



# Fence, Wall and Awning Ordinance

Article 17, Chapter 146, Aurora Municipal Code  
Ordinance Number: 2004-78  
Effective Date: January 15, 2005

## City of Aurora

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Departments>Planning Department>Ordinance & Design Standards>Fence Ordinance

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1-15-05

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-78

A BILL

FOR AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REENACTING ARTICLE 17 OF  
CHAPTER 146 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO,  
RELATING TO FENCE, WALL AND AWNING STANDARDS

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA,  
COLORADO:

Section 1. That Article 17 of Chapter 146 of the City Code of the City of Aurora, Colorado, is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. That all ordinances, or parts of ordinances, of the City Code of the City of Aurora, Colorado, in conflict herewith are expressly repealed.

Section 3. That, pursuant to Section 5-5 of the Charter of the City of Aurora, Colorado, the second publication of this ordinance shall be by reference, utilizing the ordinance title.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this 8th day of  
November, A.D. 2004.

PASSED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED BY REFERENCE this 6th day  
of December, 2004.

Edward J. Fauers  
EDWARD J. FAUER, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Johnson  
DEBRA JOHNSON, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: Robert Werking *HR*  
[Ord. Landscape Standards]

# **EXHIBIT A**

## **ARTICLE 17 FENCE, WALL, AND AWNING REGULATIONS**

### **DIVISION 1: PURPOSE, APPLICABILITY, AND GENERAL PROHIBITIONS**

#### **Sec. 146-1700 Purpose.**

(A) This article is intended to protect and promote the public health, safety, welfare and:

1. To protect people, animals, and property.
2. To delineate property boundaries with secure and attractive structures and plantings.
3. To encourage and require adequate maintenance and the upgrading of fencing to current material standards as replacement occurs.
4. To support community design goals by establishing standards appropriate to various street types and zone districts.
5. To avoid creation of visual "fence canyons" along major streets of the city.
6. To provide for relief from high levels of noise generated by vehicles and other users of major streets.

#### **Sec. 146-1701 Applicability.**

(A) All fences, walls, hedges, and awnings shall conform to the provisions of this article, except:

1. Fences and barricades around construction sites, which are governed by the International Building Code as, amended and adopted by the city.
2. Landscaping berms installed without fences.
3. Fences at parks, open space and schools, where such uses are owned by the government except that fences abutting city-owned open space shall follow the requirements of section 146-1731(D).

(B) Retaining walls shall follow the requirements set forth in Article 14, Section 146-1432, except that the location and setback requirements of Article 17 shall also govern.

#### **Sec. 146-1702 General Prohibitions.**

(A) The following types of fences, hedges, and materials are prohibited and cannot be erected, planted, or maintained:

1. Electrically charged fences.

2. Plants that have thorns, spines, or prickles planted or maintained in the public right-of-way or within four feet of a public right-of-way or sidewalk. No other type of hedge shall be planted or maintained with less than a six-inch setback from any sidewalk or public right-of-way.
3. Any sharp pointed fence of any material erected or maintained in residential districts. Picket fences less than six feet six inches in height shall have the top of pickets sawed or rounded to provide a blunt end.
4. Barbed wire fences, except in nonresidential zone districts, construction sites, and for enclosing a public or private utility installation. See Section 146-1731(F) for time and placement limitations on these exceptions.
5. Any fence using concertina wire or similar materials except that government facilities may be exempt if approved by the Director of Planning.
6. The following or similar fence materials are prohibited: chicken wire, corrugated metal, fabric materials, fiberboard, garage door panels, plywood, snow fencing, agricultural and miscellaneous materials not commonly associated with residential fences.

**Secs. 146-1703 –146-1709. Reserved.**

## DIVISION 2: ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

### **Sec. 146-1710 Definitions.**

The following words or phrases used in this article shall be defined as listed:

- (A) *Back of Sidewalk.* The side of a street sidewalk closest to the abutting lot line.
- (B) *Fence.* The term “fence” shall also refer to walls, and screen walls.
- (C) *Fences Along a Street.* The term “fences along a street” shall mean fences that are both (1) located within 75 feet of a street right-of-way and, (2) easily visible from the same street.
- (D) *Fence Height.* Fence heights as regulated in this article shall be measured from the highest adjoining grade to the top of the fence sections running between posts or columns.
- (E) *Maintenance and Repair.* The terms “fence maintenance” and “fence repair” shall mean work required to maintain the appearance and structural stability of an existing fence, where such work does not alter the fence’s existing size, location, height, design or type of materials used. Any work meeting the definition of “replacement fence” as defined in Section 146-1710(H) below shall not be considered maintenance and repair.

