

# APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

Section	Page
A.1 Purpose.....	A-2
A.2 Interpretation.....	A-2
A.3 Acronyms.....	A-3
A.4 Definitions.....	A-3

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### **Section A.1 Purpose**

---

For the purpose of interpreting this Ordinance, certain words, concepts, and ideas are defined herein. Except as defined herein, all other words used in this Ordinance shall have their everyday meaning as determined by their dictionary definition.

### **Section A.2 Interpretation**

---

- A. Words used in the present tense include the future tense.
- B. Words used in the singular number include the plural, and words used in the plural number include the singular.
- C. Any word denoting gender includes the female and the male.
- D. The word "person" includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, corporation, trust and company as well as an individual.
- E. The word "lot" includes the word "plot" or "parcel" or "tract".
- F. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.
- G. The word "structure" shall include the word "building."
- H. The term "street" shall include the word "road".
- I. The term "Zoning Map," shall mean the Official Zoning Map of Granite Quarry, North Carolina.
- J. The term "Town Board of Aldermen" shall mean the "Town Board of Aldermen of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina."
- K. The term "Planning Board" shall mean the "Planning Board of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina."
- L. The term "Administrator" shall mean the "Zoning Administrator, Subdivision Administrator, Floodplain Administrator, or Unified Development Ordinance Administrator of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina."
- M. The terms "Planning Department" and "Planning Staff" shall mean the "Planning Department of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina."
- N. The terms "Ordinance", "Code", and "Unified Development Ordinance" shall be synonymous and refer to the "Town of Granite Quarry Unified Development Ordinance."

**Section A.3 Acronyms**

---

Below is a list of acronyms (other than zoning districts) and their meanings found throughout the Ordinance:

- BFE: Base Flood Elevation
- DUA: Dwelling Units per Acre
- FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency
- FIRM: Flood Insurance Rate Maps
- HOA: Homeowners Association
- MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
- NC: North Carolina
- NCDEQ: North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
- NCDOT or DOT: North Carolina Department of Transportation
- NCGS or GS: North Carolina General Statute
- ROW: Right-of-way
- SR: Secondary Road in the North Carolina Secondary Road system
- TRC: Technical Review Committee
- UDO: Unified Development Ordinance
- US: United States of America

**Section A.4 Definitions**

---

***Abandonment***

A use shall be deemed to be abandoned when:

- The use is discontinued (other than in association with the settlement of an estate or for any use which is seasonal in nature); or
- The premises are devoted to another use; or
- When the characteristic equipment and furnishings of a non-conforming nonresidential use have been removed from the premises and have not been replaced by the same or similar equipment within 30 days; or
- Failure to take all positive action to resume the non-conforming use with reasonable dispatch, including the failure to advertise the property for sale or for lease.

***Accessory Building (Accessory Structure)***

A structure that is subordinate to and serves a principal use or structure; is clearly subordinate in area, extent, or purpose to the principal use or structure served; and is located on the same lot as the principal use or structure. In no event shall "accessory structure" be construed to authorize a principal use or structure not otherwise permitted in the district in which the use is located. Accessory structures include but are not limited to detached garages, storage buildings, pools and pool houses, piers and other water related structures.

***Accessory Use (Ancillary Use)***

A use customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure and located on the same lot with such principal use or structure.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Addition***

An extension or increase in the footprint or floor area of building or structure.

### ***Adjacent***

Having common property boundaries or lot lines which are not separated by a street or alley or body of water.

### ***Administrator***

The appointed Town staff member that administers this Ordinance.

### ***Adult Establishment***

Any principal or accessory structure or use of land which meets the definition of adult establishment as set forth in North Carolina General Statute Section 14-202.10, including topless bars. Notwithstanding the definition of “adult bookstore” provided in G.S. 14-202.10(1), for purposes of this ordinance “adult bookstore” means a retail establishment:

- which receives a majority of its gross income during any calendar month from the sale or rental of a) “publications” which are distinguished or characterized by their emphasis on matter depicting, describing, or relating to “specified sexual activities”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(10), or “specified anatomical areas”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(11); and/or b) merchandise that are “sexually oriented devices”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(9); or
- having as a preponderance of its publications and/or merchandise a) “publications” which are distinguished or characterized by their emphasis on matter depicting, describing or relating to “specified sexual activities”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(10), or “Specified anatomical areas”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(11), and/or b) merchandise that comprises “sexually oriented devices”, as defined in G.S. 1-202.10(9).

Adult establishment may consist of, include, or have the characteristics of any or all of the following:

- Adult or Sexually Oriented Bookstore Sales and Distribution
- Adult or Sexually Oriented Paraphernalia Sales and Distribution
- Adult or Sexually Oriented Cabaret
- Adult or Sexually Oriented Mini Motion Picture Theater
- Adult or Sexually Oriented Motion Picture Theater

### ***Alley***

A public or private way which affords only a secondary means of access to abutting property and is not intended for general traffic circulation.

### ***Alteration***

A change in the size, configuration, or location of a structure; or a change in the use of a structure or lot from a previously approved or legally existing size, configuration, location, or use.

### ***Amendment, Text***

A change to any text of the Granite Quarry Unified Development Ordinance.

### ***Amendment, Zoning Map***

A change of the zoning designation of a property or properties on the Granite Quarry Zoning Map.

***Amusement Center or Arcade***

A commercial facility providing recreational activities that typically include coin-operated amusement machines such as pinball machines, electronic video games and skeetball machines. A facility shall be deemed an amusement arcade if it has eight (8) or more of such machines. This shall not include electronic gaming operations.

***Animal Services***

A public or private facility for medical or surgical treatment, grooming, breeding, selling, or boarding of animals. Unless outdoor kennels are specifically allowed, all facilities associated with animal services shall be located indoors.

***Apartment***

See *Multi-Family*.

***Appeal***

A request by an applicant for the Board of Adjustment to review a decision or interpretation by the Zoning Administrator.

***Automotive/Boat/Heavy Equipment/Manufactured Home Sales and Service***

Any building, premises, and land, in which or upon the primary use of land is a business which involves the maintenance, servicing or sale of new or used automobiles, boats, heavy equipment and/or manufactured homes generally but may include light trucks or vans, trailers, or recreation vehicles and including any vehicle leasing, rental, parking service, preparation or repair work conducted. This definition includes but is not limited to auto dealerships, auto body shops, auto service stations, boat repair or sales, car washes, convenience stores, gas stations, heavy equipment leasing, sales, or service, manufactured home sales or service, and oil/lube servicing. This does not include the sale of parts or related products (i.e. auto parts store).

***Awning***

A structure made of cloth, metal, or other material affixed to a building in such a manner that the structure may be raised or retracted from a building to a flat position against the building, but not to include a canopy.

***Bar***

A commercial establishment in which the primary activity is the consumption of alcoholic beverages and the primary source of income is from the sale of alcoholic beverages.

***Bed and Breakfast Inn***

A use, that takes place within a building that prior to such an establishment was a single family dwelling, which consists of renting one or more rooms on a daily basis to tourists, vacationers, and business people, where provision of meals is limited to the breakfast meal, available only to guests. The homeowner shall reside on site and employment shall not exceed two full-time employees, not including the owner(s).

***Best Management Practices (BMP)***

## APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

A structural or nonstructural management-based practice used singularly or in combination to reduce non-point source inputs to receiving waters in order to achieve water quality protection goals.

### ***Block***

A unit of land bounded by streets or by a combination of streets and public land, waterways, or any other barrier to the continuity of development.

### ***Boarding House***

See *Rooming House*.

