Quasi-Public Signs.

Signs advertising the sale of real estate and bulletin boards for a church, school or any other public, religious or educational institution may be erected not less than ten (10') feet from the established right-of-way line of any street or highway provided such sign or bulletin board does not obstruct traffic visibility at street or highway intersections, or is otherwise a health or safety hazard.

912. Setbacks for On-Premises Signs.

On-premises signs, where permitted, shall be erected or placed from any adjoining property line a minimum of fifteen (15') feet or a distance equal to the height of the sign, whichever is greater.

913. Setbacks for Off-Premises Signs.

Off-premises signs shall be setback no less than fifty (50') feet from any street right-of-way, one hundred (100') feet from any property line, and four hundred (400') feet from any residential zone or use.

920. Maintenance.

All signs shall be maintained in safe and sound structural condition at all times and shall be presentable. The Zoning Director shall cause to be removed any signs or structures found to be unsafe or structurally unsound after giving thirty (30) days notification.

930. Nonconforming Signs and Structures.

Advertising signs and structures in existence prior to the effective date of this Resolution which violate or are otherwise not in conformity with the provisions of this Article shall be deemed nonconforming. All such legal nonconforming signs and structure shall be maintained in accordance with this Article. The burden of establishing the legal nonconforming status of any advertising sign or structure shall be upon the owner of the sign or structure.

940. Loss of Legal Nonconforming Status.

A legal nonconforming sign shall lose its legal nonconforming status and therefore must be brought into conformity with this Article or be removed if the sign is altered in structure; or if it is enlarged, relocated, or replaced; or if it is associated with an establishment which voluntarily discontinues operation for two (2) years. To avoid loss of nonconforming status, a sign owner may contract for reconstruction or restoration of damaged signs within ninety (90) days of the damage and complete reconstruction or restoration within one hundred eighty (180) days of the damage. A sign owner may extend a nonconforming sign provided such extension does not enlarge this sign by more than ten percent (10%). A sign owner may substitute a new sign for a nonconforming sign provided the new sign is of the same size, quality and durability as the existing nonconforming sign.

950. Violations.

In case any sign shall be installed, erected, constructed, or maintained in violation of any of the terms of this Resolution, the Zoning Director shall notify in writing the owner or lessee thereof to alter such sign so as to comply with this Resolution. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Article shall be deemed a violation and shall be punishable under Section 260 of the Resolution.

ARTICLE 10

NONCONFORMITIES

1000. Purpose.

Within the districts established by this Resolution, or by amendments thereto which may later be adopted, lots, uses of land, structures, and uses of structures and land in combination exist which were lawful before this Resolution was passed or amended, but which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the terms of this Resolution are deemed to be legal nonconformities. The legitimate interest of those who lawfully established these nonconformities are herein recognized by providing for their continuance, subject to regulations limiting their completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, and substitution. Furthermore, nothing contained in this Resolution shall be construed to require any change in the layout, plans, construction, size or use of any lot, structure, or structure and land in combination, for which a zoning permit became effective prior to the effective date of this Resolution, or any amendment thereto. Nevertheless, while it is the intent of this Resolution that such nonconformities be allowed to continue until removed, they should not be encouraged to survive. Therefore, no nonconformity may be moved, extended, altered, expanded, or used as grounds for any other use(s) or structure(s) prohibited elsewhere in the district without the approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals, except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Resolution.

1001. Uses Under Conditional Use Provisions Not Nonconforming Uses.

Any use which is permitted as a conditional use in a district under the terms of this Resolution shall not be deemed a nonconforming use in such district, but shall without further action be considered a conforming use.

1002. Incompatibility of Nonconformities.

Nonconformities are declared by this Resolution to be incompatible with permitted uses in the districts in which such uses are located. A nonconforming use of a structure, a nonconforming use of land, or a nonconforming use of a structure and land in combination shall not be extended or enlarged after passage of this Resolution by attachment on a building or premises of additional signs intended to be seen from off the premises, or by the addition of other uses of a nature which would be generally prohibited in the district in which such use is located.

1010. Avoidance of Undue Hardship.

To avoid undue hardship, nothing in this Resolution shall be deemed to require a change in the plans, construction, or designated use of any building on which actual construction was lawfully begun prior to the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution and upon which actual building construction has been carried on diligently. Actual construction is hereby defined to include the placing of construction material in permanent position and fastened in a permanent manner. Where demolition or removal of an existing building has been substantially begun preparatory to rebuilding, such demolition or removal shall be deemed to be actual construction, provided that the work shall be carried out diligently.

1020. Certificates For Nonconforming Uses.

The Zoning Director may upon his/her own initiative, or shall upon the request of any owner, issue a certificate for any lot, structure, use of land, use of structure, or use of land and structure in combination, that certifies that the lot, structure or use is a valid nonconforming use. The certificate shall specify the reason why the use is a nonconforming use, including a description of the extent and kind of use made of the property in question, the portion of the structure or land used for the nonconforming use, and the extent that dimensional requirements are nonconforming. The purpose of this section is to protect the owners of lands or structures that are or become nonconforming. No fee shall be charged for such a certificate. One copy of the certificate shall be returned to the owner and one copy shall be retained by the Zoning Director, who shall maintain as a public record a file of all such certificates.

1030. Substitution of Nonconforming Uses.

1. So long as no structural alterations are made, except as required by enforcement of other codes or resolutions, any nonconforming use may, upon appeal to and approval by the Board of Zoning Appeals, be changed to another nonconforming use of the same classification or of a less intensive classification, or the Board shall find that the use proposed for substitution is equally appropriate or more appropriate to the district than the existing nonconforming use. In permitting such change, the Board may require that additional conditions and safeguards be met, which requirements shall pertain as stipulated conditions to the approval of such change, and failure to meet such conditions shall be considered a punishable violation of this Resolution. Whenever a nonconforming use has been changed to a less intensive use or becomes a conforming use, such use shall not thereafter be changed to a more intensive use.
2. In determining the appropriateness for a “substitution of nonconforming uses” the Board of Zoning Appeals shall, to the best of its ability, examine the degree of positive or negative change in degree of risk to, or impact upon, the Township from factors in, but not necessarily limited to, the following list:
 - a. Frequency of or magnitude of fire services.
 - b. Frequency of or magnitude of need for law enforcement services.
 - c. Danger from chemical or other hazardous materials.
 - d. Danger to human life from operations or use of land.
 - b. Danger to community from air, water, and/or land pollution.
 - c. Density of population residing in, employed in, or visiting the land or buildings.
 - d. Impact upon pedestrian traffic.
 - e. Impact upon vehicular traffic.
 - f. Impact upon parking within and without the premises.
 - g. Impact of noise upon neighboring properties.
 - h. Impact of lighting upon neighboring properties.
 - l. Interference to the circulation of air, light, and/or water.
 - m. Impact upon water supply.

- n. Impact upon sewer system.
- o. Visual impact upon surrounding properties.
- p. Economic impact upon surrounding properties and/or the Township.
- q. Compatibility with surrounding community character.
- r. Impact on the general health, safety and welfare of the surrounding properties and Township as a whole.

1040. Single Nonconforming Lots of Record.

In any district in which single-family dwellings are permitted, a single-family dwelling and customary accessory buildings may be erected on any single lot of record at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution, notwithstanding limitations imposed by other provisions of this Resolution. Such lot must be in separate ownership and not of continuous frontage with other lots in the same ownership. This provision shall apply even though such lot fails to meet the requirements for area or width, or both, that are generally applicable in the district, provided that yard dimensions and requirements other than those applying to area or width, or both, of the lot shall conform to the regulations for the district in which such lot is located.

1041. Nonconforming Lots of Record in Combination.

If two or more lots or a combination of lots and portions of lots with continuous frontage in single ownership are of record at the time of passage or amendment of this Resolution, and if all or part of the lots with no buildings do not meet the requirements established for lot width and area, the lands involved shall be considered to be an undivided parcel for the purposes of this Resolution, and no portion of said parcel shall be used or sold in a manner which diminishes compliance with lot width and area requirements by this Resolution, nor shall any division of any parcel be made which creates a lot with a width or area below the requirements stated in this Resolution.

1050. Nonconforming Uses of Land.

Where, at the time of adoption of this Resolution, lawful uses of land exist which would not be permitted by the regulations imposed by this Resolution, the uses may be continued so long as they remain otherwise lawful, provided:

1. No such nonconforming uses shall be enlarged or increased, nor extended to occupy a greater area of land than was occupied at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution;
2. No such nonconforming uses shall be moved in whole or in part to any portion of the lot or parcel other than that occupied by such uses at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution;
3. If any such nonconforming uses of land are discontinued or abandoned for more than one year (365 days) (except when government action impedes access to the premises), any subsequent use of such land shall conform to the regulations specified by this Resolution for the district in which such land is located;
4. No additional structure not conforming to the requirements of this Resolution shall be erected in connection with such nonconforming use of land.

1060. Nonconforming Structures.

Where a lawful structure exists at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution that could not be built under the terms of this Resolution by reason of restrictions on area, lot coverage, height, yards, its location on the lot, bulk, or other requirements concerning the structure, such structure may be continued so long as it remains otherwise lawful, subject to the following provisions:

1. No such nonconforming structure may be enlarged or altered in a way which increases its nonconformity, but any structure or portion thereof may be altered to decrease its nonconformity;
2. Should such nonconforming structure or nonconforming portion of a structure be destroyed by any means, it shall not be reconstructed except in conformity with the provisions of this Resolution.
3. Should such structure be moved for any reason for any distance whatever, it shall thereafter conform to the regulations for the district in which it is located after it is moved.

1070. Nonconforming Uses of Structures or of Structures and Land in Combination.

If a lawful use involving individual structures, or of a structure and land in combination, exists at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this Resolution that would not be allowed in the district under the terms of this Resolution, the lawful use may be continued so long as it remains otherwise lawful, subject to the following provisions:

1. No existing structure devoted to a use not permitted by this Resolution in the district in which it is located shall be enlarged, extended, constructed, reconstructed, moved, or structurally altered except in changing the use of the structure to a use permitted in the district in which it is located;
2. Any nonconforming use may be extended throughout any parts of a building which were manifestly arranged or designed for such use at the time of adoption or amendment of this Resolution, but no such use shall be extended to occupy any land outside such building;
3. Any structure, or structure and land in combination, in or on which a nonconforming use is superseded by a permitted use, shall thereafter conform to the regulations for the district, and the nonconforming use may not thereafter be resumed;
4. When a nonconforming use of a structure, or structure and land in combination, is discontinued or abandoned for more than one year (365 days) (except when government action impedes access to the premises), the structure, or structure and land in combination, shall not thereafter be used except in conformity with the regulations of the district in which it is located.

1071. Termination of Nonconforming Use Through Discontinuance.

When any nonconforming use is discontinued or abandoned for more than two years, any new use shall not thereafter be used except in conformity with the regulations of the district in which it is located, and the nonconforming use may not thereafter be resumed. The intent to continue a nonconforming use shall not be evidence of its continuance.