- (F) *New Fence*. The term “new fence” shall mean the construction and installation of a fence where none previously existed. The term shall also apply to construction and installation of extensions and additions to existing fences.
- (G) *Open-style Fence*. The term “open-style fence” shall refer to a fence design that has a method of construction and pattern of materials leaving the plane of the fence at least 50 percent open as measured continuously in four-foot intervals along its length. (See Figure 17.1).
- (H) *Closed-style Fence*. The term “closed-style fence” shall refer to a fence design that has a method of construction and pattern of materials leaving the plane of the fence solid or less than 50 percent open as measured continuously in four-foot intervals along its length.
- (I) *Replacement Fence*. The term “replacement fence” shall mean either the replacement of 50% or more of the length of an existing fence under a single ownership, or replacement of 150 linear feet or more within a single run of existing fence, whichever amount is less. “Single run of fence” shall mean a portion of fence, either continuous or with gaps, generally aligned along a single direction, such as a fence running parallel to a single street. A single fence run shall be deemed to terminate at a street intersection, or at a major change of direction such as at a corner lot line. Minor fence jogs of 15 feet or less shall not be deemed to terminate a fence run.
- (J) *Reverse Corner Lot*. The term “reverse corner lot” shall mean a lot configuration where the rear yard of the lot in question abuts an adjacent property’s front and side yard. (See Figure 17.2)

#### **Sec. 146-1711 Permits.**

- (A) A permit shall be required prior to the installation of any new fence, or to extensions or additions to an existing fence. A permit shall also be required prior to the installation of a replacement fence along a public or private street or public open space. No permit shall be required for interior replacement fences not located in these areas, where there is no change in location, materials, height, or design. No permit shall be required for the maintenance or repair (as defined by Section 146-1710, above) of any existing fence, where such work complies with the conditions of section 1761(A); otherwise a permit shall be required. A fence permit issued pursuant to this article may contain conditions relating to time limits for commencement of construction and completion of the fence or fence modification.
- (B) Except for chain link fences, fences taller than six feet shall require a building permit. Fences six feet high and less, and chain link fences shall require a fence permit issued by the Planning Department.
- (C) All new fences and replacement fences to be located on a property with an existing site plan not already showing the such fences, shall require both a fence permit and a site plan amendment.

**Sec. 146-1712 Enforcement.**

Enforcement of this section shall be administered by issuance of a fence permit. On lots where a site plan is required, site plans and site plan amendments shall also constitute a method of enforcement, and shall document fence locations, heights and designs. Any fence found to have been erected contrary to a permit or site plan shall be subject to enforcement actions by the city including but not limited to fines, demolition, and reconstruction according to the permit.

**Sec. 146-1713 Ownership and Maintenance Responsibility.**

Except where a fence or wall is provided by the city or other governmental entity, the ownership of all new fences and walls occurring in subdivisions of five or more residential lots along collector and arterial streets shall be the responsibility of a homeowners association composed of the owners of the residential subdivision lots. Such ownership shall also extend to the landscaped setback area between the sidewalk and fence or wall as described and required by this article. In the case of existing fences or existing subdivisions, where no Homeowners Association exists, ownership shall be the responsibility of the property owner on whose property the fence is placed.

**Sec. 146- 1714 Installations on Public Rights-of-Way and Easements**

*Revocable License.* No fence, hedge or awning shall be constructed over any portion of a public right-of-way or recorded easement without a revocable license. The city engineer is authorized to issue such a license where such placement will not interfere with the intended use of the right-of-way or easement. All material, design and maintenance standards applicable to comparable fences located outside the public right-of-way shall apply to fences permitted pursuant to this section.

**Sec. 146-1715 Waiver For Fences Built Pursuant to the City's Neighborhood Fence Replacement Program.**

The Director of Planning may administratively grant a waiver to the location, setback, and height requirements of this article for fences constructed under the city's fence Neighborhood Fence Replacement Program.

**Sec. 146-1716 Detail at Final Plat Where No Site Plan Is Required.**

If no site plan is required for a lot, at the time of submittal of a final plat, there shall also be submitted a fencing and landscaping detail sheet for those areas with rear or side yards abutting an arterial or collector street. This sheet shall become an attachment to the subdivision plat and an enforceable condition of subdivision approval. Changes can be reviewed and permitted administratively at the discretion of the director of planning.