### ***Bona Fide Farm & Agricultural Uses***

Bona fide farms and agricultural uses include the production and activities relating or incidental to the production of crops, grains, fruits, vegetables, ornamental and flowering plants, dairy, livestock, poultry, and all other forms of agriculture, as defined in G.S. 106-581.1. For purposes of this Ordinance, the terms, "bona fide farm", "agriculture", "agricultural", and "farming" refer to all of the following:

- The cultivation of soil for production and harvesting of crops, including but not limited to fruits, vegetables, sod, flowers and ornamental plants.
- The planting and production of trees and timber.
- Dairying and the raising, management, care, and training of livestock, including horses, bees, poultry, and other animals for individual and public use, consumption, and marketing.
- Aquaculture as defined in NCGS 106-758.
- The operation, management, conservation, improvement, and maintenance of a farm and the structures and buildings on the farm, including building and structure repair, replacement, expansion, and construction incident to the farming operation.
- When performed on the farm, "agriculture", "agricultural", and "farming" also include the marketing and selling of agricultural products, agri-tourism, the storage and use of materials for agricultural purposes, packing, treating, processing, sorting, storage, and other activities performed to add value to crops, livestock, and agricultural items produced on the farm, and similar activities incident to the operation of a farm.
- The production of a nonfarm product that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services recognizes as a "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" product that is produced on a farm subject to a conservation agreement under NCGS 106-743.2 is a bona fide farm purpose.
- Bee hives as provided for in NCGS 106-645.

For purposes of determining whether a property is being used for bona fide farm purposes, any of the following shall constitute sufficient evidence that the property is being used for bona fide farm purposes:

- A farm sales tax exemption certificate issued by the Department of Revenue.
- A copy of the property tax listing showing that the property is eligible for participation in the present use value program pursuant to NCGS 105-277.3.
- A copy of the farm owner's or operator's Schedule F from the owner's or operator's most recent federal income tax return.
- A forest management plan.
- A Farm Identification Number issued by the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency.

Uses which shall not be deemed as "agricultural uses", for the purposes of this Ordinance, include zoos, kennels, or gardens on residential properties for personal use.

***Buffer***

A strip of land with natural or planted vegetation located between a structure and a side or rear property line intended to separate and partially obstruct the view of two adjacent land uses or properties from one another. A buffer area may include any required screening for the site.

***Buffer, Vegetative (Watershed Buffer or Riparian Buffer)***

An area of natural or planted vegetation through which stormwater runoff flows in a diffuse manner so that the runoff does not become channelized and which provides for infiltration of the runoff and filtering of pollutants. The buffer is measured landward from the normal pool elevation of impounded structures and from the bank of each side of streams or rivers.

***Buildable Area***

The area of a lot remaining after the minimum yard and open space requirements of this Ordinance have been met.

***Building***

A temporary or permanent structure having a roof supported by exterior walls or constructed columns and which can be used for residence, business, industry, or other public or private purposes or accessory thereto. The term "building" shall be construed as if followed by the words "or parts thereof".

***Building, Accessory***

A use customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal use or building and located on the same lot with such principal building or use.

***Building, Principal***

A building in which is conducted the principal use of the lot on which said building is situated.

***Building Envelope***

The three-dimensional space within which a structure is permitted to be built on a lot and that is defined by maximum height regulations, and minimum yard setbacks or build-to lines, buffers, easements, or other applicable regulations.

***Building Footprint***

The land area on which a building is located or proposed for location.

***Building Height***

The vertical distance from the mean grade elevation taken at the fronting street side of a structure to the parapet or roofline of a flat roof, the eaves of a pitched roof, or the deck line of a mansard roof. Towers, spires, steeples, and enclosed rooftop mechanical equipment are not counted in height measurements.

***Building Line***

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

The line formed by the facades of buildings which creates a frame defining the public realm. Respecting building lines means to place walls or landscaping in such a manner as to continue the frame where there is an absence of buildings.

### ***Building Permit***

A permit obtained from the Rowan County Building Inspections Department which sets the inspection schedule and construction techniques for a project.

### ***Building Setback Line***

A line establishing the minimum allowable distance between the nearest portion of any building (or any attached appurtenance thereof), including eaves and overhangs, and the nearest edge of the street right-of-way when measured perpendicular thereto.

### ***Build Out***

The completed construction of all phases of a development as allowed by all Ordinances which regulate an area. The scale of build out can be from a single lot to the entire Town's jurisdiction.

### ***Build-to Line***

The line at which construction of a building is to occur on a lot. A build to line runs parallel to the front property line and is established to create an even building facade line on a street.

### ***Built-upon Area***

Built-upon areas shall include that portion of a development project that is covered by impervious or partially impervious cover including buildings, pavement, gravel roads, recreation facilities (e.g., tennis courts), etc. (**Note:** Wooden slatted decks and the water area of a swimming pool are considered pervious).

### ***Caliper***

The size of tree's trunk diameter as measured six (6) inches above the ground for trees four (4) inches or less, and as measured 12 inches above the ground for trees larger than four (4) inches.

### ***Campground, Family***

See *Family Campground*.

### ***Campsite***

Any plot of ground within a campground intended for the exclusive occupancy by a cabin, recreation vehicle, or tent.

### ***Canopy***

A permanent structure other than an awning made of cloth, metal or other material attached or unattached to a building for the purpose of providing shelter to patrons or automobiles, or as a decorative feature on a building wall. A canopy is not a completely enclosed structure.

### ***Carrying Capacity***

The amount of traffic which can be accommodated on a street without reducing the service level of the street as defined by the North Carolina Department of Transportation or street design standards



of the Granite Quarry Subdivision Regulations. Carrying capacity is determined by the amount of traffic per land per hour.

***Cemetery***

Property used for the interment of the dead, which use may include the commercial sale and location of burial lots, crypts, or vaults for use exclusively on the subject property. A cemetery shall not be used for the preparation or embalming of bodies or the cremation of bodies. Setback for cemeteries shall be measured from the nearest structure or gravesite. This definition shall be construed to include bona fide pet cemeteries.

***Certificate of Occupancy (CO)***

A certificate allowing the occupancy or use of a building and certifying that the structure or use has been constructed or will be used in compliance with this Ordinance and all other applicable regulations.

***Change of Use***

Any use of a building or land that substantially differs from the previous use. Substantially different shall mean the change of one land use category to another land use category in the Permitted Uses Table in Chapter 3. The categories include:

- Residential
- Civic & Government
- Institutional
- Office & Service
- Retail
- Recreation & Entertainment
- Industrial, Manufacturing, Warehousing, Wholesale, Distribution, & Transportation
- Other

***Church***

*See "Religious Institution".*

***Civic Uses***

Uses intended to serve as public gathering places. Such uses include governmental offices, churches or other places of worship, schools, post offices, and non-profit or charitable clubs and organizations.

***Commercial Use***

All retail sales establishments, office uses (i.e.: medical and financial), service industry uses (i.e.: restaurants, hotels/motels/inns), wholesale businesses, and general business (i.e.: mini-storage, automotive repair).

***Common Open Space***

Land and/or water areas within the site designated for development, not individually owned or dedicated for public use, which are designed and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents of the development but not including any lands occupied by streets, street rights-of-way, or off-street parking.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Common Open Space, Improved***

Common open space which has been improved with recreational areas and amenities such as, but not limited to, ball fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, nature trails, clubhouses, etc. Not all of these uses may be appropriate in developments which lie in a Water Supply Watershed where there are restrictions on the amount of impervious surface area.