1072. Termination of Nonconforming Use by Damage or Destruction.

In the event that any nonconforming building or structure is destroyed by any means to the extent of more than fifty percent of the cost of replacement of such structure, exclusive of foundation, it shall not be rebuilt, restored, or reoccupied for any use unless it conforms to all regulations of this Resolution. When such a nonconforming structure is damaged or destroyed to the extent of fifty percent or less of the replacement cost, no repairs or rebuilding shall be permitted except in conformity with all applicable regulations of this Resolution and the following conditions:

1. A Zoning Certificate pertaining to such restoration shall be applied for and issued within one year of such destruction, and rebuilding shall be diligently pursued to completion.
2. Such restoration shall not cause a new nonconformity, nor shall it increase the degree of nonconformance or noncompliance existing prior to such damage or destruction.
3. Any lawfully existing nonconforming single family or multifamily dwelling, in the event of damage or destruction, including loss up to one hundred percent of the structure, may be reconstructed substantially to the same size, density, dimension, and setback as existed before the loss. Reconstruction must commence within one year (365 days) of the loss, and be completed no later than three years (1095 days) after the loss. If reconstruction is not commenced or completed within this time frame, current zoning regulations will then apply.

1080. Repairs and Maintenance of Nonconforming Structures.

On any nonconforming structure or portion of a structure containing a nonconforming use, work may be done on ordinary repairs, or on repair or replacement of non-bearing walls, fixtures, wiring, or plumbing, provided that the cubic content existing when it became nonconforming shall not be increased. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the strengthening or restoring to a safe condition of any building or part thereof declared to be unsafe by any official charged with protecting the public safety, upon order of such official. Where appropriate, a building permit for such activities shall be required.

ARTICLE 11

SITE PLAN REVIEW

1100. Purpose.

It is the purpose of this article to insure that all developments are reviewed for compatibility with the regulations and intent of this Zoning Resolution, Township policies and plans, and good site planning practice.

1101. Applicability.

Site plan review and approval is required for the following:

1. Any zoning map amendment, except any zoning map amendment initiated by the Township; or
2. Any nonresidential use or development in the “ER” Estate Residential Zone;
3. Any nonresidential use or development in the “R-1” and “R-2” Single-Family Detached Structure Residential Zone;
4. Any use or development in the “B-1” Business Zone or the “M-1” Industrial Zone.

1110. Site Planning Guidelines.

In reviewing the site plan, the Township Zoning Director shall determine whether the proposed development meets all requirements of the Zoning Resolution, including but not limited to those of the particular zoning district in which the development would be located and those presented below in Section 1111 through 1140.

1111. General.

1. The proposed development shall reflect all Township plans and policies affecting the site, including the Union Township Land Development Plan, and any concept plans, planned development plans, or planned business plans previously adopted for adjacent properties.
2. The proposed development shall be consistent with the statement of intent for the zoning district in which it is located or proposed.

1112. Site Planning / Open Space and Green Areas.

1. To the extent possible, the natural topographic and significant landscape features of the site shall be incorporated into the development in order to preserve the site's natural resources and enhance its visual character;
2. Where appropriate, the design of green areas should incorporate plant materials to define space, provide screening and privacy, define views, serve as focal points, and soften views of buildings and pavement.

1113. Grading and Drainage.

1. Grading should be performed with sensitivity to existing topography and other natural resources on the site and on adjacent sites. To the extent practicable, grading should minimize environmental impacts.
2. Drainage shall be designed and constructed so as to not detrimentally affect adjacent properties. These systems shall provide for the safety and convenience of occupants and protection of dwellings, other development, and usable lot areas from water damage, flooding, and erosion.
3. The site of plan should conform to the requirements of the Clermont County Stormwater and Sediment Control Regulations.

1114. Circulation.

1. The street, access and parking system shall provide for the smooth, safe, convenient and functional movement of vehicles and pedestrians both on and off site.
2. Circulation shall:
 - a. Minimize the conflict between pedestrian and vehicular traffic; and
 - b. Minimize the number of vehicular turning movements and points of vehicular conflict, particularly at access points.
3. Vehicular Access:
 - a. Acceleration, deceleration and/or left turn lanes may be required if the Township finds that they are necessary to preserve safety and/or the traffic carrying capacity of the existing street.
 - b. The Township may require a traffic impact study by the Clermont County Engineer, the Clermont County Community Planning and Development Department, the Ohio Department of Transportation or some other recognized and qualified traffic engineer if one (1) or more of the following conditions exist. Any fee for this study shall be paid directly to the agency conducting the study.
 - (1) If the proposed development or redevelopment may increase the number of trips entering or leaving the property by ten percent (10%) or more;
 - (2) If the proposed development or redevelopment may adversely change the type of traffic generated within the property, for example, addition of truck traffic;
 - (3) The scale or use of the proposed development might cause deterioration of service levels on the street and/or deterioration of safety or service levels at intersections in the vicinity;
 - (4) The proposed development is in the vicinity of a street or intersection with a history of safety and /or accident problems; and
 - (5) The geometry of existing or proposed improvement might cause a safety hazard.

4. Sight Distance Triangles.
 - a. All sites shall be designed so that plants and structures on the site do not interfere with the safe movement of motor vehicle traffic, bicycles or pedestrians.
 - b. The sight distance triangle shall conform with the requirements of Section 518 of the Zoning Resolution, except that, if warranted, the dimensions of the sight distance triangle may be varied depending on the width and design speed of the street.

1115. Pedestrian Circulation.

1. Sidewalks and/or pedestrian paths shall be constructed and located in order to provide a convenient, safe, and visible pedestrian path between parking area and building entrance. Whenever a pedestrian path or a bike path traverses a parking lot, a safe and efficient pedestrian system shall be clearly designated.

1116. Lighting.

1. On-site exterior lighting should provide illumination adequate to permit safe nighttime activities.
2. All roadway street, parking lot, and walkway lights shall be shielded so that substantially all the directly emitted light falls within the property line.

1117. Screening and Buffering.

1. Screening areas shall be provided for the purpose of minimizing the friction between incompatible land uses and improving the aesthetic and functional quality of new development.
2. Where vegetative and/or topographic conditions that provide a natural screening and buffer exist prior to development of properties in question, every effort shall be made to retain such conditions. In such cases, additional screening may not be required, provided that provision is made for maintenance of such areas.

1120. Site Plan Review Procedures.

The Township shall review all required site plans using the procedures, standards, limitations and guidelines set forth in this Article. Site plans submitted for review shall demonstrate the proposed development meets the guidelines and performance standards set forth in the Zoning Resolution. The site plan shall contain sufficient detailed information about existing and proposed site conditions to allow an informed decision to be made by the Zoning Director, Zoning Commission, Township Trustees, and County Planning Commission as may be required concerning the general acceptability of the proposed development.

To be considered complete, a site plan shall identify and provide all the information required under Section 1131 of this Article.

At the time of the filing of an application for site plan review, the applicant shall pay the required site plan review fee in accordance with the Township's effective schedule of fees.

1121. Zoning Map Amendment Review Procedure.

1. Preapplication Meeting.

An informal meeting between the applicant and Township Zoning Director shall be held to discuss the proposed project before it is officially submitted for review. The developer shall prepare a "sketch" plan to be used as a basis for discussion.

2. Application.

The applicant shall submit fifteen (15) copies of the zoning map amendment application and site plan to the Zoning Director by the established application deadline. The Zoning Director shall then transmit copies of both to the Township Administrator, as applicable, and the appropriate local, county and state review agencies.

3. Review.

The Township Zoning Director shall within thirty (30) days of the application deadline, review the site plan and shall recommend for or against the zone change or some modification thereof.

The Township Zoning Director shall collect reports from the appropriate review agencies and transmit those reports and his own recommendation to the applicant, Township Administrator, and Township Zoning Commission within ten days of receipt of all reports.

4. Decision.

The Township Zoning Commission shall then take all steps necessary to complete the zone change process as set forth in Revised Code Section 519.12 and Article 4 of this Resolution.

1122. Zoning Certificate Review Procedure.

1. Preapplication Meeting.

An informal meeting between the applicant and Township Zoning Director may be held to discuss the proposed project before it is officially submitted for review. The developer shall prepare a “sketch” plan to be used as a basis for discussion.

2. Application.

The applicant shall submit two (2) copies of the zoning certificate application and site plan to the Zoning Director. The Zoning Director shall transmit copies of both to the Township Administrator, as applicable, and the appropriate local, county and state review agencies.

3. Review.

The Township Zoning Director and appropriate county and state review agencies shall review the site plan and prepare a report with a recommendation for or against the development or some modification thereof.

4. Decision.

The Township Zoning Director shall within ten (10) days of receipt of the reports and recommendations, either issue or deny application for a zoning certificate and in so doing state the reasons for the action taken.

If the application is denied, the applicant may submit a new site plan for review in accordance with Section 1122 or the applicant may appeal the decision to the Board of Zoning Appeals in accordance with Article 4 of this Resolution.

1130. Site Plan.

All applications for site plan review shall be accompanied by the following:

1. A completed application form provided by the Zoning Department of Union Township;
2. The required site plan review fee in accordance with the Union Township fee schedule; and
3. Copies of the site plan drawn in accordance with Section 1131.

1131. Contents.

1. Legend
 - a. Date Plan created/modified
 - b. Scale (appropriate for review)
 - c. Vicinity map
 - d. North arrow
 - e. Development name
 - f. Development address
 - g. Property owner name and address
 - h. Plan creator name and address
2. Parcel Data
 - a. Auditor's parcel number
 - b. Parcel lines
 - c. Directional bearings and distances (if parcel split or consolidation involved)

- d. Legal description (if parcel split or consolidation involved)
 - e. Net acreage and square footage (acreage/square footage less right-of-way area)
 - f. Adjacent parcels
 - g. Zoning
 - h. Adjacent parcel zoning
 - i. Adjacent land uses
 - j. Adjacent street names
 - k. Street names forming nearest intersection
 - l. Distance from nearest intersection
3. Development Data
- a. Description of all proposed uses
 - b. Existing structures to be retained
 - (1) Gross floor area
 - (2) Setback distances from adjoining properties
 - (3) Setback distances from rights-of-way
 - c. Proposed structure location
 - (1) Number of floors
 - (2) Structure height
 - (3) Gross floor area
 - (4) Setback distances from adjoining parcels
 - (5) Setback distances from rights-of-way
 - d. Addition/Modification location
 - (1) Number of floors
 - (2) Addition/modification height
 - (3) Gross floor area

- (4) Setback distances from adjoining parcels
 - (5) Setback distances from rights-of-way
- e. Floodplain
 - (1) Identification whether any structure will lie within one hundred (100) year floodplain
- f. Parking and circulation
 - (1) Curb cut locations
 - (2) Drive aisle locations and dimensions
 - (3) Off-street parking space locations and dimensions
 - (4) Off-street parking space count
 - (5) Parking lot screening locations
 - (6) Parking barrier locations
 - (7) Off-street loading/unloading locations and dimensions
 - (8) Loading/unloading screening locations
 - (9) Street locations
 - (10) Right-of-way line locations
 - (11) Measurements from center line to rights-of-way line
 - (12) All parking, loading, and circulation areas marked paved
 - (13) Pedestrian walkway locations
- g. Stormwater facility location
- h. Outdoor lighting locations
 - (1) All lighting marked inward (or downward) directed and shielded
- i. Sign location (subject to separate approval)
- j. Vegetation screening locations
 - (1) Description of vegetation used

- k. Fence locations
 - (1) Description of fencing used
- l. Landscaping locations
 - (1) Description of landscaping
- m. Waste/dumpster location and screening
 - (1) Description of screening used
- n. Estimated construction schedule
- o. Rendering of structure face
- p. Additional information necessary to determine compliance

1132. Waiver of Site Plan Requirements.

Depending on the nature of the site plan review application, one (1) or more of the aforementioned site plan requirements may be waived by the Township Zoning Director. To obtain a waiver the applicant must submit a statement to the Zoning Director indicating reasons why the requirements should be waived. The Zoning Director may grant waivers only when the material supplied by the applicant clearly demonstrates that the required information is unnecessary for a full and adequate review of the impact the proposed development shall have on the existing character of the neighborhood and/or the spirit of the Zoning Resolution. The decision of the Zoning Director with respect to the waiver is subject to review upon appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

1140. Revisions of Site Plan After Approval.

No changes, erasures, modifications or revisions shall be made to any site plan after approval has been given unless said changes, erasures, modifications or revisions are first submitted to and approved by the Zoning Director.