**Secs. 146-1717 – 146-1729. Reserved.**

## DIVISION 3: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### Sec. 146-1730 General Construction Requirements.

All fences shall meet all the following general construction standards:

- (A) All construction materials shall be new and shall not include construction debris or salvaged material.
- (B) Fences over six feet high shall be designed to resist wind pressures as set forth in the International Building Code, as amended and adopted by the city. Construction details of all fences over six feet in height shall meet or exceed minimum structural standards to be set administratively by the chief building official. Such fence permits shall be issued by the building inspection division, subject to the review and approval of the planning department.
- (C) Wood fence posts shall be pressure treated. Cedar and redwood are not required to be pressure treated.
- (D) All fence posts for fences over 42 inches in height shall be set in circular concrete bases a minimum of two feet deep and one-foot diameter.
- (E) All wood and plastic fences over 21 inches in height shall conform to the post size and spacing requirements of Table 17.1, below.

Table 17.1 Nominal Post Sizes and Spacing for Wood and Plastic Fences				
	(A) Fence Type	(B) Minimum Nominal Post Cross Section	(C) Maximum Fence Post Spacings	
			Along Arterials	All Other Locations
1.	<i>Wood Fences</i>	4 inches X 4 inches	5 feet 0 inches	8 feet 0 inches
		4 inches X 6 inches	8 feet 0 inches	8 feet 0 inches
2.	<i>Plastic Fences</i>	4 inches X 4 inches	5 feet 0 inches	5 feet 0 inches
		5 inches X 5 inches	8 feet 0 inches	8 feet 0 inches

- (F) Rails and/or posts shall be securely fastened.
- (G) Pickets and boards shall be securely attached to rails and posts. Wood picket or slat fences over 42 inches in height shall be constructed with a minimum of three, 2x4 horizontal rails and have a minimum nominal dimension for pickets or slats widths of 4 inches.
- (H) All gates shall have hardware to secure the gate in a closed position.
- (I) All brick and masonry fences shall be properly mortared and securely attached.
- (J) All chain-link, i.e., cyclone type, fences shall have top rails. All such chain-link fences located in the business, industrial, or office districts shall be vinyl-coated when located along streets.

(K) The finished side of the fence shall face the public right-of-way or private streets or alleys, as applicable.

**Sec. 146-1731 General Location Requirements and Exceptions.**

- (A) *Avoidance of Traffic Hazards.* Notwithstanding other provisions of this article, no fence or hedge will be permitted where, in the opinion of the city traffic engineer, a traffic hazard is created.
- (B) *Sight Triangle.* The location and height of all fences and hedges shall conform to the sight triangle requirements of section 1100(I) of chapter 146, article 11.
- (C) *Obstruction of Fire Hydrants.* No person shall place or keep any post, fence, wall, retaining wall, tree, shrub, hedge, or any other structure or planting within that area between the fire hydrant and the street, or within the area described by a radius of five feet centered on the fire hydrant, or within the area three feet to the rear (the side farthest from the street) of the fire hydrant. No obstruction named in this section shall overhang or encroach upon the area described in this section for a vertical distance of seven feet above the adjacent ground level. Any variation from this subsection shall require written approval from the fire chief.
- (D) *Fences Along Open Areas.* Fences adjacent to public drainageways, or adjacent to areas counting toward the Parks and Open Space Department's dedication requirements such as open space, parks, or trails, shall meet the design standards shown in Figure 17.3g. Fences adjacent to public golf courses or reservoirs shall be an open wrought iron style with masonry columns, or other styles or column spacing as may be specified by the Director of Parks and Open Space. With the permission of the Director of Planning, closed-style fences may only be used to screen objectionable views from public drainageways or from adjacent open space or open tracts.
- (E) *Fences Along E-470.* In all residential developments adjacent to E-470, a minimum eight-foot high solid sound attenuation wall shall be constructed along the development's E-470 frontage. Such fences shall meet all the material and design requirements for fences along arterial streets as shown in Table 17.2.
- (F) *Barbed Wire Fences*
1. *Location.* Barbed wire is not allowed along arterial and collector streets or in any residential district or area of residential use in a mixed-use district. Exceptions: In industrial zones or in the case of public or private utilities in any zone, barbed wire may be allowed if it is located outside of required buffer yards.
  2. *Height.* Where allowed, barbed wire shall be installed at a height of at least six feet six inches above the highest adjoining grade and the barbed wire shall not bend or project outward from the fence. Where a fence encloses a public or private utility, barbed wire or similar materials shall be installed above fences at a height of not less than six feet nor more than nine feet above the highest adjoining grade.
  3. *Temporary permit.* In any residential district or area of residential use in a mixed-use district, an applicant may apply to the Director of Planning for a permit



allowing a temporary construction fence with barbed wire or similar materials. This permit shall specify the area for which a barbed wire fence or fences constructed with similar materials will be installed. The permit shall limit the duration of the fence to the period of construction within the development.