### ***Conditional Use***

A use that is permitted in a zoning district subject to the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### ***Conditional District***

A district created through the approval of a zoning map amendment with a site specific plan in which the uses are limited to those in the base zoning district and are subject to conditions imposed by the Town Board of Aldermen.

### ***Conditional Use Permit***

A special authorization for a conditional use which may be subject to any specific restrictions or conditions on its size, location, intent, character of use, etc. as determined by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### ***Conservation Development***

The grouping of lots in order to conserve land, open space, and natural resources and provide for innovation in the design of a residential project. Overall density does not change in a conservation development.

### ***Construction Trailer***

A structure standing on wheels towed or hauled by another vehicle and used for neither overnight nor year-round occupancy at the construction site on a temporary basis for office purposes.

### ***Contiguous***

Next to, abutting, or touching and having a boundary, or portion thereof, which is contiguous including properties traversed or separated by a road, stream, right-of-way or similar man-made or natural configuration. The term "contiguous" shall also mean "abutting" or "adjacent".

### ***Convenience Store***

Any retail establishment offering for sale gasoline and motor fuel, prepackaged food products, household items, and other goods commonly associated with the same and having a gross floor area of less than 5,000 square feet.

### ***Correctional Facility***

A facility operated by Rowan County or the State of North Carolina (or a private contractor thereof) used for the temporary incarceration of persons after arrest or pending hearing or trial or for the incarceration and or housing of persons serving sentences or incarceration or housing of persons serving criminal sentences.

### ***Country Club***

A private recreational facility open to members and their guests. Uses at a country club frequently

include golf courses, swimming pools (outdoors), and club-houses. Meal service may be available, but is generally limited to members and their guests. A country club may be developed as a free-standing entity or as part of a residential community or planned residential development.

***Critical Area***

The area adjacent to a water supply intake or reservoir where risk associated with pollution is greater than from the remaining portions of the watershed. The critical area is defined as extending either one-half mile from the normal pool elevation of the reservoir in which the intake is located or to the ridge line of the watershed (whichever comes first); or one-half mile upstream from the intake located directly in the stream or river (run-of-the-river), or the ridge line of the watershed (whichever comes first). Major landmarks such as highways or property lines may be used to delineate the outer boundary of the critical area if these landmarks are immediately adjacent to the appropriate outer boundary of one-half mile.

***Cul-De-Sac***

The turn around at the end of a dead-end street.

***Day Care Center***

A place where daytime care is provided to five (5) or more children, handicapped persons, or senior citizens unrelated by blood or marriage to, and not the legal wards or foster children of the attendant adult within an occupied residence. Persons who are related by blood or marriage to the attendant adult shall not be counted as patrons of the day care center.

***Density***

A ratio expressed as the number of dwelling units per acre (DUA). The ratio is derived by dividing the total number of dwelling units by the total land area (in acres) used or proposed to be used for purposes such as buildings, roads, public facilities, and open spaces.

***Development***

Any land disturbing activity which adds to or changes the amount of impervious or partially impervious cover on a land area or which otherwise decreases the infiltration of precipitation into the soil.

***Development, Existing***

Those projects that are built or those projects that at a minimum have established a vested right under North Carolina Zoning Law as of the effective date of this Ordinance based on at least one of the following criteria:

- substantial expenditures of resources (time, labor, money) based on a good faith reliance upon having received a valid local government approval to proceed with the project, or
- having an outstanding valid building permit as authorized by the General Statutes (NCGS 160A-385.1), or
- having an approved site specific or phased development plan as authorized by the General Statutes (NCGS 160A-385.1).

***Development Plan, Phased***

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

A plan which has been submitted to the Administrator by a landowner for phased development which shows the type and intensity of use for a specific parcel or parcels with a lesser degree of certainty than the plan determined by the Administrator to be a site specific development plan.

### ***Development Plan, Site Specific***

A plan which has been submitted to the Administrator by a landowner describing with reasonable certainty the type and intensity of use for a specific parcel or parcels of property.

### ***Distribution***

A use in which products or goods are brought in or manufactured on-site and are trucked off-site.

### ***Disturbed Ground***

Any area of ground on a site which during construction is dug up, filled, graded, built on or used for storage or parking.

### ***Drip Line***

An imaginary vertical line extending from the outer most portion of the tree canopy to the ground.

### ***Drive-through use***

A facility designed to enable a person to transact business while remaining in a motor vehicle. This includes drive-in facilities in which vehicles pull into a designated parking spot to transact business.

### ***Duplex***

An attached single-family structure containing two dwelling units located on a singly deeded lot.

### ***Dwelling, Attached***

A single-family dwelling attached to two or more one-family dwellings by common vertical walls. This may include duplexes, triplexes, quadruplexes, and townhomes. Three or more units attached constitute as a multi-family residential use for the purposes of this Ordinance.

### ***Dwelling, Detached***

A dwelling unit that is developed with open yards on all sides. This shall include modular homes but shall not include manufactured homes.

### ***Dwelling Unit***

A building, or portion thereof, providing complete and permanent living facilities for one (1) family. The term "dwelling" shall not be deemed to include a motel, hotel, bed and breakfast inn, manufactured home or other structure designed for transient residence. See also *Residential*.

### ***Easement, maintained***

A recorded right of way, made of crushed gravel or pavement, which is graded and cleared of brush so as to permit access by all vehicles.

### ***Electronic Gaming Operations***

For-profit business enterprise, whether as a principal or an accessory use, where persons utilize electronic machines, including but not limited to computers and gaming terminals, to conduct

games of chance, including sweepstakes, and where cash, merchandise or other items of value are redeemed or otherwise distributed, whether or not the value of such distribution is determined by electronic games played or by predetermined odds. This term includes, but is not limited to internet cafes, internet sweepstakes, beach sweepstakes or cybercafés. This does not include any lottery approved by the State of North Carolina or any business enterprise that conducts the foregoing activity for less than 10 hours per week.

***Emergency Services***

Police department, fire department, rescue squad, emergency medical technicians, ambulatory services, or similar services that respond in the event of an emergency.

***Encroachment***

The part of a structure which intrudes into an easement, dedicated right-of-way, or required setback.

***Engineering Drawings***

The drawings necessary to prepare a site for construction, guide the construction of improvements, and complete the site following construction of improvements. These plans may include an overall site plan, grading plan, soil and erosion control plan, landscaping plan, lighting plan, site details, street cross sections, storm water detention details, etc.

***Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ)***

An area outside and surrounding the Town of Granite Quarry, extending up to one mile from the municipal boundary, where the Town exercises (or may exercise at a future date) planning, zoning, and subdivision regulations.

***Entertainment Use***

Any establishment which provides active recreational opportunities such as miniature golf, batting cages, carnival games, waterslides, or passive recreation such as movie theaters.

***Existing Lot (Lot of Record)***

For the purpose of Watershed Protection, a lot which is part of a plat that has been recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds prior to October 1, 1993 of this Ordinance, or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been so recorded prior to October 1, 1993.

***Façade***

The vertical surface of a building which is set along a Building Line. The elevation of a facade is the vertical surface area. Facades are subject to visual definition by building height, setback lines, recess lines (a line prescribed for the full width of the facade above which the facade sets back. The location of a recess line is determined by the desired height to width ratio of the enfronting space or by a desired compatibility with existing buildings), and transition lines (a line prescribed for the full width of the facade expressed by a variation of material or by a limited projection such as a cornice or balcony).

***Family***

An individual, or two or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption living together as a single housekeeping unit, exclusive of household servants; or a group of not more than six persons who need not be related by blood, marriage, or adoption living together as a single housekeeping

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

unit.