1150. Compliance and Enforcement.

It shall be incumbent upon the Township Zoning Director or his duly authorized representative to make all inspections and certifications necessary to ensure that development occurs in accordance with the approved site plan.

In the event that the Zoning Director finds that construction is not in accordance with the site plan, he shall issue a stop work order. It shall be incumbent upon the contractor or developer to correct those items that are in violation before construction may resume. All action required to bring development into compliance with the approved site plan shall be at the developer's, builder's, contractor's, or owner's expense.

ARTICLE 12

SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES

1200. Purpose.

It is the purpose and intent of the Article to regulate sexually oriented businesses to promote the health, safety, and morals of the citizens of the Township and to establish reasonable and uniform regulations to prevent any deleterious location and concentration of sexually oriented businesses within the Township, thereby reducing or eliminating the adverse secondary effects from such sexually oriented businesses. The provisions of this Article have neither the purpose nor effect of imposing a limitation or restriction on the content of any communicative material or expression, including sexually oriented materials. Similarly, it is not the intent nor effect of this Article to restrict or deny access by adults to sexually oriented materials or expression protected by the First Amendment, or to deny access by the distributors and exhibitors of sexually oriented entertainment to their intended market. Neither is it the intent nor effect of the Article to condone or legitimize the distribution of obscene material.

1201. Establishment and Classification of Businesses Regulated.

1. Sexually oriented businesses include the following: adult arcade, adult bookstore, adult novelty shop, adult video store, adult cabaret, adult motel, adult motion picture theatre, adult theatre, massage parlor, sexual encounter establishment, escort agency, or nude model studio.
2. The establishment of a sexually oriented business shall be permitted only in the “B-1” Business Zone (a.k.a. “B-1” Commercial) and shall be subject to the following restrictions:
 - a. No person shall cause or permit the establishment of any sexually oriented business within one thousand feet of another sexually oriented business or within one thousand feet of any religious institution, school, or public park, or within one thousand feet of a residential district.

1202. Location Restrictions and Requirements for Sexually Oriented Businesses.

The Union Township Zoning Resolution hereby requires that sexually oriented businesses shall be permitted only as provided in Section 1201. A zoning certificate shall be required prior to the establishment of a sexually oriented business. In addition, any sexually oriented business shall be subject to the following restrictions:

1. No sexually oriented business shall be operated within one thousand feet of: (a) any religious institution; (b) any school; (c) any public park; (d) any residential district.
2. No sexually oriented business shall be operated within one thousand feet of another such business, which will include those stated in Subparagraph 1201.1.
3. Nothing in this Article shall prohibit a person from appearing in a state of nudity for a modeling class operated:
 - a. By a proprietary school, licensed by the State of Ohio; a college, junior college, or university supported entirely or partly by taxation;
 - b. By a private college or university which maintains and operates educational programs in which credits are transferable to a college, junior college, or university supported entirely or partly by taxation; or
 - c. In a structure:
 - (1) Which has no sign visible from the exterior of the structure and no other advertising that indicates a nude person is available for viewing;
 - (2) Where in order to participate in a class a student must enroll at least three days in advance of the class; and
 - (3) Where no more than one nude model is on the premises at any one time.

1203. Measurement of Distance.

1. Distances shall be measured in a straight line, without regard to intervening structures or topography (i.e., as measured on a map).

2. The distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the exterior walls of the principal building containing the proposed sexually oriented business.
3. The distances shall be measured to the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the exterior walls of any principal building containing another sexually oriented business or any religious institution.
4. If the proposed sexually oriented business is to be located within a tenant space, then the distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the walls creating the boundaries of the tenant space, and not from that of the entire multi-tenant building.
5. If another sexually oriented business or any religious institution or school is located within a tenant space, then the distances shall be measured to the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the walls creating the boundaries of the tenant space, and not from that of the entire multi-tenant building.
6. Regarding distance measurements to a residential district, the distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including any architectural projections) of the exterior walls of the principal building containing the proposed sexually oriented business to the closest point of the residential district as established by the Union Township Zoning Map. If the proposed sexually oriented business is to be located within a tenant space, then the distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the walls creating the boundaries of the tenant space, and not from that of the entire multi-tenant building.
7. Regarding distance measurements to a public park or school not within a tenant space, the distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including any architectural projections) of the exterior walls of the principal building containing the proposed sexually oriented business to the closest point of the parcel line (as established by the Clermont County Auditor) of the parcel containing the public park or school. If the proposed sexually oriented business is to be located within a tenant space, then the distances shall be measured from the exterior faces (including architectural projections) of the walls creating the boundaries of the tenant space, and not from that of the entire multi-tenant building.

1204. Zoning Certificate Required.

1. No sexually oriented business shall be permitted to operate without a valid Zoning Certificate for a sexually oriented business issued by the Township. Upon request, the Zoning Director (a.k.a. Planning & Zoning

Director) or his designee shall provide an applicant for a sexually oriented business an application for a commercial zoning certificate, which shall serve as the required application form.

2. An application for a zoning certificate must be made on a form provided by the Township. Any person desiring to operate a sexually oriented business shall file with the Township an original and two copies of all materials required for submission.
3. An application fee shall also be submitted in accordance with the schedule determined by the Board of Trustees.
4. All property included in a sexually oriented business must meet all the underlying conditions applicable in a “B-1” Business District.
5. The completed application shall also contain the following information and shall be accompanied by the following documents:
 - a. A map, drawn to scale and marked to show the location of all land uses and zoning districts within one thousand feet of the principal building or tenant space in which the sexually oriented business is to be located. For purposes of this Section, a use shall be considered existing or established if it is in existence at the time an application is submitted.
6. Approval of Application.
 - a. The Zoning Director or his designee, shall approve the application for a zoning certificate unless:
 - (1) An applicant has failed to provide information required by this Article or the application for the issuance of a zoning certificate.
 - (2) The applicant has falsely answered a question or request for information on the application form.
 - (3) The application fee required by this Article was not paid.
 - (4) The proposed business does not comply with the zoning locational requirements for a sexually oriented business.
 - b. If the Zoning Director or his designee denies the application, he shall notify the applicant of the denial and state the reason(s) for the denial. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to correct identified deficiencies.

- c. The Zoning Director shall issue the Zoning Certificate or provide notice and reasons of denial within ten days of the submission of the application.

1205. Nonconforming Use.

Any sexually oriented business lawfully operating on the effective date of this Article that is in violation of this Article shall be deemed a nonconforming use. Such nonconforming uses shall not be increased, enlarged, extended or altered except that the use may be changed to a conforming use. If two or more sexually oriented businesses are within one thousand feet of one another and otherwise in a permissible location, the sexually oriented business which was first established and continually operating at the particular location is the conforming use and the later established business(es) is nonconforming.

1206. Appeal of Denial or Revocation

After denial of an application or revocation of a zoning certificate, the applicant or permittee may seek prompt review of such administrative action through the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall hear and decide the appeal within thirty days of the date the appeal is filed.

1207. Advertising and Lighting

1. No sign, advertisement, promotional material or display of any type shall be shown or exhibited so as to be visible to the public from pedestrian sidewalks or walkways, public or semi-public areas, nor the public right-of-way of any street or roadway except as permitted under Subparagraph 1207.4.
2. No displays or exhibits of materials and/or performances at such sexually oriented business shall be allowed in any advertising which is visible outside the premises. This prohibition shall not extend to advertising of the existence or location of such sexually oriented business.
3. The permittee shall not allow any portion of the interior premises to be visible from outside the premises.
4. Pursuant to Article 9, each conforming sexually oriented business shall be permitted both wall and freestanding signs which announce the names of the business. No off-premise or portable signs shall be permitted.

5. All off-street parking areas and premise entries of the sexually oriented business shall meet the requirements for parking under Article 8 of this Resolution and shall be illuminated from dusk to closing hours of operation with a lighting system which provides an average maintained horizontal illumination of one foot candle of light on the parking surface and/or walkways. This required lighting level is established in order to provide sufficient illumination of the parking areas and walkways serving the sexually oriented business for the personal safety of patrons and employees and to reduce the incidence of vandalism and criminal conduct. The lighting shall be shown on the required sketch or diagram of the premise.
6. Nothing contained in this Section of the Article shall relieve the operator(s) of a sexually oriented business from complying with other requirements of this Resolution as it may be amended from time to time, or any subsequently enacted resolutions.

1208. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Article, certain terms and words are defined as follows:

1. Sexually Oriented Businesses are those businesses defined as follows:
 - a. Adult Arcade means an establishment where for any form of consideration, one or more still or motion picture projectors, slide projectors or similar machines, or other image producing machines, for viewing by five or fewer persons each, are regularly used to show films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides, or other photographic reproductions which are characterized by the depiction or description of specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas.
 - b. Adult Bookstore, Adult Novelty Store or Adult Video Store means an establishment which derives fifty percent or more of its revenue from, or maintains fifty percent or more of its in-store inventory (either measured by display area or retail value) in, one or more of the following:
 - (1) Books, magazines, periodicals or other printed matter, or photographs, films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides, or other visual representations which are characterized by the depiction of specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas;

- (2) Instruments, devices, or paraphernalia which are designed for use or marketed primarily for stimulation of human genital organs or related to specified sexual activities.
- c. An establishment may have other principal business purposes that do not involve the offering for sale, rental or viewing of materials depicting or describing specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas, and still be categorized as adult bookstore, adult novelty store, or adult video store. Such other business purposes will not serve to exempt such establishments from being categorized as an adult bookstore, adult novelty store or adult video store so long as one of its principal business purposes is offering for sale or rental, for some form of consideration, the specified materials which depict or describe specified anatomical areas or specified sexual activities and one or more of the fifty percent thresholds in Subparagraph 1208.1.b above are met.
- d. Adult Cabaret means a nightclub, bar, restaurant, bottle club, or similar commercial establishment, whether or not alcoholic beverages are served, in which persons appear in a state of nudity in the performance of their duties.
- e. Adult Motel means a motel, hotel or similar commercial establishment which:
 - (1) Offers public accommodations, for any form of consideration, which provides patrons with closed-circuit television transmissions, films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides or other photographic reproductions which are characterized by the depiction or description of specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas and which specifically advertises the availability of this sexually oriented type of material by means of a sign visible from the public right-of-way, or by means of any off-premises advertising including but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, pamphlets or leaflets, radio or television; or
 - (2) Offers a sleeping room for rent for a period of time less than ten hours; or
 - (3) Allows a tenant or occupant to sub-rent the sleeping room for a time period of less than ten hours.
- f. Adult Motion Picture Theater means a commercial establishment used for a principal purpose of presenting motion pictures

characterized by their emphasis on portrayals of specified anatomical areas or specified sexual activities.