**Secs. 146-1732—146-1739. Reserved.**

#### DIVISION 4: STANDARDS FOR NEW FENCE CONSTRUCTION

##### **Sec. 146-1740 Requirement to Meet All Standards.**

The construction and installation of new fences (as defined in Section 146-1710 above) shall meet all of the location, height, and general construction standards listed in Division 3 of this article, as well as the requirements listed in this division.

##### **Sec. 146-1741 Location, Setback and Height Requirements.**

(A) *Fences and Walls Along Arterial and Collector Streets in All Districts and for All Uses.* Fence setbacks shall follow the standards listed in this section, except that fences located along arterial and collector streets shall never be set back less than the following distances:

1. Four feet from the back of the adjacent sidewalk when the walk is detached.
2. Eight feet from the back of the adjacent sidewalk when the walk is attached.
3. Eight feet from the street flow line where no sidewalk exists or is proposed.

(B) *Single-Family Detached, Two-Family, and Single-Family Attached Duplex Residential Districts and Uses.*

1. *Front Yard Requirements* (See Figure 17.1.)
  - a. *Height.* No fence shall be more than 42 inches high.
  - b. *Setback.* The minimum setback from the back of existing sidewalks shall be eighteen inches, except if a larger setback is required by Section 146-1741(A)
  - c. *Fence Style.* Either a closed fence with a maximum height of 21 inches, or on open style fence with a maximum height of 42 inches. Open style fences in front yards may have a solid base not to exceed 21 inches in height. Where a solid base is proposed as part of the open fence, only stucco and masonry materials are allowed. A wood base is not allowed. (See Figure 17.1b.)
  - d. *Hedges.* Maximum height shall be 42 inches. There is no open-style requirement for hedges. The minimum hedge setback from the edge of sidewalks shall be six inches, except that the edge of plants with thorns, spines, or prickles shall be a set back a minimum of four feet from a public right-of-way or private sidewalk.

2. *Side Yard Requirements.*

- a. *Height.* Fences in back of a lot's front building line shall be limited to a height of not more than six feet.
- b. *Setback.* Fences shall be set back a minimum of four feet from the back of adjacent sidewalks, except that fences that abut a local street and meet all the design and height requirements for front yard fences may be set back no less than 18 inches from the back of sidewalk.
- c. *Hedges.* The minimum hedge setback from the edge of sidewalks shall be six inches, except that the edge of plants with thorns, spines, or prickles shall be a set back a minimum of four feet from a public right-of-way or private sidewalk.
- d. *Side Yard Fences Abutting an Adjacent Lot's Front Yard.* Side yard fences abutting an adjacent lot's front yard shall meet the front yard fence requirements, including but not limited to maximum fence height.

3. *Rear Yard Requirements.*

- a. *Height.* Fences along rear lot lines shall be limited to a height of not more than six feet.
- b. *Setback.* A minimum of four feet from the back of any adjacent sidewalk, or eight feet from the existing street flow line where no sidewalk exists or is proposed.
- c. *Hedges.* The minimum hedge setback from the edge of sidewalks shall be six inches, except that the edge of plants with thorns, spines, or prickles shall be a set back a minimum of four feet from a public right-of-way or private sidewalk.

4. *Reverse Corner Lots.* (See Figure 17.2)

- a. A fence that meets all the design and height requirements for front yard fences may be set back no less than 18 inches from the back of sidewalk. Otherwise, a side yard fence must be a minimum of 10 feet from the back of the inside line of the sidewalk adjacent to the street, but in no case shall this setback be less than 15 feet from the flow line of the street.
- b. Hedges shall be trimmed to a height of 42 inches or less. Hedges shall be set back a minimum of six inches from a public right-of-way or sidewalk, except that the edge of plants with thorns, spines, or prickles shall be a set back a minimum of four feet from a public right-of-way or sidewalk.