### ***Family Campgrounds***

Land containing two or more campsites which are located, established, or maintained for occupancy by people in temporary living quarters, such as tents, recreation vehicles, or travel trailers which are used for recreation or vacation purposes.

### ***Family Care Home for the Handicapped***

A home with support and supervisory personnel that provides room and board, personal care and habilitation services in a family environment for not more than six resident handicapped persons, as defined by NCGS 168-21(2). This includes adult care homes, group homes, residential care homes, child or adolescent care homes, and health care homes.

### ***Farmer's Market***

An outdoor market open to vendors at which locally grown fruits and vegetables are sold on a retail basis.

### ***Final Plat***

A map depicting a subdivision (in its entirety or a phase of) intended for recordation at the Register of Deeds.

### ***Flag***

A piece of durable fabric of distinctive design attached to a permanent pole that is used as a symbol or decorative feature.

### ***Flag Lot***

A lot that has less than the minimum lot width at the minimum building setback.

### ***Flat Roof***

The silhouette formed by a roof line. Flat roof lines infer a roof with no pitch. The actual roof structure is required to have a slope for drainage purposes. This is separate from the roof line which can be stepped or flat in appearance through architectural elements such as cornices, mansards, and parapets; or pitched as with residential homes.

***Fence: see screening*** (chapter 8 of UDO)

### ***Floor Area Ratio***

The gross floor area of all buildings and structures on a lot divided by the lot area. When computing this figure, the gross floor area of all enclosed parking deck buildings shall be excluded.

### ***Flood Damage Prevention Definitions***

See Section 7.6.2, Article 2 for definitions related to Flood Damage Prevention

### ***Footcandle***

A unit measuring the luminance from a light source. Originally the foot-candle was the luminance at one foot from a standard candle. It was then defined as the luminance produced by one lumen

of “luminous flux” evenly distributed over a square foot. Though not an SI unit, foot-candles are widely used to set lighting levels.

***Frontage***

The lot boundary along a public street.

***Garage***

Any building, premises, and land in which or upon which the primary use of land is a business which involves the maintenance or servicing of vehicles. This differs from a Body Shop which involves the painting of vehicles or external repairing of damaged vehicles.

***Gated Community***

A residential development that is entirely surrounded by a wall or fence with restricted access at entrance gates.

***Golf Course***

A tract of land for playing golf, improved with tees, fairways, hazards and which may include clubhouses and shelters.

***Grade of Street***

The height of the top of the curb, or if no curb exists, the height of the edge of pavement in the lane of travel adjacent to the side of the street at which grade is being measured.

***Gross Floor Area***

The sum of the gross horizontal areas of each floor of the principal building, measured from the exterior walls or from the center line of the party walls, including the floor area of accessory structures. The term does not include any area used exclusively for the parking of motor vehicles or for building or equipment access such as stairs, elevator shafts and maintenance crawlspaces or unused attics. This term also excludes pedestrian walkways and common areas within enclosed shopping areas.

***Ground Covers***

Low growing plants such as grasses, ivies, creeping bushes and similar decorative plantings. Where required by this Ordinance, ground covers shall have the capability of soil stabilization and erosion control.

***Group Home***

See *Residential Care Facility*.

***Handicapped***

A person with a temporary or permanent physical, emotional, or mental disability including but not limited to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, hearing and sight impairments, emotional disturbances and orthopedic impairments but not including mentally ill persons who are dangerous to others as defined in G.S. 122C-3(11)b.

***Hazardous Material***

Any substance listed as such in: SARA Section 302, Extremely Hazardous Substances, CERCLA

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

Hazardous Substances, or Section 311 of CWA (oil and hazardous substances).

### ***Home Occupation, Customary***

Any use conducted for gain entirely within the dwelling and carried on by the occupants thereof, which use is clearly incidental and subordinate to the residential use and which does not change the character thereof and in connection with which there is no display. When observed from beyond the lot on which it is located, the home occupation does not give visual, audible, sensory, or physical evidence that the property is used for any nonresidential purpose. A home daycare may be operated as a home occupation if there are five (5) or less unrelated children, handicapped persons, or senior citizens cared for in the home. Persons who are related by blood or marriage to the attendant adult shall not be counted as patrons of the daycare.

### ***Home Occupation, Rural***

A use conducted for gain within an accessory structure on a residential lot in the Rural Residential district that may include, carpentry, metal working, electrical, welding, plumbing, repair shops, professional and technical services, insurance and real estate services, personal care services, and similar service uses.

### ***Hospital***

An institution providing physical and mental health services primarily for human in-patient medical or surgical care for the sick or injured, including related facilities such as laboratories, out-patient services, training facilities, central service facilities, emergency services, and staff offices.

### ***Hotel/Motel***

A facility offering transient lodging accommodations to the general public and which may provide additional services such as restaurants, meeting rooms and recreation facilities.

### ***Impervious Surface***

Any material which reduces and prevents absorption of storm water into previously undeveloped land. This includes but is not limited to, buildings, roads, pavement, gravel surfaces, etc. Items not considered to be "impervious" include the water area of a swimming pool and wooden slatted decks.

### ***Impervious Surface Ratio***

The gross area of all impervious surfaces on a lot divided by the lot area.

### ***Industrial Development***

Any non-residential development that requires an NPDES permit for an industrial discharge and/or requires the use or storage of any hazardous material for the purpose of manufacturing, assembling, finishing, cleaning or developing any product or commodity.

### ***Infill***

The development of new buildings on vacant sites in a primarily built-up area.

### ***Institutional Use***



A use of a semi-public nature that typically serve community needs including but not limited to daycares, colleges, private schools, hospitals, research facilities, museums, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities, and other long-term medical care facilities.

***Loading Space, Off-Street***

An off-street space or berth on the same lot with a building or contiguous to a group of buildings for the temporary parking of commercial vehicles while loading or unloading merchandise or materials.

***Lot***

A parcel of land whose boundaries have been established by some legal instrument such as a recorded deed or a recorded map and which is recognized as a separate legal entity for purposes of transfer of title.

***Lot Area***

The total area circumscribed by the boundaries of a lot, except that when the legal instrument creating a lot shows the boundary of the lot extending into a public street right-of-way, then the lot boundary for purposes of computing the lot area shall be the street right-of-way line, or if the right-of-way line cannot be determined, a line running parallel to and thirty feet from the center of the traveled portion of the street.

***Lot, Corner***

A lot which occupies the interior angle at the intersection of two (2) street lines which make an angle of more than 45 degrees and less than one hundred and 135 degrees with each other. The street line forming the least frontage shall be deemed the front of the lot except where the two (2) street lines are equal, in which case the owner shall be required to specify which is the front when requesting a zoning permit.

***Lot Depth***

The mean horizontal distance between the front and rear lot lines.

***Lot, Interior***

A lot other than a corner lot.

***Lot, Irregularly Shaped***

Lots located at corners or intersections, which create shapes with three sides or with more than four sides and contain corner angles greater or less than 90 degrees. The front yard of such lots shall be determined with respect to adjacent homes, and the maintenance of street vistas

***Lot Line***

A line of record bounding a lot which separates one lot from another lot or separates that lot from a public or private street or any other public space.

***Lot Line, Front***

The lot line separating a lot from a street right-of-way.

***Lot Line, Interior***

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

A lot line which does not have street frontage.

### ***Lot Line, Rear***

The lot line opposite and most distant from the front lot line.

### ***Lot Line, Side***

Any lot line abutting another lot and which is not a front or rear lot line.