- g. Adult Theater means a theater, concert hall, auditorium, or similar building used for a principal purpose of presenting live acts characterized by their emphasis on individuals in a state of nudity or specified sexual activities.
- h. Escort Agency means a person or business association who furnishes, offers to furnish, or advertises to furnish escorts as one of its primary business purposes for a fee, tip, or other consideration. Escort means a person who, for any form of consideration, agrees or offers to act as a companion or date for another person, to privately model lingerie or to privately perform a striptease for another person, or to provide specified sexual activities for another person.
- i. Massage Parlor means any place where, for any form of consideration or gratuity, massage, alcohol rub, administration of fomentations, electric or magnetic treatments, or any other treatment manipulation of the human body which occurs as part of or in connection with specified sexual activities, or where any person providing such treatment, manipulation, or service related thereto, exposes his or her specified anatomical areas. The definition of sexually oriented businesses shall not include the practice of massage in any licensed hospital, nor by a licensed chiropractor or osteopath, nor by any nurse or technician working under the supervision of a licensed physician, surgeon, chiropractor or osteopath, nor by trainers for any amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete or athletic team or school athletic program.
- j. Nude Model Studio means any place where a person, who regularly appears in a state of nudity or displays specified anatomical areas is provided for money or any form of consideration to be observed, sketched, drawn, painted, sculptured, photographed, or similarly depicted by other persons.
- k. Sexual Encounter Establishment means a business or commercial establishment, that as one of its primary business purposes, offers for any form of consideration, a place where two or more persons may congregate, associate, or consort for the purpose of specified sexual activities or the exposure of specified anatomical areas or activities when one or more of the persons is in a state of nudity or semi-nude. The definition of sexually oriented businesses shall not include an establishment where a medical practitioner, psychologist, psychiatrist, or similar professional person licensed

by the state engages in medically approved and recognized sexual therapy.

2. Establishment means and includes any of the following:
 - a. The opening or commencement of any such business as a new business;
 - b. The conversion of an existing business, whether or not a sexually oriented business, to any of the sexually oriented businesses defined in this Article;
 - c. The addition of any of the sexually oriented businesses defined in this chapter to any other existing sexually oriented business; or
 - d. The relocation of any such sexually oriented business.
3. Nudity or State of Nudity means the showing of either of the following:
 - a. The human male or female genitals, pubic area, or buttocks with less than a fully opaque covering;
 - b. The female breast with less than a fully opaque covering on any part of the nipple.
4. Operator means and includes the owner, permit holder, custodian, manager, operator or person in charge of any sexually oriented business.
5. Person means an individual, proprietorship, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity.
6. Public Park means public land which has been designated for park or recreational activities including a park, playground, nature trails, swimming pool, reservoir, athletic field, basketball or tennis courts, pedestrian/bicycle paths, open space, wilderness areas, or similar public land within the Township which is under the control, operation, or management of the Township Board of Trustees, the County Commissioners, the State of Ohio, or the U.S. Government.
7. Religious Institution means any church, synagogue, mosque, temple or building which is used primarily for religious worship and related religious activities.
8. Residential District means the “ER,” “R-1,” “R-2,” “R-3,” or “R-4” zoning districts as defined in the Union Township Zoning Resolution and shown on the Union Township Zoning Map.

9. School means any public or private educational facility including child day care facilities, nursery schools, preschools, kindergartens, elementary schools, primary schools, intermediate schools, junior high schools, middle schools, high schools, vocational schools, secondary schools, special education schools, junior colleges, and universities. School includes the school grounds, but does not include the facilities used primarily for another purpose and only incidentally as a school.
10. Sexually Oriented Business means an adult arcade, adult bookstore, adult novelty shop, adult video store, adult cabaret, adult motel, adult motion picture theatre, adult theater, massage parlor, sexual encounter establishment, escort agency or nude model studio.
11. Specified Anatomical Areas means and includes any of the following:
 - a. The human male or female genitals, pubic area, or buttocks with less than a fully opaque covering;
 - b. The female breast with less than a fully opaque covering on any part of the nipple.
12. Specified Sexual Activities means and includes any of the following:
 - a. The fondling or other intentional touching of human genitals, pubic region, buttocks, anus, or female breasts;
 - b. Sex acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated, including intercourse, oral copulation, or sodomy;
 - c. Masturbation, actual or simulated;
 - d. Human genitals in a state of sexual stimulation, arousal or tumescence;
 - e. Excretory functions as part of or in connection with any of the activities set forth in subdivisions (a) through (d) of this Subparagraph.
13. Tenant Space means a securable area separated from other areas by walls and doors that is available for lease or rent within a multi-tenant building, such as tenant spaces typically found within a shopping mall or strip center.

ARTICLE 13

FOCUS AREA OVERLAY DISTRICTS

1300. General Provisions.

1. Statement of Intent.

A Focus Area (FA) overlay district is intended to provide supplemental regulations or standards pertaining to specific geographic features or land uses that further the health, safety and morals of the township. These supplemental regulations are intended to be less restrictive than base zoning so as to give the Board of Township Trustees authority to implement specific purposes contained within this Section. Whenever there is conflict between the regulations of a base zoning district and those of an overlay district, the overlay district regulations—including the requirements for such overlay district set forth in the most recent version of the Union Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan—shall supersede the base district regulations.

2. Definition.

A Focus Area Overlay (FA) District is defined as a geographic area exhibiting or planned to contain special and distinctive characteristics that are of significant value or importance to the public. These characteristics include:

- a. Natural phenomena such as unique geologic strata, soil formations, slopes, vegetation, water flow, significant scenic views or other similar natural features; or
- b. Physical development features such as:
 - (1) Substantial public investment in public improvements.
 - (2) Community plans that coordinate public and private investment.
 - (3) Characteristics that include institutional uses or neighborhood support services in residential neighborhoods.

3. Purposes.

The purposes of FA regulations are:

- a. To promote the Health, Safety and Morals of the Township.
- b. To cooperate with the development of land and structures to be compatible with larger planning areas beyond the immediate vicinity of the site.
- c. To protect or improve the quality of the environment in those locations where the characteristics of the environment are vulnerable to damage.
- d. To protect areas of significant public investment.
- e. To protect against the loss of public opportunity by the cumulative effect of unplanned or sporadic development under conventional zoning regulations.

4. FA regulations are required to protect the public and property owners in the district:

- a. From blighting influences that might be incrementally caused, extended or worsened by the application of conventional land use regulations to properties and areas of sensitive and special public interest;
- b. From significant damage to neighborhoods that contain large institutional and other nonresidential uses or support services;
- c. From significant damage or destruction of prominent wetlands, floodplains, hillsides and/or valleys or other natural resources caused by improper development thereof;
- d. From significant damage to the economic value and efficiency of operation of existing properties and/or new developments due to the interdependence of their visual and functional relationships;
- e. From soil erosion, stream issues and development on unstable land;
- f. From the loss or destruction of mature and/or valuable trees and other natural resources;
- g. From the detrimental cumulative effects of incremental development decisions in suburban centers, corridors, neighborhoods and villages on:
 - (1) Preservation and enhancement of pedestrian safety and views from the public right-of-way.
 - (2) Balance of convenience and compatibility between residential and nonresidential areas.

- (3) Coordination of useful and attractive signage and streetscape elements.
- (4) Minimization of traffic congestion and coordination of land use intensity with local capacities and goals.

5. Identification.

The location of all FA districts shall be shown on the Zoning Map as an overlay zone outlined in specific areas over existing zoning district areas.

6. Applicability.

Except as otherwise provided herein and in other sections of this Zoning Resolution, all regulations of the underlying zoning districts shall apply to and control property in the FA district. However, in the case of conflict between the provisions of an underlying zoning district and an FA district—including the requirements for such FA district set forth in the most recent version of the Union Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan—the provisions of the FA district shall prevail. The adoption of an FA district shall not have any effect on a previously approved zoning certificate or PD Plan during the period of validity of such approval.

7. Creation.

All Focus Areas listed in the Horizon 2030 Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Board of Trustees on November 14, 2013 (Ohio Pike Corridor, Little Miami-Lower East Fork Corridor, Bach Buxton Road Commercial Corridor, Central (S.R. 32) Retail Corridor, Summerside/Willowville Mixed Use Corridor, Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road Mixed Use Corridor, Ivy Pointe Commercial Corridor, Olive Branch-Stonelick Corridor, and Mt. Carmel Business District Corridor) shall be included as Focus Area Overlay Districts on the effective date of this resolution. The Board of Township Trustees may, from time to time, modify, delete or create FA districts as defined and containing the characteristics in accordance with the following procedures set forth in the Ohio Revised Code and the Union Township Zoning Resolution.

8. Supplemental FA District Regulations.

FA district standards adopted by the Board of Township Trustees may relax the underlying zoning district regulations for land use, lot area, coverage, density, floor area, setback, parking, height, fencing, landscaping, the use of traditional building materials or other specific development standards for specific FA districts upon a finding of fact that conditions peculiar to such district and the achievement of the goals set forth in this article and as listed in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan require supplemental regulations.

9. Classification.

- a. FA districts shall be classified by categories, according to the provisions and qualifications as described herein, and each adopted FA district shall be shown on the official Zoning Map. The three categories of FA overlay districts include:

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------|
| (1) | Natural Resource Corridor | (FA-NR) |
| (2) | Neighborhood Quality Corridor | (FA-NQ) |
| (3) | Commercial Corridor | (FA-CC) |

- b. The following is a list of the Focus Areas and their Classification:

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| (1) | Ohio Pike | (Commercial Corridor) |
| (2) | Little Miami-Lower East Fork | (Natural Resource Corridor) |
| (3) | Bach Buxton Road Commercial | (Commercial Corridor) |
| (4) | Central (S.R. 32) Retail | (Commercial Corridor) |
| (5) | Summerside/Willowville
Mixed Use | (Neighborhood Quality
Corridor) |
| (6) | Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road Mixed
Use Corridor | (Neighborhood Quality
Corridor) |
| (7) | Ivy Pointe Commercial | (Commercial Corridor) |
| (8) | Olive Branch-Stonelick | (Commercial Corridor) |
| (9) | Mt. Carmel Business District | (Commercial Corridor) |

1305. Focus Areas Overlay-Natural Resource Districts.

Focus Area Overlay (FA) Natural Resource Districts shall be identified as FA-NR Overlay Districts.