(C) *All Other Residential Uses and Districts*

1. *Height.* The height of fences shall not be more than six feet.

2. **Setback.** Open style fences shall be set back a minimum of four feet from the back of any adjacent sidewalk, or eight feet from the existing street flow line where no sidewalk exists or is proposed. Closed style fences shall be setback no less than the minimum depth of the landscape buffer required by the provisions of Chapter 146, Article 14.
3. **Hedges.** The minimum hedge setback from the edge of sidewalks shall be six inches, except that the edge of plants with thorns, spines, or prickles shall be a set back a minimum of four feet from a public right-of-way or sidewalk.

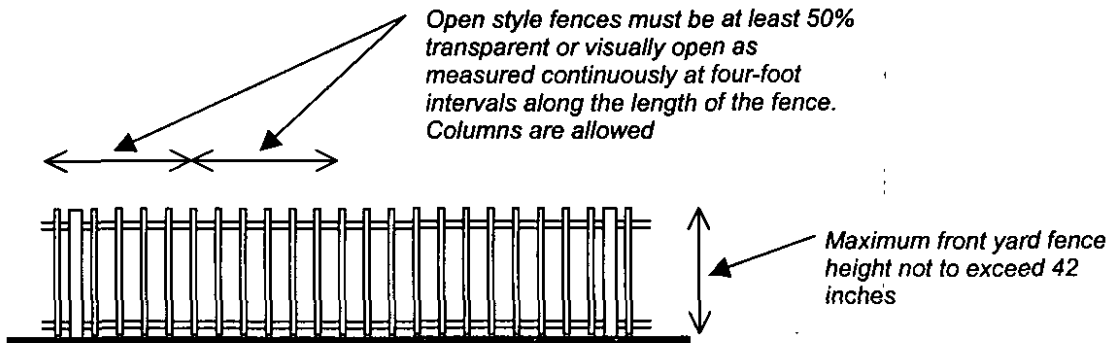
**(D) Business Districts and Uses.**

1. **Height.** The height of fences shall not be more than nine feet.
2. **Setback.** Except at interior lot lines, open style fences and closed style fences 36 inches or less in height shall be set back a minimum of four feet from the back of any adjacent sidewalk, or eight feet from the existing street flow line where no sidewalk exists or is proposed. Closed style fences shall be setback no less than the minimum depth of the landscape buffer required by the provisions of Chapter 146, Article 14. Fences at interior lot lines may be placed on the lot line.

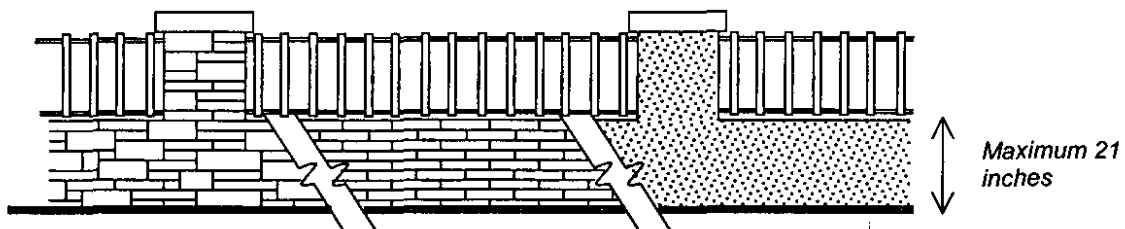
**(E) Industrial Districts and Uses.**

1. **Height.** The height of fences shall not be more than nine feet.
2. **Setback.** Except at interior lot lines, open style fences and closed style fences 36 inches or less in height shall be set back a minimum of four feet from the back of any adjacent sidewalk, or eight feet from the existing street flow line where no sidewalk exists or is proposed. Closed style fences shall be setback no less than the minimum depth of the landscape buffer required by the provisions of Chapter 146, Article 14. Fences at interior lot lines may be placed on the lot line.