### ***Lot of Record***

A lot which is part of a subdivision, a plat of which has been recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Rowan County or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been so recorded.

### ***Lot, substandard***

A parcel of land held in separate ownership, occupied or intended to be occupied by a principal building or structure together with accessory buildings, and uses, having insufficient size to meet the lot width, lot area, yard, off-street parking areas, or other open space provisions of this Ordinance.

### ***Lot, Through***

A lot which fronts upon two parallel streets, or which fronts upon two streets which do not intersect at the boundaries of the lot.

### ***Lot Width***

The distance from side lot line to side lot line measured at the required minimum front yard setback parallel to the front property line.

### ***Manufactured Home***

A dwelling unit that (i) is not constructed in accordance with the standards set forth in the North Carolina State Building Code and (ii) is composed of one or more components, each of which was substantially assembled in a manufacturing plant and designed to be transported to the home site on its own chassis, and (iii) exceeds forty feet in length and eight feet in width (formerly known as a mobile home). Manufactured homes are subject to the standards set forth in Section 5.3.3 or Section 13.7, as applicable.

### ***Manufactured Home Community***

Any site or parcel of land under single ownership where land is rented, and utilities are provided for the installation or placement of two or more manufactured homes.

### ***Manufactured Home Space***

Any premises within a manufactured home community used or intended to be used or occupied by one manufactured home, together with automobile parking space, utility structures, and other required facilities incidental thereto.

### ***Manufacturing, Heavy***

The assembly, fabrication, production or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily have greater than average impacts on the environment, or that ordinarily have significant impacts on the use and enjoyment of other properties in terms of noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare,

health or safety hazards, or uses that otherwise do not constitute “light manufacturing,” or any use where the area occupied by outdoor storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, production or processing exceeds 25 percent of the floor area of all buildings on the lot. “Heavy manufacturing” shall include, but not be limited to, the following: enameling, lacquering, or the plating or galvanizing of metals; foundries or mills producing iron and steel products; industrial chemical manufacture; meat packing plants; mixing plants for concrete or paving materials, and manufacture of concrete products; oxygen manufacture and/or storage; pottery, porcelain, and vitreous china manufacture; poultry dressing for wholesale; pressure treating of wood; stonecutting; tire recapping and retreading; tobacco products manufacture; tobacco stemming and redrying plants. This shall not include resource extraction and recycling and salvage operations.

***Manufacturing, Light***

All operations involved in textile manufacturing currently conducted within the Town of Granite Quarry, and all industrial processes of less intensity than such operations. The assembly, fabrication, production or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily do not create noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare, or health or safety hazards outside of the building or lot where such assembly, fabrication, production or processing takes place, where such processes are housed entirely within a building, or where the area occupied by outdoor storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, production or processing does not exceed 25 percent of the floor area of all buildings on the lot. This shall not include uses that constitute “heavy manufacturing”, resource extraction, or recycling and salvage operations.

***Massing***

The shape and form buildings assume through architectural design. There are ten architectural design elements which create urban space. A specific project may not need to incorporate all ten elements

1. **Building Silhouette** - similar pitch and scale to a roof line.
2. **Spacing between building facades** - setbacks or notches between primary facades which frame the structure.
3. **Setback from property line** - building setback and/or primary facade setback from property line.
4. **Proportion of windows, bays, and doorways** - vertical or horizontal elements tied together in bands across facade lengths.
5. **Proportion of primary facade** - size of facades similar in area and height to width ratios.
6. **Location and treatment of entryways** - important visual commonality between structures.
7. **Exterior materials used** - similar materials and treatment add to detail and monumentality of a building.
8. **Building Scale** - similarity of building height and configuration.
9. **Landscaping** - ties together buildings and defines space.
10. **Shadow patterns form decorative features** - the light and dark surfaces from materials used and projections from window bays and setbacks create visual breaks.

***Mini-Warehouse***

A structure containing separate storage spaces of varying sizes leased or rented on an individual basis that does not include outdoor storage.

***Mixed Use Building***

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

A minimum of a two story building in which the ground floor contains a commercial enterprise and at least one of the floors above contains residential units.

***Mobile Home*** See *Manufactured Home*.

### ***Modular Home***

A dwelling unit constructed in accordance with the standards set forth in the North Carolina State Building Code and composed of components substantially assembled in a manufacturing plant and transported to the building site for final assembly on a permanent foundation. Among other possibilities, a modular home may consist of two or more sections transported to the site in a manner similar to a manufactured home (except that the modular home meets the North Carolina State Building Code), or a series of panels or room sections transported on a truck and erected or joined together on the site.

### ***Modular Home, Off-frame***

A dwelling unit which is constructed in compliance with the North Carolina Building Code and is brought to the site and set in place on a permanent foundation by a crane. A steel frame is not used for the support of the structure.

### ***Modular Home, On-frame***

A dwelling unit which is constructed in compliance with North Carolina Building Code on a steel frame and is brought to the site on steel frames and the axles are removed. The steel frame is used to support the structure on top of a permanent foundation.

### ***Nightclub***

An establishment that is either public or private in which people gather for dancing and/or listening to taped or live music and there is the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on premises.

### ***Noncommercial Copy***

A sign message through pictures, illustrations, symbols and/or words, or any combination thereof, which does not contain any reference to a business or product but displays a substantive message, statement or expression that is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

### ***Nonconforming Lot***

Any lot of record which does not meet the minimum yard or area requirements established in these regulations at the time of this Ordinance's adoption or any amendment thereto.

### ***Nonconforming Sign***

A sign that, on the effective date of this Ordinance or the date of any subsequent amendment thereto, does not conform to one or more of the regulations set forth in this Ordinance.

### ***Nonconforming Structure***

Any structure lawfully existing on the effective date of these regulations, or any amendment to it rendering such structure nonconforming, which does not comply with all of the standards and regulations of these regulations or any amendment thereto.

***Nonconforming Use***

Any use lawfully being made of any land, building or structure on the effective date of these regulations or on the effective date of any amendment thereto rendering such use non-conforming, which does not comply with all the regulations of these regulations or any amendment thereto, whichever might be applicable.

***Nursery***

A commercial enterprise conducted on land where flowers, shrubs and similar horticultural products are raised and sold to general public. Nurseries may include the use of greenhouses for growing purposes.

***Office Use***

Professional occupations within a building or buildings which do not generally involve the on-site sale of goods to customers.

***Open Space***

Any area which does not consist of buildings, streets, right of ways, parking, or easements, and serves as a passive or active recreational area, as conservation land for important vistas and topographic features, or as pervious area for watershed requirements. This area provides, or has the potential to provide, environmental, social and/or economic benefits to the community whether direct or indirect. Open space is categorized by type and includes playgrounds, plazas, squares, parks, greens, greenways, greenbelts, and nature preserves.

***Open Storage***

An unroofed storage area, whether fenced or not.

***Outdoor Kennel***

A commercial enterprise that involves the containment of animals outside a permanently constructed building for an extended period of time. This does not include fenced areas for brief animal exercise.

***Outdoor Storage***

The storage of goods, products, or vehicles as an ancillary use by their owner or on a commercial basis outside of a permanently constructed building.

***Outparcel***

A parcel of land associated with and located within a shopping center or multi-tenant non-residential development, which is designated on an approved site plan as a location for a structure with an intended use.

***Overlay District***

A set of regulations which add an additional layer of design provisions to an underlying regulating district.

***Package Treatment Plant***

A small self-contained sewage treatment facility built to serve developed areas which lie beyond the service area of sanitary sewers.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Parapet***

That portion of a building wall that extends above the roof line.