1. Findings and Specific Purpose.

Natural resources are an important component of quality of life for all residents in the Township. When irreplaceable natural features are threatened, their preservation should be weighed and evaluated in relation to public and private interests.

- a. The existence of a twenty (20%) percent slope, in combination with Miamitown Shale or Kope geologic formation, is evidence of a condition of natural critical stability, and development under conventional regulations may precipitate landslides or excessive soil erosion. Additional regulations are needed to preserve the prominent views from the top or from the slopes of the hillside and the natural contours thereof.
- b. Hillsides, as community separators or boundaries, are historic aids to the identification of residential communities which help citizens to relate to their communities and to relate the social organizations of communities to their physical environments.
- c. The location of natural resources often coincides with prime development sites. Long term benefits of conserving natural resources in a metropolitan area can be achieved through innovative development regulations based on comprehensive plans.

2. Characteristics.

FA-NR districts shall be limited to geographic areas containing one (1) or more of the following characteristics:

- a. Lakes, rivers, floodplains, wetlands, mineral deposits, aquifers, forests, parks, or hillsides (twenty [20%] percent slope or greater) or other natural features of significant public interest;
- b. Existence of Miamitown Shale or Kope geologic formations or soils classified as having severe constraints for development;
- c. Prominent hillsides and natural resources which are readily viewable from a public thoroughfare;
- d. Scenic areas providing views of a major stream or valley or other natural resource;

- e. Hillsides and other natural features functioning as community separators or community boundaries;
- f. Hillsides which support a substantial natural wooded cover.

3. Designation.

The FA-Natural Resource District which meets the characteristics is the Little Miami-Lower East Fork Focus Area.

1306. Focus Area Overlay–Neighborhood Quality Districts.

Focus Area Overlay (FA) Neighborhood Quality Districts shall be identified as FA-NQ Overlay Districts.

1. Findings and Specific Purpose.

Balancing the benefits of growth and development of neighborhood support services with the livability of adjacent residential neighborhoods over and above as provided by conventional zoning regulations as follows:

- a. To support convenience to services and quality of environment by providing sufficient land for public and private services and educational and research institutions.
- b. To require the development and maintenance of buffer yards on institutional and other nonresidential properties to protect adjoining residential neighborhoods from the noise, glare and congestion associated with the intensity of diverse land uses;
- c. To promote compatibility between nonresidential uses and surrounding residential uses, and;
- d. To plan for unusual intensity or density of development.

2. Characteristics.

FA-NQ districts shall be limited to geographic areas which contain or are planned to contain all of the following characteristics:

- a. Land uses including or adjacent to neighborhood retail and support services (for example hospitals, clinics, educational facilities, and research facilities) or other institutional uses;

- b. Close proximity of diverse land uses to a residential neighborhood.

3. Designation

The FA-Neighborhood Quality Districts which meet the characteristics are the Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road Mixed Use Corridor and the Summerside/Willowville Mixed Use Corridor.

1307. Focus Area Overlay-Commercial Corridor Districts.

Focus Area Overlay (FA) Commercial Corridor Districts shall be identified as FA-CC Overlay Districts.

1. Findings and Specific Purpose.

Business districts and corridors are recognized as principal focal points of community activity providing an economic resource and a center for community identity. It is in the interest of the Township to protect and enhance the features of public interest in such business districts by:

- a. Preventing the deterioration of property and the extension of blighting conditions;
- b. Encouraging and protecting private investment which improves and stimulates the economic vitality and social character of the area;
- c. Preventing the creation of influences adverse to the physical character of the area.

2. Characteristics.

FA-CC districts shall be limited to geographic areas included in a FA-Commercial Corridor which contain or are planned to contain one (1) or more of the following characteristics:

- a. A concentration of retail and service oriented commercial establishments serving as a principal business activity center for a socio-geographic neighborhood, community, or region;
- b. An area that has received or been approved for substantial public investment;
- c. An area that is planned for unusual intensity or density of development.

3. Designation.

The FA-Commercial Corridor Districts which meet the characteristics are the Ohio Pike Corridor, the Central (S.R. 32) Retail Corridor, the Bach Buxton Road Commercial Corridor, the Ivy Pointe Commercial Corridor, the Olive Branch-Stonelick Corridor, and the Mt. Carmel Business District Corridor.

1310. Development Authorization.

1. Applications; Process.

Applications for zoning certificates in FA districts that are limited to a change in permissible use or occupancy of an existing building, accessory building, lot or portion thereof shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the Planning & Zoning Director and reviewed administratively by staff.

All other applications for zoning certificates in FA districts shall be made to the Planning & Zoning Director on a form titled "Application for Approval of Overlay District Plan" provided by the Planning & Zoning Director. The information required for submission shall demonstrate the need to modify the regulations for the Zoning District identify the characteristics that are consistent with the intent of the FA District.

- a. To be eligible for review, the property must be properly zoned with a principle and permitted use as regulated by the Union Township Zoning Resolution.
- b. Ten (10) copies of the proposed modified plan shall accompany the request, along with the required fee, if any.
- c. The plan shall be captioned, "Overlay District."
- d. Unless waived by the Planning & Zoning Director, prior to submission to the Board of Township Trustees, the applicant shall provide written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, and any other agencies as deemed necessary by the Planning & Zoning Director evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the Overlay District.

- e. The Board of Township Trustees shall hold a public hearing within thirty (30) days after the receipt of an Overlay District application.
 - (1) The Planning & Zoning Director shall provide notice of such hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the Township at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The notice shall include the date, time, place, a general description of the plan requested and that the matter will be referred to the Board of Township Trustees for further determination.
 - (2) The Planning & Zoning Director shall place the Overlay District application on the Board of Township Trustees' docket at the next available meeting.
 - (3) The applicant will have the opportunity to appear, examine witnesses and present evidence.
 - (4) All witnesses will be sworn.
 - (5) The Board of Township Trustees shall consider the Overlay District application, make appropriate findings of fact and adopt a motion approving or denying the application.
 - (6) Prior to entering a final decision, the Board of Township Trustees may direct that further data be provided if necessary to make an informed decision.

2. Appeal.

Any appeal to the administrative decision of the Board of Township Trustees regarding an Overlay District shall be made to the Court of Common Pleas consistent with the Ohio Revised Code.

1311. Overlay District Plan Expiration; Modifications.

1. Expiration and Extension of Approved Overlay Plan.

- a. The Township's approval of an Overlay Plan shall expire if, within two (2) years following the date of such approval, physical grading work and/or building construction in furtherance of the approved plan has not begun on-site. In the event of Overlay Plan expiration, a new Application for Approval of Overlay District Plan shall be submitted for the Township's review and approval prior to developing the site.

- b. Prior to expiration of an approved Overlay Plan, the property owner shall have the right to submit one (1) request to the Planning & Zoning Director for a one (1) year extension of the approved Overlay Plan. The Planning & Zoning Director may grant or deny the request, or forward the request to the Board of Trustees for review and decision. An extension shall only be granted if the Planning & Zoning Director or Board of Trustees determines the property owner is actively working towards completion of the Overlay Plan, and is capable of commencing grading work and/or building construction on-site within one (1) year of the Overlay Plan's original expiration date.

2. Completion of Overlay Plan Construction Work and Requirements.

- a. All grading work and building construction approved as part of an Overlay Plan shall be completed within one (1) year of commencement of such work and construction. All other requirements of the approved Overlay Plan must be completed within six (6) months of building occupancy. The property owner may submit a request to the Planning & Zoning Director for a reasonable extension of either aforementioned deadline. The Planning & Zoning Director may grant an extension request if the Director determines, in his/her reasonable discretion, that good cause exists for the extension.
- b. Township Planning & Zoning Department staff will conduct a post-development site inspection following the scheduled Overlay Plan completion date pursuant to Section 1311(2)(a) herein. The purpose of the inspection shall be to verify compliance with all approved Overlay Plan requirements. If the Planning & Zoning Director determines the property owner has deviated from any approved Overlay Plan requirement, the Planning & Zoning Director shall determine whether the deviation represents a minor or major amendment to the Overlay Plan, and the property owner shall be required to submit a written request to amend the Overlay Plan in accordance with Section 1311(3).

3. Procedure to Amend an Approved Overlay Plan.

- a. A property owner may request amendment to any unexpired Overlay Plan. Approval for an amendment does not re-commence the start date of the applicable expiration period. However, for major amendments, the Board of Trustees, in its discretion, may by motion re-commence the expiration start date as of the date of the amendment approval.

- b. The Planning & Zoning Director shall determine whether the proposed amendment is a major or minor amendment. Major amendments shall include, but are not limited to: any increase in, or significant movement or relocation of, density; changes in use that result in an increased intensity (as determined by the Planning & Zoning Director); movement of primary access locations; the elimination of roadway connections to adjacent tracts or subdivisions; the elimination or reduction of open space, recreational uses, or buffer yard features; and any other substantial and material changes to approved Overlay Plan requirements, as determined by the Planning & Zoning Director in his/her reasonable discretion. Any amendment which is not deemed to be a major amendment shall be considered a minor amendment.
- c. For minor amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
 - (1) The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director. The request shall be made using the Overlay Plan Application form, but shall be captioned: "Minor Amendment."
 - (2) Five (5) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the Application, along with the required fee, if any.
 - (3) The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application and approve or deny the minor amendment based on the Director's determination, in his/her reasonable discretion, as to the amendment's consistency with the requirements, and spirit and intent of the approved Overlay Plan; compliance with the Township Comprehensive Plan; and impact on the public health, safety and general welfare.
 - (4) The Applicant may appeal a denial of a minor amendment to the Board of Trustees.
- d. For major amendments, the following procedure shall apply:
 - (1) The property owner shall submit a written request to amend the plan to the Planning & Zoning Director. The request shall be made using the Overlay Plan Application form, but shall be captioned: "Major Amendment."
 - (2) Ten (10) copies of the proposed amended plan shall accompany the Application, along with the required fee, if any.
 - (3) The Planning & Zoning Director shall review the application and draft a report for review by the Board of Trustees.

- (4) Unless waived by the Planning & Zoning Director, prior to submission to the Board of Township Trustees, the applicant shall provide written authorization from the Clermont County Engineer, Clermont County Water and Soil Conservation District, Clermont County Water and Sewer District, and any other agencies as deemed necessary by the Planning & Zoning Director evidencing conformance to all requirements or resolution of all issues pertaining to the Overlay District.
- (5) Thereafter, the Planning & Zoning Director shall place the amendment on the Board of Trustees' docket. The Board of Trustees shall consider the amendment and adopt a motion approving, denying, or modifying the amended plan. Prior to entering a final decision, the Board of Trustees may direct further data be provided as necessary to make an informed decision.

APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Resolution, certain terms and words are hereby defined. Words used in the present tense shall include the future; the singular number shall include the plural and the plural the singular; the word “shall” is a mandatory requirement, the word “may” is a permissive requirement, and the word “should” is a preferred requirement; the word “person” includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, trust, company, or corporation, as well as an individual; the words “used” or “occupied” include the words “intended, designed, or arranged to be used or occupied;” the word “lot” includes the words “plot” or “parcel.”