**Figure 17.1: Sample Front Yard Fence Designs**

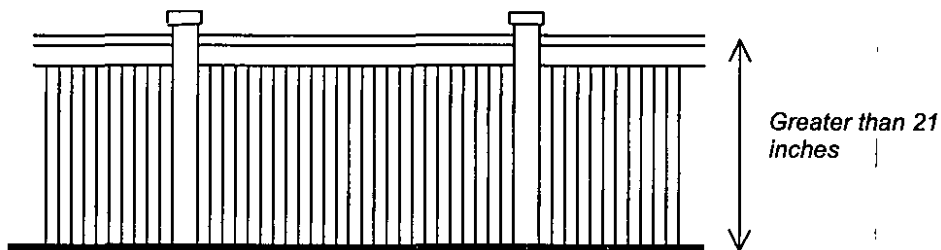


**Figure 17.1a: Open style picket fences are allowed**



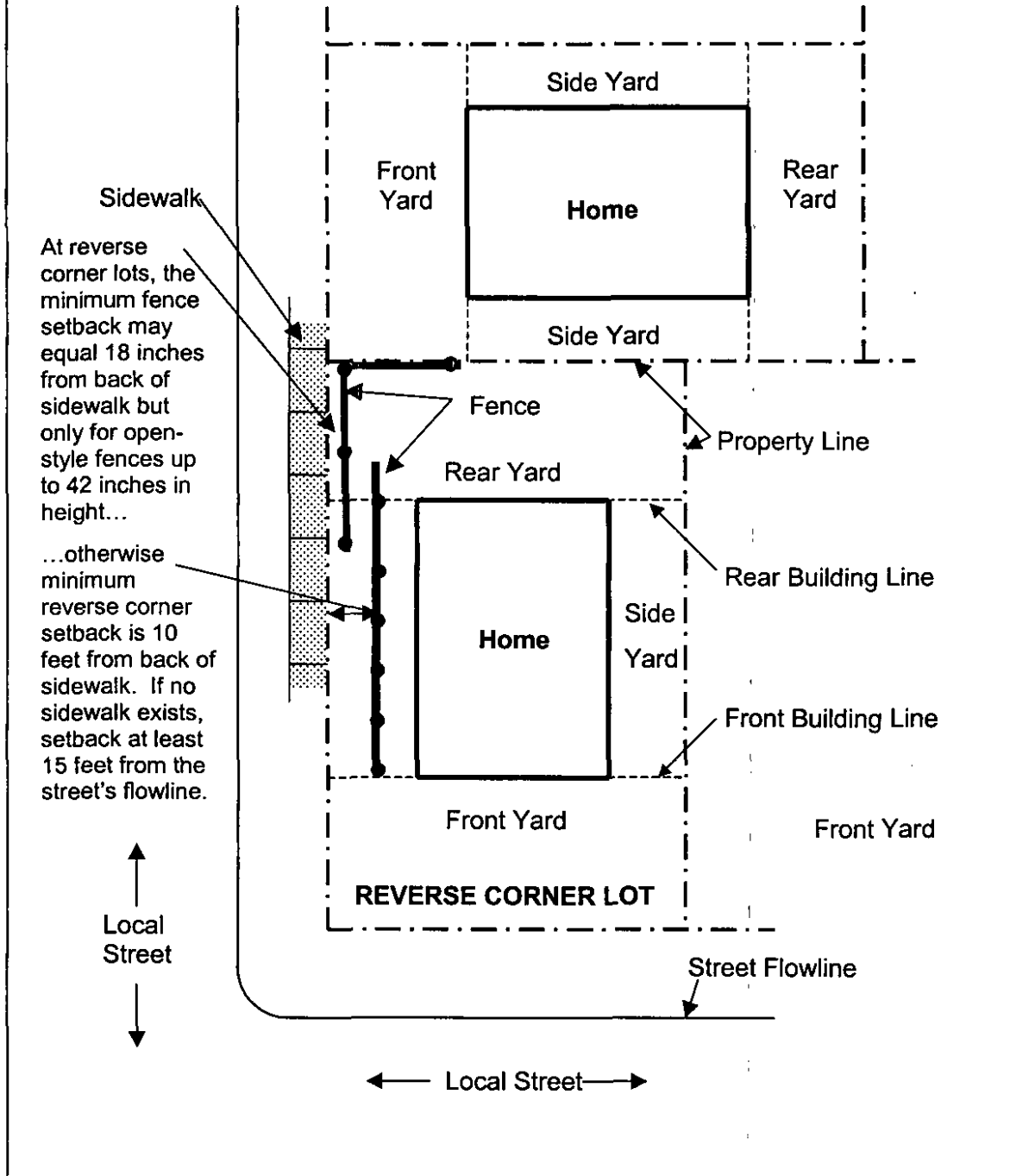
A solid base of stone, brick, or stucco along with columns are allowed as long as the base does not exceed 21 inches in height. Wood bases are not allowed.