### ***Park***

A park is an area of natural, semi-natural, or planted space set aside for human enjoyment and recreation or for the protection of wildlife or natural habitats. It may consist of grassy areas, rocks, soil, and trees, but may also contain buildings and other artifacts such as monuments, fountains or playground structures.

### ***Parking Bay***

A parking module consisting of one or more sets of one or two rows of parking spaces and the aisle from which motor vehicles enter and leave.

### ***Parking Space, Off-Street***

An area located outside of any street right-of-way which is designed to accommodate the parking of vehicles which meets all area requirements contained in Chapter 8 of this Ordinance.

### ***Pedestrian Oriented Development***

Development which accommodates the needs of the pedestrian. Such development will have parking to the side or rear of a building, will mix uses and provide them in proximity to one another, will allow the pedestrian the option or choice of not having to use a car to accomplish certain trips, and will provide a variety of interesting and detailed streetscapes which balance the need of the pedestrian and car equally.

### ***Permit, Building***

Written permission by the County Building Department issued for the construction, repair, alteration or addition to a structure.

### ***Photometric***

Data regarding the luminous intensity of light sources on a particular site.

### ***Pitch, Roof***

The slope of a roof expressed as rise over run. (i.e. for a roof that rises four inches vertically for every 12 inches it runs horizontally the pitch is 4:12)

### ***Plan, Improvement***

A plan that shows how a developer will install, bond, or guarantee improvements for a development (i.e. roads, turn lanes, water, sewer, etc.).

### ***Plan, Major Site***

A site specific plan for a building or addition of greater than 2,500 square feet or more than one (1) acre of disturbed land area. This does not include single-family detached residential uses.

### ***Plan, Minor Site***

A site specific plan for a building or addition of less than 2,500 square feet or less than one (1) acre of disturbed land area. This does not include single-family detached residential uses.

***Plan, Site Specific***

A scaled drawing depicting the location and size of proposed buildings, parking areas, landscaping, and other information necessary to meet the requirements of this Ordinance.

***Plan, Sketch***

A working drawing depicting proposed development that follows the development review process.

***Plat, Final***

A map of all or a portion of a subdivision that is the legal instrument for recordation. Final plats shall be consistent with the approved Preliminary Plat and be reviewed and recorded following Engineering Document and/or Improvement Plan approval.

***Plat, Preliminary***

A map indicating the layout of a subdivision submitted after Sketch Plan approval and prior to or simultaneously with Engineering Documents.

***Planned Unit Development***

An area planned as a single entity containing one or more residential, commercial, and mixed-use clusters located on tracts or lots.

***Premises***

A parcel of real property with a separate and distinct number or designation shown on a recorded plat, record of survey, parcel map or subdivision map. When a lot is used together with one or more contiguous lots for a single use or planned development, all of the lots so used, including any lots used for off-street parking, shall be considered a single premises for purposes of these regulations.

***Principal Building (Principal Structure)***

A building in which is conducted the principal use on the lot on which said building is situated. In any residential zoning district, any structure containing a dwelling unit shall be deemed to be the principal building on the lot where it is located.

***Principal Use***

The primary or predominant use of any lot.

***Produce Stand***

The sale of any form of agricultural or horticultural products at a retail stand located on the same site where the products are grown. Off-site produce stands shall be considered temporary uses and shall meet the requirements of such.

***Quasi-judicial***

The process by which the Board of Adjustment reviews requests for Variances and Appeals and the Town Board of Aldermen review requests for Conditional Use Districts, Conditional Use Permits, and Vested Rights. Sworn testimony is given during the public hearing and an evidentiary record is kept and voted upon based on specified findings of fact.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Recreation Facility, Private***

A privately owned area of land that is developed for active and/or passive recreational pursuits with various manmade features and is designed to serve the immediate neighborhood in which it is located, or can be regional in scope, serving several neighborhoods. This includes private golf courses, country clubs, and community swimming pools.

### ***Recreation Facility, Public***

A publicly owned area of land that is developed for active and/or passive recreational pursuits with various manmade features and is designed to serve the immediate neighborhood in which it is located, or can be regional in scope, serving several neighborhoods.

### ***Recreation Vehicle***

A vehicular-type unit without a permanent foundation, which can be towed, hauled or driven and primarily designed as temporary living accommodation for recreational, camping and travel use and including but not limited to travel trailers, truck campers, camping trailers and self-propelled motor homes. A recreation vehicle shall not be considered as being a single-family dwelling.

### ***Religious Institution***

A building or structure, or group of buildings or structures, which by design and construction are primarily intended for conducting organized religious services whose site may include an accessory area for the interment of the dead. Day care centers (which have enrollment capacities in excess of 25 enrollees) and/or schools operated by the church on the facilities of the church shall be considered separate principal uses.

### ***Residential Care Facility***

An institutional facility in which supervision, care, therapeutic, or medical services are provided for three (3) or more persons in a residential capacity.

### ***Residential Development***

Buildings for residence such as attached and detached single-family dwellings, apartment complexes, condominiums, townhouses, cottages, etc. and their associated outbuildings such as garages, storage buildings, gazebos, etc. and customary home occupations.

### ***Residential, Multi-family***

The development of three (3) or more attached dwelling units. This includes condominiums, townhomes, apartments, quadruplexes, triplexes, and more than one duplex (two-family dwelling).

### ***Residential, Single-Family***

Any development where every dwelling unit is on a separate lot and no lot contains more than one dwelling unit.

### ***Residential, Single-Family Attached***

A development where every dwelling unit is on a separate lot of record, no lot contains more than one dwelling unit, and two or more dwelling units share one or more walls. (i.e. townhomes)

### ***Residential, Single-Family Detached***



A development where every dwelling unit is on a separate lot of record, no lot contains more than one dwelling unit, no dwelling unit shares a wall with another dwelling unit, and each dwelling unit is surrounded on all sides by yard.

***Residential, Two-Family Attached***

A development where two dwelling units share a wall and are located on the same lot of record. (i.e. duplexes)

***Restaurant***

A commercial establishment where food and drink are prepared, served, and consumed primarily within the principal building.

***Retail Uses***

Establishments engaged in selling goods or merchandise to the general public for personal or household consumption and rendering services incidental to the sale of such goods.

***Retail Accessory Use:*** The on-premises, retail sale of products directly to customers, where the retail use is incidental to a primary use conducted upon the same premises. Examples include but are not limited to the following: a cabinet or woodworking manufacturer who operates a show floor for the display and sales of cabinets or woodworking produced by the manufacturer; a bicycle manufacturer who operates a floor for the display and sales of bicycles produced by the manufacturer, etc. Retail accessory use may be allowed in conjunction with a conforming principal use. (BOA 3-7-2016 Revised)

***Rezoning***

See *Amendment, Zoning Map*.

***Road, Private***

Any right-of-way used for purposes of motor vehicle travel which has not been accepted for maintenance or ownership purposes by a public entity.

***Road, Public***

A public right-of-way set aside for public travel and either which has been accepted for maintenance by NCDOT or the Town, has been established as a public road prior to the date of adoption of this Ordinance, or which has been dedicated to the NCDOT or the Town for public travel by the recording of a plat of a subdivision with the County Register of Deeds Office.

***Road, Frontage***

A road which is in close proximity to and parallels a limited access road and is designed to provide access to roads which abut said limited access road.

***Roof Line***

The highest point of a flat roof and mansard roof and the lowest point of a pitched roof, excluding any cupolas, chimneys or other minor projections.