ACCESSORY USE, means a subordinate use or building customarily incidental to and located on the same lot occupied by the main use or building.

AGRICULTURE (FARMING), means the use of land for agricultural purposes as defined in section 519.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

ALLEY OR LANE, means a public or private way not more than thirty (30') feet wide affording only secondary means of access to abutting property.

ALTERATION, means any change, addition, or modification in construction or occupancy of an existing structure.

AMUSEMENT CENTER, means a building or part of a building in which five (5') or more pinball machines, video games, or other similar player-operated amusement devices are maintained.

ANTENNA, means any system of wires, poles, rods, reflecting discs, or similar devices used for the transmission or reception of electromagnetic waves external to or attached to the exterior of any building.

APARTMENT, means a room or suite of rooms intended, designed or used as a residence by a single family.

APARTMENT HOUSE (see **DWELLING, MULTIPLE**).

ATTACHED, means permanently connected.

AUTOMOBILE REPAIR, MAJOR, means general repair, rebuilding or reconditioning of engines, motor vehicles or trailers; collision service including body, frame, or fender straightening or repair; over-all painting or paint shop; vehicle steam cleaning.

AUTOMOBILE REPAIR, MINOR, means replacement of parts and motor service to passenger cars and trucks not exceeding one and one-half tons capacity, but not including any operation named under "AUTOMOBILE REPAIR, MAJOR," or any other similar thereto.

AUTOMOBILE OR TRAILER SALES AREA, means an open area, other than a street, used for the display, sale or rental of new or used motor vehicles or trailers in operable condition and where no repair work is done.

AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION OR FILLING STATION, means a place where gasoline, kerosene or any other motor fuel or lubricating oil or grease for operating motor vehicles is offered for sale to the public and deliveries are made directly into motor vehicles, including greasing and oiling on the premises.

AUTOMOBILE WRECKING, means the dismantling or disassembling of used motor vehicles or trailers, or the storage, sale or dumping of dismantled, partially dismantled, obsolete or wrecked vehicles or their parts.

BASEMENT, means a story having part but not more than one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of its height above grade and used for storage, garages for use of occupants of the building, janitor or watchman quarters, or other utilities common for the rest of the building. A basement used for the above purposes shall not be counted as a story.

BEACON LIGHT, means any light with one or more beams, capable of being directed in any direction or directions or capable of being revolved automatically.

BED/BREAKFAST HOME, means an owner-occupied house, or portion thereof, where short-term lodging rooms and meals are provided.

BILLBOARDS, SIGNS AND OUTDOOR ADVERTISING, (see SIGN, OFF-PREMISES).

BOARD, means Board of Zoning Appeals of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

BOARDING OR LODGING HOUSE, means a building other than a hotel where, for compensation and by arrangement, meals or lodging and meals are provided for three (3) or more persons but not exceeding twenty (20) persons.

BUILDING, means any structure having a roof supported by columns or walls, used or intended to be used for the shelter or enclosure of persons, animals or property. When such a structure is divided into separate parts by one or more unpierced walls extending from the ground up, each part is deemed a separate building, except as regards minimum size, and requirements as hereinafter provided.

BUILDING, HEIGHT OF, means the vertical distance, from the grade to the highest point of the coping of a flat roof or to the deck line of a mansard roof, or to the mean height level between eaves and ridge for gable, hip, and gambrel roofs.

BUILDING, PRINCIPAL, means a structure in which the primary use of the lot on which the building is located is conducted.

CELLAR, means a story the floor of which is more than one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of its story height below the average contact ground level of the exterior walls of the building. A cellar shall be counted as a story for the purpose of height regulations, only if used for dwelling purposes other than by a janitor or caretaker employed on the premises.

CERTIFICATE (see ZONING CERTIFICATE).

CHILD DAY-CARE, means administering to the needs of infants, toddlers, pre-school children, and school children outside of school hours by persons other than their parents or guardians, custodians, or relatives by blood, marriage, or adoption for any part of the twenty-four (24 hr) hour day in a place or residence other than the child's own home. The following are child day-care facilities:

- a. CHILD DAY-CARE CENTER, means any place in which child day-care is provided, with or without compensation, for thirteen (13) or more children at any one time, or any place that is not the permanent residence of the licensee or administrator in which child day-care is provided, with or without compensation, for seven (7) to twelve (12) children at any one time. In counting children for the purposes of this definition, any children under six (6) years of age who are related to a licensee, administrator, or employee and who are on the premises shall be counted.
- b. TYPE A FAMILY DAY-CARE HOME, means a permanent residence of the administrator in which child day-care is provided for four (4) to twelve (12) children at any one (1) time, if four (4) or more children are under two (2) years of age. In counting children for the purposes of this definition, any children under six (6) years of age who are related to the licensee, administrator, or employee and who are on the premises of the Type A home shall be counted. The term "Type A family day-care home" does not include a residence in which the needs of children are administered to, if all such children are siblings of the same immediate family and the residence is their home.
- c. TYPE B FAMILY DAY-CARE HOME, means a permanent residence of the provider in which child day-care or child day-care services are provided for one (1) to six (6) children at one time and in which no more than three (3) children may be under two (2) years of age at any one time. In counting children for the purposes of this definition, any children under six (6) years of age who are related to the provider and are on the premises of the Type B home shall be counted. The term "Type B family day-care home" does not include a residence in which the needs of children are administered to, if all such children are siblings of the same immediate family and the residence is their home.

CLINIC, means a place where medical or dental care is furnished to persons on an out-patient basis by four (4) or more doctors, dentists and/or medical technicians. The definition of “Clinic” does not include a “Drug Rehabilitation Clinic.”

CLUB, means a building or portion thereof or premises owned or operated by a corporation, association, person or persons for a social, educational or recreational purpose, but not primarily for profit or to render a service which is customarily carried on as a business.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE, means any car, truck, van, sport utility vehicle or any other vehicle that is used in the operation or is used to facilitate the operation of any business (for profit or not) and is identified through signage or registration as a commercial vehicle.

COMMISSION, means the Zoning Commission of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

CONDITIONAL USE, means a use that, owing to some special characteristics attendant to its operation or installation, is permitted in a district subject to approval by the Board of Zoning Appeals, and subject to special requirements, different from those usual requirements for the district in which the conditional use may be located.

CONVENIENCE STORE, means any retail establishment offering for sale prepackaged food products, household items, and other goods commonly associated with the same and having a gross floor area of less than five thousand (5,000 sq.ft.) square feet.

COURT, means an open unoccupied and unobstructed space, other than a yard, on the same lot with a building or group of buildings.

DECK, means a wood or “wood-like” structure that is typically uncovered and added to a principle structure. Accessory structure setbacks shall be used to determine site suitability including a prohibition of decks in the front yard.

DENSITY, means required land area for each dwelling unit. For single family detached homes it shall be the required lot size per dwelling excluding any street, public or private right-of-way. For multi-family dwelling units, it shall be the required area of land per dwelling unit as specified in the District Regulations exclusive of any public utility easements and streets, public or private right-of-way.

DETACHED, means standing by itself or unconnected.

DEVELOPMENT, means the division of land into two (2) or more parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any structure; any mining, excavation, landfill, or land disturbance; and any use or extension of the use of land.

DISTRICT, means a portion of the territory of Union Township within which certain uniform regulations and requirements of various combinations thereof apply under the provisions of the Resolution.

DRUG REHABILITATION CLINIC, means any facility where any part or component of the operation or use consists of the diagnosis, treatment, or maintenance of drug addiction or dependency, alcohol addiction or dependency, or the addiction or dependency to any other controlled substance as regulated by the federal, state, or local government having jurisdiction. This definition is to include any place or use, whether intended for short term residential treatment, long term residential treatment, or outpatient treatment of alcohol, drug, or controlled substance dependency or addiction, but shall not include the administration of emergency life-saving medical treatment for persons experiencing an immediate medical crisis.

DWELLING, means any building or portion thereof designed or used exclusively as the residence or sleeping place of one (1) or more persons, but not including a tent, cabin, trailer, trailer coach, mobile home or manufactured home. This definition is to include any prefabricated unit or units designed for use as a dwelling that conform in all respects to the Clermont County Building Regulations for dwellings.

- a. DWELLING, SINGLE-FAMILY, means a building designed for or used exclusively for residence purposes by one (1) family or housekeeping unit.
- b. DWELLING, TWO-FAMILY, means a building designed for or used exclusively by two (2) families or housekeeping units.
- c. DWELLING, MULTIPLE, means a building or portion thereof designed for or used by three (3) or more families or housekeeping units.
- d. DWELLING UNIT, means one (1) room, or a suite of two (2) or more rooms, designed for or used by one (1) family for living and sleeping purposes and having only one (1) kitchen or kitchenette.
- e. DWELLING GROUP, means a group of two (2) or more detached dwellings located on a parcel of land in one (1) ownership and having any yard or court in common.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES, means the erection, construction, alteration, or maintenance of the following: underground or overhead gas, electrical, steam or water transmission or distribution systems; collection, communication, supply or disposal systems, including poles, wires, mains, drains, sewers, pipes, conduits, cables, fire alarm boxes, police call boxes, traffic signals, or hydrants; buildings, facilities, structures, or improvements owned, occupied, maintained, and/or operated by Union Township, and other similar equipment and accessories reasonably necessary for the furnishing of adequate services by public utilities or municipal or other governmental agencies for the public health or safety or general welfare. Non-Township buildings, infrastructure, or facilities shall not be included in this definition.

FAMILY, means a person living alone, or two (2) or more persons living together as a single housekeeping unit in a dwelling unit, as distinguished from a group occupying a rooming house, motel, dormitory, fraternity or sorority house, provided, however, that “family” shall not include more than four (4) persons unrelated to each other by blood, marriage or legal adoption.

FENCE, means any artificially constructed barrier of any material or combination of materials erected to enclose or screen areas of land.

FLOOR AREA, GROSS, means the sum of all floors of a building, including areas used for human occupancy in basements, attics, and penthouses, as measured from the exterior faces of the walls.

FLOOR AREA, RESIDENTIAL, means the area of dwelling devoted to living purposes, including stairways, halls and closets within the dwelling unit, but excluding porches and space used for a garage or carport. In multi-family dwellings, the area of laundry rooms, storage rooms, offices, elevators, stairways, hallways, or lobbies shall be excluded from the residential floor area.

FRONTAGE, means the distance of the property measured along the line of the street between the property lines of the parcel where they intersect the right-of-way for a public street or easement line for a private street.

GARAGE, PRIVATE, means a detached accessory building or portion of the principal building used only for the storage of self-propelled passenger vehicles or trailers by the families residing upon the premises.

GARAGE, PUBLIC, means a structure or portion thereof, other than a private garage, used for the storage of self-propelled vehicles or trailers.

GRADE, means the average level of the finished surface of the ground adjacent to the exterior walls of a building.