**Figure 17.1b: Open style picket fences with a brick, stone, stucco base are allowed**



**Figure 17.1c: Closed style fences more than 21 inches in height are NOT allowed in front yards**

**Figure 17.2 Fence Setbacks for Single-Family Detached Reverse Corner Lots**



**Sec. 146-1742 Location and Height Requirements For Specific Uses.**

(A) *Swimming Pools.* The swimming pool area shall be completely enclosed by a fence not less than four feet in height with openings of not more than four inches, and of a type not readily climbable by children. Chain link fences are prohibited. The fence shall be located not more than 100 feet from the edge of the pool. All gates shall be equipped with self-latching and self-closing devices placed on the inside top of the gate. (Also see the International Building Code for additional restrictions on height, vertical member spacing, and access gates.)

(B) *Parks, Open Space and Tennis Courts.* Fences may be up to nine feet in height as a matter of right. They may be allowed to exceed nine feet when, in the opinion of the city traffic engineer, no hazard exists.

**Sec. 146-1743 Design and Material Requirements.**

(A) *Standard Requirements.* The construction and installation of new fences shall meet all of the design, material, and locational standards listed in this section including the requirements of Table 17.2 and Figure 17.3 below.

<p align="center"><b>Table 17.2</b>  <b>Summary of Fence Material &amp; Design Standards</b>                      (Also See Figure 17.3)</p>					
	<b>(A) Standard</b>	<b>(B) For Fences Along Arterial Streets</b>	<b>(C) For Fences Along Collector Streets</b>	<b>(D) For Fences Along Other Public &amp; Private Streets</b>	<b>(E) All Other Fences Except Those Facing Open Space</b>
1	<i>Allowable Materials</i>	Brick, stone, and integrally colored decorative concrete masonry units (CMUs).  Exterior stucco (real & artificial.)  Pre-cast concrete panels and rails.  Wrought iron and other metals simulating the appearance of wrought iron.  Plastic fences.  Closed-style wood fences, but only in industrial zones and only if located outside of the required buffer yards.	All materials allowed along arterial streets, plus:  Open-style two or three rail wood fences.  Upgraded closed-style wood fences, except that such fences shall not be allowed along collector streets in Framework Development Plan and General Development Plan areas.	All materials allowed along collector streets, plus:  Upgraded closed-style wood fences in Framework Development Plan and General Development Plan areas.  Chain link fencing, except in E-470 residential areas. Chain link fencing in non-residential areas must be vinyl-clad.	All materials allowed in column D of this table, plus:  Metal panels designed specifically as fencing.  Fences facing open space shall follow the requirements of Section 146-1711(D).

(A) Standard	(B) For Fences Along Arterial Streets	(C) For Fences Along Collector Streets	(D) For Fences Along Other Public & Private Streets & Alleys	(E) All Other Fences Except Those Facing Open Space
<p>2 <i>Designs Standards. (In addition to all the general standards listed in Division 3.)</i></p>	<p>Brick, stone, and decorative concrete masonry unit (CMU) fences shall meet the design requirements shown in Figure 17.3a.</p> <p>Stucco style fences shall be defined as fences similar in exterior appear to masonry fences as shown in Figure 17.3a, but with an exterior surface of cement plaster over an interior of masonry, pre-cast concrete, or other material of similar durability.</p> <p>Wrought iron style fences shall meet the definition and design requirements shown in Figure 17.3b.</p> <p>Pre-cast concrete fences shall be composed of integrally colored concrete and convincingly replicate the appearance of brick, stone, and CMU fences as shown in Figure 17.3a.</p> <p>Concrete open-style post and rail fences shall meet all the appearance and design requirements listed in Figure 17.3d.</p> <p>Plastic fences are allowed provided providing they meet all the material, installation, and design requirements of Section 146-1715(E) listed below. Plastic fence designs simulating closed style common board or dog-eared wood fences are not allowed along arterial and collector streets, but are allowed elsewhere. (See Figure 17.3f.)</p> <p>Wood open-style post and rail fences are only allowed on collector streets, and only if they meet all the appearance and design requirements of Figure 17.3d. Where wood closed-style wood fences are allowed, they shall be an upgraded design and meet all the design requirements of Figure 17.3</p>		<p>Fences along non-arterial and non-collector streets and alleys shall meet all the design requirements for fences along arterial and collector streets, except that:</p> <p>Upgraded wood fences are allowed in all zone districts provided they meet the design standards shown in Figure 17.3c.</p> <p>Dog-eared style and common board style plastic fences are allowed.</p> <p>Wood open-style two and three rail fences are allowed, provided they meet the design requirements of Figure 17.3d.</p> <p>Chain link fences are allowed.</p>	<p>Shall meet all the design requirements of fences in column D of this table, except that:</p> <p>Dog-eared style wood fences and other types of common board fences without a top cap or trim board are allowed. Such fences shall be placed with their smooth side facing outward from the lot. Rails and posts are to be placed to the inside of the fence. See Figure 17.3e.</p>