***Rooming House***

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

A building or portion thereof which contains not more than five (5) rooms designed or intended to be used for residential occupancy by not more than ten (10) individuals for compensation. It may also serve meals for compensation to the boarders.

### ***Screening***

A fence, wall, hedge, landscaping, earth berm, buffer area or any combination of these provided to create a visual and/or physical separation between certain land uses. Screening may be located on the property line or elsewhere on the site. Fences must follow guidelines of chapter 8 of the Granite Quarry UDO.

### ***Service Uses***

Uses that include the provision of work that does not typically result in ownership of physical goods and that create benefits by facilitating a change in customers, a change in their physical possessions, or a change in their intangible assets. (i.e. beauty shops, dry cleaning, appliance repair, check cashing, etc.) This does not include automotive/boat/heavy equipment/manufactured home services.

### ***Setback***

A distance measured inward from a property line which shall remain unoccupied by structures and parking areas except as permitted by this Ordinance.

### ***Setback, Front***

The required distance from the fronting or primary street right-of-way to a structure or parking area. Driveways may be located in this area unless otherwise specified by this Ordinance.

### ***Setback, Rear***

The required distance from the rear property line to a structure or parking area. Driveways may be located in this area unless otherwise specified by this Ordinance.

### ***Setback, Side***

The required distance from the side property line to a structure or parking area. Driveways may be located in this area unless otherwise specified by this Ordinance.

### ***Setback, Side Corner***

The required distance from the non-fronting or non-primary street right of way to a structure or parking area. Driveways may be located in this area unless otherwise specified by this Ordinance.

### ***Setback, Sign***

The required distance from the property line or right-of-way to the nearest point of the sign or its supporting member.

### ***Sewer, Public***

Any package treatment plant or other sewage treatment facility serving two or more sources not connected to individual or public systems and having a design capacity or greater than 3,000 gallons daily and/or a discharge to surface water, as permitted by the State of North Carolina. In addition the definition shall include all connections to such a system.

***Shopfront***

A business or retail use. The facade of a shopfront is aligned directly on the building line with the entrance at grade. This is typical for sidewalk retail. Shopfronts often have awnings or a colonnade.

***Shopping Center***

A group of three (3) or more retail establishments constructed and developed in one (1) or more phases with customer and employee parking and merchandise and other loading facilities provided on-site. A shopping center may be located and developed on one (1) or more lots and may include one (1) or more principal buildings.

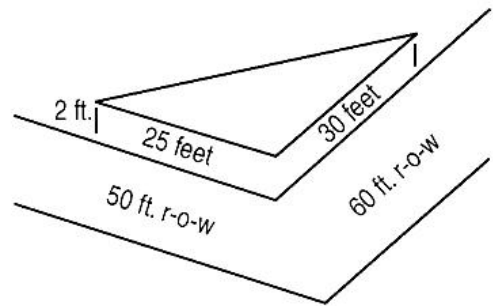
***Shrub***

An ornamental plant that is at least two (2) feet tall above the highest root at the time of planting.

***Sight Distance Triangle***

The triangular area formed by a diagonal line connecting two points located on intersecting property lines (or a property line and the curb or a driveway) within which no planting, structure, sign, fence, wall, or obstruction greater than three (3) feet in height shall be placed or maintained. The following are the distances used to establish a sight triangle as measured from an intersecting right-of-way:

<u>Right of Way width</u>	<u>Distance (feet)</u>
Driveway	10'
50'	25'
60'	30'
70'	35'
80'	40'
90'	45'
100' (or greater)	50'



***Sign***

Any object, display or structure, or part thereof, situated outdoors, which is used to advertise, identify, display, direct, or attract attention to an object, person, institution, organization, business, product, service, event or location by any means, including words, letters, figures, design, symbols, fixtures, colors, illumination, or projected images.

***Sign, Accessory Use***

Signs which are located on the same premises with a principal permitted use and which are clearly incidental, secondary and/or supportive of the principal use.

***Sign Area***

The entire face of a sign including the advertising surface and any framing, trim, or molding, but not including the supporting structure. In computing area, only one side of a double-faced sign shall be considered.

***Signs, Banner***

Temporary signs that are made of vinyl, fabric, or similar material.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Signs, Billboard***

A permanent freestanding sign structure upon which the display area is leased for the display of a message, text, or image.

### ***Signs, Blade***

A projecting or suspended sign attached to a building, canopy, or awning.

### ***Signs, Canopy and Awning***

Signs attached to or painted or printed onto a canopy or awning. For the purposes of the Ordinance, the permitted size of a canopy or awning sign will be calculated on the basis of the size of the building wall to which the canopy is attached. It will, for measuring purposes, be considered a wall sign.

### ***Sign, Development Entrance Sign***

Signs located at the entrance to residential or non-residential subdivisions.

### ***Signs, Directional Ground***

Signs for entities without frontage on Salisbury Avenue that are located on properties with frontage on Salisbury or within 400 feet.

### ***Signs, Flashing***

Signs that use an intermittent or flashing light source or windblown and/or mechanical moved reflective material to attract attention.

### ***Signs, Ground (Free-Standing)***

Signs that are not affixed to a building and is securely and permanently mounted in the ground.

### ***Signs, Government***

Signs posted or authorized by various local, state, and federal agencies in the performance of their duties including providing community information and facilitating economic development. Such signs include regulatory signs, traffic signs, welcome signs, bulletin boards, and wayfinding signs.

### ***Signs, Illuminated***

Signs lit from either internal or external light sources.

### ***Signs, Incidental***

Signs used in conjunction with equipment or other functional elements for a use or operation that cannot be read from the street right-of-way which inform or instruct customers or visitors on-site (i.e. drive-through menu boards, gas pump signs, bulletin boards).

### ***Signs, Legal and Warning***

Signs erected to warn of danger or hazardous conditions such as signs erected by public utility companies or construction companies; signs required for or specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute or ordinance.

### ***Signs, Monument***

Freestanding permanent ground signs in which the bottom of the signs are no than three (3) feet from the ground.

***Sign, Development Entrance Sign***

Signs which display only the name of recognizable communities or subdivisions.

***Signs, Occupant/Street Number***

Signs affixed to structures, mailboxes, decorative light posts, driveway entrances, etc., which serve to identify the address of the structure or occupant.

***Sign, Pole***

A detached sign erected and maintained on a free-standing frame, mast, or pole and not attached to any building but not including ground-mounted or monument signs. The bottom of such sign is more than three (3) feet from the ground.

***Sign, Portable***

Any sign not permanently attached to the ground or other permanent structure, or a sign designed to be moved or transported, including signs designed to be transported by means of wheels.

***Sign, Principal Use***

A sign which constitutes the sole and/or principal use of land.

***Sign, Projecting***

Any sign other than a wall, awning, canopy, or marquee sign, which is affixed to a building and is supported only by the wall on which the sign is mounted and has two sign faces perpendicular or close to perpendicular to the wall face.

***Sign, Roof***

A sign erected or maintained in whole or in part upon or over the roof or parapet of a building.

***Signs, Transitional Multi-tenant Ground***

Conforming ground sign placed on multi-tenant property where there is an existing single tenant non-conforming ground sign in use.

***Sign, Vehicular***

Signs on parked vehicles visible from the public right-of-way where the primary purpose of the vehicle is to [attract attention and such](#) vehicles are not used in the normal day to day operations of said business.

***Sign, Wall***

Any sign directly attached to an exterior wall of a building or dependent upon a building for its support and is parallel to the wall face. Signs directly painted on walls shall be considered wall signs.