GROUP RESIDENTIAL FACILITY, means a community residential facility, licensed and/or approved and regulated by the state of Ohio, which provides rehabilitative or habilitative services. There are two classes of group residential facilities:

- a. CLASS I, means any state, federal, or locally approved dwelling or place used as a foster home for children or adults (not including nursing homes) or as a home for the care or rehabilitation of dependent or predelinquent children, for the physically handicapped or disabled, or for those with mental illness or developmental disabilities. A Class I Type A group residential facility contains six (6) or more residents, exclusive of staff. A Class I Type B group residential facility contains five (5) or less residents, exclusive of staff.
- b. CLASS II, means any state, federal, or locally approved dwelling or place used as a home for juvenile offenders; a halfway house providing residential care or rehabilitation for adult offenders in lieu of institutional sentencing; a halfway

house providing residence for persons leaving correctional institutions; and residential rehabilitation centers for alcohol and drug abusers, provided that detoxification is expressly prohibited on such premises. A Class II Type A group residential facility contains six (6) or more residents, exclusive of staff. A Class II Type B group residential facility contains five (5) or less residents, exclusive of staff.

HEALTH/RECREATION FACILITY, means an indoor facility including uses such as game courts, exercise equipment, locker rooms, jacuzzi, and/or sauna and pro shop.

HIGH-QUALITY MATERIALS, (see TRADITIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS).

HOME OCCUPATION, means an occupation, profession, activity, or use that is clearly a customary, incidental, and secondary use of a residential dwelling unit and which does not alter the exterior of the property or affect the residential character of the neighborhood.

HOSPITAL, means a building or portion thereof used for the accommodation of sick, injured or infirm persons including health care facilities, hospitals and sanitariums, convalescent and rest homes and boarding homes for children and aged persons.

HOTEL, means a building in which lodging or boarding and lodging are provided and offered to the public for compensation and in which ingress and egress to and from all rooms is made through an inside lobby or office supervised by a person in charge at all hours. As such, it is open to the public in contradistinction to a boarding house, a lodging house, or an apartment which are herein separately defined.

HOUSEKEEPING UNIT, means one (1) or more persons occupying a dwelling unit and living as a single group, and doing their own cooking on the premises, as distinguished from a group occupying a boarding house, lodging house, or hotel, as herein defined.

IMPACT FEE, means a monetary fee designed and calculated to offset a proportionate share of public costs to the Township related to accommodating new development and/or land uses.

INDUSTRY, means the storage, repair, manufacture, preparation, or treatment of any article, substance or commodity.

INOPERABLE VEHICLE, means any transportation device which is unfit for use due to any of the following conditions:

- a. Not currently licensed for use on roads in this state;
- b. Unsafe for travel due to the lack of a part or parts, such as but not limited to, a wheel, a door, the hood, the motor, or the windshield.

INSTITUTION, means a building occupied by a non-profit organization or a non-profit establishment for public use.

IRREGULAR LOT, means any lot that is not square or a rectangle in shape, that has nonparallel side lot lines, or nonparallel front and rear lot lines and/or side lot lines that are not normal to the principal access street.

JUNK, means machinery, scrap, iron, steel, or other ferrous and nonferrous metals, tools, implements or portion thereof, glass, plaster, cordage, building materials, garbage, household waste, discarded construction materials, or debris, or other waste that has been abandoned from its original use and may be used again in its present or a new form.

JUNK YARD, means a place where waste, discarded or salvaged materials are bought, sold, exchanged, baled, packed, disassembled or handled, including auto wrecking yards, house wrecking yards, used lumber yards, and any place or yards for storage of salvage house wrecking and structural steel materials and equipment; but not including such places where such uses are conducted entirely within a completely enclosed building.

KENNEL, means an establishment licensed to operate a facility housing dogs, cats, or other household pets and where grooming, breeding, boarding, training, or selling animals is conducted as a business.

LABORATORY, means a building or a portion of a building devoted to the experimental study in science, or the testing and analysis of chemicals, drugs, minerals, or other substances usually associated with scientific study.

LABORATORY, MEDICAL OR DENTAL, means a building or a portion of a building devoted in use to providing bacteriological, biological, medical, X-ray, pathological and similar analytical or diagnostic services to doctors or dentists and where no fabrication is conducted on the premises except the custom fabrication of dentures.

LANDOWNER, means the legal or beneficial owner or owners of all of the land proposed to be included in a development. The holder of an option or contract to purchase, a lessee or other person having an enforceable proprietary interest in such land, shall be deemed to be a landowner for the purposes of this article.

LAND USE PLAN, means the long-range plan for the desirable use of land for UNION TOWNSHIP as prepared and as amended from time to time by the Zoning Commission. The purpose of the plan is to serve as a guide in the zoning and progressive changes in the zoning of land to meet changing community needs in the subdividing and use of undeveloped land.

LAUNDROMAT, means an establishment providing home type washing, drying, or ironing machines for hire to be used by customers on the premises.

LOADING SPACE, means a space within the main building or on the same lot therewith, providing for the standing, loading, or unloading of trucks, and having a minimum

dimension of twelve (12') feet by thirty-five (35') feet and a vertical clearance of at least fourteen (14') feet.

LOT, means a parcel of land occupied or intended for occupancy by a use permitted in this Resolution, including one principal permitted use together with its accessory buildings, the open spaces and parking spaces required by this Resolution, and having its principal frontage upon a public or private street or upon an officially approved place.

- a. LOT, CORNER, means a lot abutting upon two (2) or more streets at their intersection or upon two (2) parts of the same street, such streets or parts of the same street forming an interior angle of less than one hundred thirty-five (135°) degrees. The point of intersection of the street lines is the "corner."
- b. LOT, DOUBLE FRONTAGE, means a lot having a frontage on two (2) non-intersection streets as distinguished from a corner lot.
- c. LOT, INTERIOR, means a lot other than a corner lot.
- d. LOT OF RECORD, means a parcel of land which has been defined and recorded in the office of the County Recorder or Auditor of Clermont County.

LOT DEPTH, means the mean horizontal distance between the front and the rear lot lines.

LOT LINE, means a line dividing one (1) lot from another lot or from a street or alley.

LOT, MINIMUM AREA OF, means the area of a lot computed exclusive of any portion of the right-of-way of any public or private thoroughfare.

LOT WIDTH, means the mean width of the lot measured at right angles to its depth.

MANUFACTURED HOME, means a factory built single-family structure that is built to the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974. This definition is also to include any other prefabricated unit or units designed for use as a dwelling that may not conform in all respects to the Clermont County Building Regulations for dwellings, or that may be exempt from the Building Department inspections during construction.

MARIJUANA, MEDICAL, means marijuana that is cultivated, processed, dispensed, tested, possessed, or used for a medical purpose, as regulated by the Ohio Revised Code.

MARIJUANA, RECREATIONAL, means marijuana that is cultivated, processed, dispensed, tested, possessed, or used for any other purpose other than for medical use.

MARIJUANA CULTIVATOR, means an entity that has been issued a certificate of operation by the Ohio Department of Commerce to grow, harvest, package, and/or transport medical marijuana as permitted under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3796, or any other entity that grows, harvests, and/or transports recreational marijuana as authorized by any other relevant provision of the Ohio Revised Code.

MARIJUANA PROCESSOR, means an entity that has been issued a certificate of operation by the Ohio Department of Commerce to manufacture medical marijuana products, or any other entity that is otherwise authorized to process and/or manufacture recreational marijuana products as permitted by any other relevant provision of the Ohio Revised Code.

MARIJUANA TESTING LABORATORY, means an independent laboratory located in Ohio that has been issued a certificate of operation by the Ohio Department of Commerce to have custody and use of controlled substances for scientific and medical purposes and for purposes of instruction, research, or analysis.

MARIJUANA MEDICAL DISPENSARY, means an entity that has received a license to sell medical marijuana to qualifying patients and caregivers pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 3796.04 and/or 3796.10, or any other rules, administrative laws, codes, or processes promulgated pursuant to the authority provided thereunder.

MARIJUANA RECREATIONAL DISPENSARY, means any other entity that conducts the sale of marijuana or marijuana-based products to any person, for any other reason other than medical use as defined in this Resolution, as regulated by any relevant provision of the Ohio Revised Code, or any other rules, administrative laws, codes, or processes promulgated pursuant to the authority provided thereunder.

MOBILE HOME, means a structure of vehicular, portable design built on a chassis and designed to be moved from one (1) site to another, including multiple units that may be joined into one (1) unit; and to be used with or without a permanent foundation as a permanent or semi-permanent dwelling, and such units shall not be modified, except by the Manufacturer, to comply with any local building codes. This definition is also to include any other prefabricated unit or units designed for use as a dwelling that may not conform in all respects to the Clermont County Building Regulations for dwellings, or that may be exempt from the Building Department inspections during construction.

MOTEL, MOTOR COURT, MOTOR HOTEL, means a building or a group of buildings, comprising individual sleeping or living units attached in groups of three (3) or more per building for the accommodation of transient guests, not containing individual cooking or kitchen facilities.

NONCONFORMING USE, means a building, structure or premises legally existing and/or used at the time of adoption of this Resolution or any amendment thereto and which does not conform with the use regulations of the district in which located.

OPEN SPACE, COMMON, means a parcel or parcels of land or any area of water, or a combination of land and water within the site designed and intended for the use or enjoyment of occupants of the planned development.

OPEN SPACE, PUBLIC, means that portion of land which has not been built over and which is held by government to be reserved in its natural state or for agriculture or outdoor recreational use.

PANHANDLE LOT, means a lot whose only owned access to the street is a narrow strip of land. The narrow strip of land known and referred to as the “panhandle” shall be defined as a strip of land displaying a minimum width at any point of twenty (20’) feet and a maximum width of less than the minimum lot width required for building purposes.

PARKING AREA, PRIVATE, means an open area for the same uses as a private garage.

PARKING AREA, PUBLIC, means an open area, other than a street or other public way, used for the parking of automobiles and available to the public whether for a fee, free or as an accommodation for clients or customers.

PARKING SPACE, means a surfaced area suitable for parking of motor vehicles of not less than one hundred sixty-two (162 sq.ft.) square feet, either within a structure or in the open, exclusive of driveways or access drives.

PATIO, means an uncovered area, permanently surfaced or constructed, the use of which is customarily incidental to that of the main use of the land and which is located on the same lot with the main building of use.

PERMANENT, means lasting more than thirty (30) days.

PLACE, means an open, unoccupied space or a public or private thoroughfare, other than a street or alley permanently reserved as the principal means of access to abutting property.

PLAN, means the written and graphic submission for a planned development, including a plat of subdivision, all covenants relating to the use, location, and bulk of buildings and other structures, density of development, private streets, ways and parking facilities, common open space and public facilities.

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT, means a person who possesses the knowledge and skills by reason of education, training, and experience to comprehend the full nature and extent of the project in question regarding its social, economic, physical, environmental and design characteristics and implications in order to foster a unified plan for development. He/She may be, but is not necessarily limited to, a registered architect, landscape architect, engineer, planner, or equivalent.

PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITY, means the erection, construction, alteration, operation, or maintenance of buildings, power plants, or substations, water treatment plants or pumping station, sewage disposal or pumping plants and other similar public service structures by a public utility, by a railroad, whether publicly or privately owned, or by a municipal or other governmental agency other than Union Township, including the furnishing of electrical, gas, rail transport, communication, public water and sewage services.

PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITY, EXEMPT, means the erection, construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, or occupancy of any building or collection of buildings, facilities, structures, or improvements owned, occupied, maintained, and/or operated by Union Township, or affiliated and related entities, agencies, or designees, being erected, constructed, altered, operated, maintained, or occupied for the advancement of any legitimate governmental purpose, as so authorized by the Board of Trustees of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE, means a vehicular portable structure designed and constructed to be used as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreational and vacation uses and being classed as follows:

- a. TRAVEL TRAILER, means a nonself-propelled recreational vehicle not exceeding an overall length of thirty-five (35') feet, exclusive of bumper and tongue or coupling, and includes a tent type fold out camping trailer as defined in Division (S) of Section 4517.01 of the Revised Code.
- b. MOTOR HOME, means a self-propelled recreational vehicle constructed with permanently installed facilities for cold storage, cooking and consuming of food, and for sleeping.
- c. TRUCK CAMPER, means a nonself-propelled recreational vehicle, without wheels for road use, and designed to be placed upon and attached to a motor vehicle.

RECYCLING CENTER, means a building in which used material is separated and processed prior to shipment to others who will use those materials to manufacture new products.

RESTAURANT, means a place where prepared food and beverages are served for consumption on the premises either by providing seating for inside or outside consumption or providing parking spaces for outside consumption.

RESTAURANT, DRIVE-IN, means restaurants which provide outside parking spaces and serve prepared food and beverages outside for consumption on the premises.

RESTAURANT, DRIVE-THROUGH, means a restaurant that provides for prepared food and beverages to be served at a pick-up window for consumption off the premises.

RIGHT-OF-WAY, means a strip of land taken or dedicated for use as a public way. In addition to a roadway, it may incorporate curbs, lawn strips, sidewalks, lighting, and drainage facilities, and may include special features such as grade separation, landscaped areas, viaducts, and bridges.

ROOMING HOUSE (SEE BOARDING HOUSE).

SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY, means a building or group of buildings consisting of individual, self-contained units that are leased or owned for the storage of business and household goods or contractors' supplies.

SETBACK, means the minimum horizontal distance between any building or structure and the related front, side or rear property line.

SHOPPING CENTER, means a grouping of retail businesses and service uses on a single site with common parking facilities.

SIGN, means any structure, building or natural object, including the ground itself, on which is represented, either directly or indirectly, or is affixed thereto any work, banner, flag, pennant, insignia, lettering, figures, numbers, sentences, emblems, devices, designs, pictures, trade names or trademarks, which is designated to or which in fact does attract the attention of persons not on the premises on which the sign is located. The term "sign" shall not include:

- a. Signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by any law, ordinance, resolution, or governmental regulation.
- b. The flag, pennant, or insignia of any nation, state, county, city, or other political unit, or of any political, education, charitable, philanthropic, civic, professional, or religious campaign, drive, monument or event.

SIGN, AREA OF, means the total exterior surface computed in square feet of a sign having but one (1) exposed exterior surface; one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the total of the exposed exterior surface computed in square feet of a sign having more than one (1) such surface.

SIGN, OFF-PREMISES, means any sign unrelated to a business or profession conducted, for a commodity or a service sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.

SIGN, ON-PREMISES, means any sign relating to a business or profession conducted, or a commodity or service sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.

SIGN, PERMANENT, means any sign which is:

- a. Permanently affixed to a structure or mounted in the ground, and
- b. Not easily movable without disassembly because of construction and placement, and
- c. Not constructed from materials of temporary durability such that its use is for short duration.

SIGN, PORTABLE, means a sign that is not permanently affixed to the ground or to a building, including changeable copy signs and any sign attached to or displayed on a vehicle that is used for the express purpose of advertising a business establishment, product, service, or entertainment, when that vehicle is so parked as to attract the attention of motoring or pedestrian traffic.

SIGN, ROOF, means any sign erected or constructed wholly upon and over the roof of any building and supported solely on the roof structure.

SIGN, TEMPORARY, means a sign intended for use for only a limited period of time.

SIGN, WALL, means any sign painted on or attached to and erected parallel to the face of, or erected and confined within the limits of, the outside wall of any building and supported by such wall or building and which displays only one advertising surface.

STORY, means that portion of a building, other than a cellar, included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the floor next above it or, if there is no floor above it, then the space between the floor and the ceiling next above it.

- a. STORY, FIRST, means the lowest story or ground story of any building the floor of which is not more than twelve (12") inches below the average contact ground level at the exterior walls of the building; except that any basement or cellar used for residence purposes, other than for a janitor or caretaker or his family, shall be deemed the first story.
- b. STORY, HALF, means a partial story under a gable, hip or gambrel roof, the wall plates of which on at least two (2) opposite exterior walls are not more than four (4) feet above the floor of such story, except that any partial story used for residential purposes, other than for a janitor or caretaker or his family or by a family occupying the floor immediately below it, shall be deemed a full story.

STREET, means a public or private thoroughfare which affords the principal means of access to abutting property. The term street shall include avenue, drive, circle, road, parkway, boulevard, highway, thoroughfare, or any other similar term.

STREET LINE, means a dividing line between a lot, tract, or parcel of land and a contiguous street, referred to as the right-of-way line.

STRUCTURE, means anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires more or less permanent location on the ground or attached to something having a permanent location on the ground including—but without limiting—the generality of the foregoing, advertising signs, billboards, backstops for tennis courts and pergolas.

STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS, means any change which would tend to prolong the life of a supporting member of a structure such as bearing walls, columns, beams or girders.

SWIMMING POOL, means any pool, above or below ground, pond, lake or open tank containing, or normally capable of containing water to a depth at any point greater than one and one-half (1 ½') feet.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER, means any free-standing structure, or any structure to be attached to a building or another structure, which is capable of transmitting or receiving radio frequency waves.

TOURIST HOME, means a building other than a hotel where lodging is provided and offered to the public for compensation for not more than twenty (20) individuals and open to transient guests.

TRADITIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS, means high-quality, materials, including brick, wood, stone or simulated stone, or other masonry or veneer—excluding stucco, concrete block, and the like—that is satisfactory to the Development Director or his / her designee as primary acceptable primary materials. Contemporary secondary or supporting materials with the same visual characteristics as traditional materials (e.g., cement plank clapboards) are acceptable if properly detailed with surface textures and trim at openings, corners, and changes in material and in context with the primary materials. Painted medium density overlay (MDO) plywood is acceptable when used as a secondary material in combination with traditional materials to give it scale. Long-term maintenance needs should be a consideration in the selection of all building materials. The use of primary traditional building materials or high-quality building materials is typically recommended on a minimum of 50% of all building façades (excluding windows and doors in the calculation of the façade area) that are highly visible from a public or private roadway.

TRAILER, TRAILER COACH, or MOTOR HOME, means any vehicle structure constructed in such a manner as to permit occupancy thereof as sleeping quarters or the conduct of any business, trade or occupation, or use as a selling of advertising device, or use for a storage or conveyance for tools, equipment or machinery, and so designed that it is or may be mounted on wheels and used as a conveyance on highways and streets, propelled or drawn by its own or other motor power.

- a. TRAILER, CAMPING, means any vehicle or structure, other than a boat, designed and constructed in such a manner that its primary purpose is for use as a temporary living facility or during vacation or recreation periods and is, or may reasonably be mounted on wheels or a motor vehicle and which is drawn or carried upon highways or streets.
- b. TRAILER, UTILITY, means any vehicle or structure designed and constructed in such a manner, mounted on wheels or a motor vehicle, so it can be drawn or carried upon streets or highways whose primary purpose is to haul personal property or other property or materials and is licensed or licensable as a utility trailer under Ohio Motor Vehicle licensing law for use on highways or streets.

Small utility trailer is a utility trailer designed to haul not more than two thousand (2,000 lbs) pounds of materials.

TRAILER or MOTOR HOME COURT or CAMP, means an area where one or more trailers, trailer coaches, motor homes, or tents can be or are intended to be parked or stationed, designed, or intended to be used as temporary living or semi-permanent living facilities of one (1) or more families and are intended primarily for automobile transients.

THOROUGHFARE PLAN, means the Official Thoroughfare Plan of, and as adopted by, the Planning Commission of Clermont County, Ohio, establishing the location and official right-of-way widths of principal highways and roads in the County, on file in the Office of the County Engineer and the County Planning Commission of Clermont County, Ohio, together with all amendments thereto subsequently adopted.

TRUSTEES, means the Board of Trustees of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

USE, FIRST PERMITTED IN ANY DISTRICT, means a use which in the sequence of successively less restricted districts occurs as a permitted use for the first time in any district.

VARIANCE, means a deviation from a specific zoning requirement as to height, size, lot area, density, yard depth, setback, etc., of a specific Zoning District; however, a request for a use permitted within another Zoning District shall not be considered for a variance by the Board.

YARD, means an open space at grade between a building and the adjoining lot lines, unoccupied and unobstructed by a portion of a structure from the ground upward, except as otherwise provided herein. In measuring a yard for the purpose of determining the width of a side yard, the depth of a front yard or the depth of the rear yard, the minimum horizontal distance between the lot line and the main building or any projections thereof other than the projections of the usual uncovered steps, uncovered balconies, or porch, shall be used.

- a. YARD, FRONT, means the yard most parallel to the street from which access is attained, being the distance between the right-of-way line (for lots not in subdivisions), or lot line (for lots within subdivisions or panhandle lots), or easement line (for lots on private streets), or road boundary (for lots on private streets with no easement) and the principal building, including its projections.

On corner lots, the front yard is that yard parallel to the street on which the lot has its least dimension (if the dimensions are equal, the front yard shall be parallel to the front of the structure). For corner and multiple frontage lots, each yard adjoining a street shall attain the minimum required front yard depth. For undeveloped panhandle lots, the front yard may be oriented toward the side of the lot having the least dimension. For panhandle lots with existing structures, the front yard will be as shown on the approved zoning certificate, or if the zoning certificate is unspecific, then as stated in the first sentence of this definition.

- b. YARD, REAR, means a yard extending across the rear of a lot and being the required minimum horizontal distance between the rear lot line and the rear of the main building or any projections thereto. On all lots, the rear yard shall be in the rear of the front yard.
- c. YARD, SIDE, means a yard between the main building and the side line of the lot and extending from the front yard to the required rear yard and being the minimum horizontal distance between a side lot line and the side of the main buildings or any projections thereto.

ZONE, (see DISTRICT).

ZONING CERTIFICATE, means the document issued by the Zoning Director authorizing buildings, structures or uses consistent with the terms of this Resolution and for the purpose of carrying out and enforcing its provisions.

ZONING DIRECTOR, means the Zoning Director or his authorized representative, appointed by the Township Trustees.

ZONING DISTRICT MAP, means the Official Zoning District Map or Maps of Union Township, including the "Union Township Focus Areas Map" referenced in the most recent version of the Union Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan", together with all amendments subsequently adopted.