***Signs, Window (temporary)***

Signs temporarily attached or temporarily painted to a window or door.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

### ***Storm Water Runoff***

Rain which falls onto impervious surfaces and is not absorbed into the ground immediately. Storm water runoff carries pollutants from paved surfaces into streams and rivers and causes flooding by speeding up the rate of water flow into streams and rivers.

### ***Street***

A dedicated and accepted public right-of-way for vehicular traffic which affords the principal means or access to abutting properties.

### ***Street Orientation***

The direction of the architectural front facade of a building in relation to the street.

### ***Street Right-of-Way***

An area of land occupied or intended to be occupied by a public street, for such purpose, areas claimed by a municipality or the State of North Carolina for such purposes, or actually used for such purposes.

### ***Street Yard***

The area of land along the front property line parallel to a right of way reserved for tree planting and landscaping.

### ***Structure***

A combination of materials to form a construction for use, occupancy, or ornamentation whether installed on, above, or below the surface of land or water. Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires more or less permanent location on the ground or which is attached to something having a more or less permanent location on the ground.

### ***Structure, Accessory***

A structure separate and subordinate to the principal structure on the same lot as the principal structure used for purposes customarily incidental to the principal structure. An accessory structure may also be referred to as a "accessory building".

### ***Structure, Principal***

A structure containing the principal use which takes place on the lot. A principal structure may also be referred to as a "principal building".

### ***Subdivision***

For the purposes of this Ordinance in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-376, "Subdivision" shall mean all divisions of a tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions when one or more of those divisions are created for the purpose of sale or building development (whether immediate or future) and shall include all divisions of land involving the Dedication of a new Street or a change in existing Streets; but the following shall not be included within this definition nor be subject to the regulations of this Ordinance; provided, however, that any document or plat to be recorded pursuant to any such exclusion shall bear the notation "no approval required" and the signature of the Subdivision Administrator for his designated agent before being presented for certification by the County Review Officer:

1. The combination or recombination of portions of previously subdivided and recorded lots where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of this Ordinance.
2. The division of land into parcels greater than 10 acres where no street right-of-way dedication is involved.
3. The public acquisition by purchase of strips of land for the widening or opening of the streets or for public transportation system corridors.
4. The division of a tract in single ownership whose entire area is no greater than two (2) acres into not more than three (3) lots or tracts, where no street right-of-way dedication is involved or proposed, and where the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards of this Ordinance.

***Subdivision Administrator*** See *Administrator*.

***Subdivision, Major***

A major subdivision is defined as a subdivision where any one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. Dedication of public right-of-way or other public tracts; or,
2. The entire tract to be subdivided is greater than ten (10) acres; or,
3. The resultant subdivision will produce more than five (5) lots.

***Subdivision, Minor***

A minor subdivision is defined as a subdivision where all of the following conditions exist:

1. No public right-of-way dedication; and,
2. The entire tract to be subdivided is ten (10) acres or less in size; and,
3. The resultant subdivision will produce five (5) or fewer lots.

***Technical Review Committee (TRC)***

A group of appointed Town staff members and agencies that review Sketch Plans, Preliminary Plats, and Site Plans for proposed developments and make recommendations on design and approval criteria during the development review process.

***Temporary Structures***

Buildings placed on a lot for a specific purpose which are to be removed within a specified time period. Examples of temporary structures include monitoring stations, mobile classrooms or office space, construction trailers and guard houses, manufactured housing placed on a lot for temporary housing while principle home renovations are being done, and produce stands. The duration permitted for a temporary structure is established by this Ordinance.

***Tree, Large Maturing (canopy)***

A tree, either single or multi-stemmed (i.e., in clump form) which has a height of at least eight (8) feet and is of a species which, at maturity, can be expected to reach a height of more than 35 feet under normal growing conditions in the local climate. If the tree is single-stemmed, it shall have a caliper of at least two and a half (2-1/2) inches at the time of planting measured six (6) inches up from the highest root of the tree. Also known as a canopy tree.

***Tree, Small Maturing (ornamental)***

A tree, either single or multi-stemmed (i.e., in clump form) which has a height of at least eight (8)

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS**

feet and is of a species which at maturity, can be expected to reach a height less than 35 feet under normal growing conditions in the local climate. If the tree is single-stemmed, it shall have a caliper at the time of planting of at least two and one-half (2-1/2) inches measured six (6) inches up from the highest root of the tree. Also known as an ornamental or understory tree.

### ***Variance***

Permission granted on the basis of proof of physical hardship by the Board of Adjustment following quasi-judicial proceedings to depart from or relax the literal requirements of this Ordinance relating to dimensional requirements such as setbacks, side yards, street frontage, and lot size that, if applied to a specific lot, would significantly interfere with the use of the property.

### ***Vested Right***

The right to undertake and complete a development or use of property under the terms and conditions of an approved Site Specific Plan currently in effect or as otherwise allowed by law.

### ***Wall Sign***

Any sign directly attached to an exterior wall of a building or dependent upon a building for its support with its exposed face parallel or approximately parallel to the plane of the building or structure on which the sign is affixed. Signs directly painted on walls shall be considered wall signs.

### ***Warehouse Use***

A building or group of buildings for the storage of goods or wares belonging either to the owner of the facility or to one or more lessees of space in the facility or both, with access to contents only through management personnel. This does not include mini-warehousing or mini-storage.

### ***Water, Public***

Any water system defined as such by the North Carolina Division of Health Services which complies with the regulations of the North Carolina Division of Health Services.

### ***Wholesale***

A place of business primarily engaged in selling merchandise to retailers, to industrial, commercial, institutional or professional business users, or to other wholesalers. The majority of all sales of such businesses shall be for resale purposes. Wholesale clubs and similar membership warehouses, where membership is easily available to the consuming public, and similar businesses shall not be deemed "wholesale sales operations".

### ***Yard***

A land area immediately adjacent to a building. Yards are broken into front, rear, and side. Front yards extend from the architectural front of a building to the fronting street or right of way. Side yards extend from the sides of a building to the property lines or a street right of way. Rear yards extend from the back of a building to a property line or a right of way. Yard configurations establish building typologies. There are four typologies into which most buildings can be classified: perimeter yard buildings, side yard buildings, rear yard buildings, and courtyard buildings.

### ***Yard, Front***

An area measured between the edge of the public street right-of-way line, and the front of a



building, projected to the side lot lines. On corner lots, the front yard shall be measured perpendicular from the street lot line having the shortest linear footage. If both street lot lines have equal linear footage, the property owner shall determine the location of the front yard where no principal structure is located. If a principal structure is located on such a lot, the front yard shall be based on the architectural orientation of the house. In instances where the street right-of-way line goes to the centerline of the street, the front setback shall be measured at a point 30 feet from the centerline.

***Yard, Rear***

An open, unoccupied space extending the full width of the lot and situated between the rear line of the lot and the rear line of the building projected to the side lines of the lot.

***Yard, Side***

A space extending from the front yard to the rear yard between the principal building and the side lot line as measured perpendicular from the side lot line to the closest point of the principal building.

***Yard Sale***

An outdoor sale of merchandise conducted entirely upon a residentially or institutionally developed lot by one or more households or civic groups where goods sold are limited primarily to used merchandise donated by the yard sale participants.

***Zero Lot Line***

The location of a building on a lot in such a manner that one or more of the building's sides rests directly on a lot line.

***Zoning Administrator*** See *Administrator*.

***Zoning Permit***

Written permission issued by the Administrator or his designee for the construction, or enlargement of a structure, including signs, or the grading or excavation of a site in preparation of construction or for the installation of underground utilities.