	(A) Standard	(B) For Fences Along Arterial Streets	(C) For Fences Along Collector Streets	(D) For Fences Along Other Public & Private Streets & Alleys	(E) All Other Fences Except Those Facing Open Space
3	<i>Masonry Columns</i>	<p>All fence types along arterial and collector street shall incorporate masonry columns of a minimum cross-section of 18 by 18 inches.</p> <p>For brick, stone, stucco, CMU, or pre-cast concrete fences: Columns shall be placed at all fence corners, points of transitions to other fence styles along a run of fence, and fence termination points.</p> <p>For all other fence types: Columns shall be placed at a minimum spacing of 60 feet on center, as well as at all fence corners, transitions to other fence styles along a run of fence, and fence termination points.</p> <p>Exception: Fences on the perimeter of single-family detached, two-family, and single-family attached duplex homes with an abutting lot width of 60 feet or greater may be placed at lot corners rather than at 60 feet intervals. See Figure 17.3b shown below.</p>		No masonry column requirements shall apply.	No masonry column requirements shall apply.
4	<i>Special Requirements for closed-style Fences Three Feet High or Taller</i>	<p>Maximum length of continuous fence shall not exceed 1500 feet.</p> <p>Maximum length of unbroken fence plane within length of fence shall not exceed 500 feet.</p> <p>Maximum percentage of total fence length along street frontage between arterials shall not exceed 80%.</p>	<p>Maximum length of continuous fence shall not exceed 1000 feet.</p> <p>Maximum length of unbroken fence plane within length of fence shall not exceed 320 feet.</p> <p>Maximum percentage of total fence length along street frontage between arterials shall not exceed 60%.</p>	Such fences are not allowed in residential front yards. Otherwise, no special requirements apply.	No special restrictions apply

**(B) Calculation of Maximum Dimensions for Requirements of Table 17.2-Row 3**

1. **Maximum Length of Continuous Fence.** A section of open-style fence (at least ten feet in length) attached to a solid-style fence shall be considered a break in the continuous fence length.
2. **Maximum Length of Continuous Unbroken Fence Plane.** A break in the continuous fence plane may be achieved by either: (1) a gap in the length of a



fence of at least ten feet, or (2) a jog (as seen in the plan view) of the fence. Such a jog shall be a minimum four-foot offset from the main fence plane and shall extend for no less than 40, nor more than 320 feet.

3. *Maximum Percentage of Total Fence Length Along Street Frontages.* The percentage shall be calculated as the sum of the lengths of all fencing along the frontage between the centerline of consecutive intersecting arterials, divided by the total distance between the centerlines of the consecutive arterials. Where centerline distance between consecutive arterials is greater than one mile, 5,280 feet shall be assumed to be the interval used for calculation.

(C) *Substitute Materials.* Materials other than those required by Table 17.2 may be allowed upon determination by the Director of Planning that they are of comparable durability and quality, and are judged to have a convincingly duplicate appearance.

(D) *Special Requirements for Plastic Fencing.*

1. *Types of Plastic Fencing.* Two types of plastic fencing are permitted: (1) fencing made from a base of polyvinyl chloride (often referred to as vinyl fencing); and (2) fencing made from a base of high density polyethylene (often referred to as HDPE fencing). Other types of plastic fencing will be reviewed for consideration as a fence material on an individual basis by the Director of Planning. Rails and posts for plastic fencing are permitted to be internally reinforced with metal strengtheners or constructed with plastic coated metal components to improve their structural qualities. Wood or any wood product as a strengthening or structural component for plastic fencing is not permitted.
2. *Administration of Standards for Plastic Fencing.* In addition to the provisions of section 1711, the following administrative requirements shall be necessary at the time of permit: (1) if a contractor is to install plastic fencing, a letter shall be provided by that contractor stating that the product to be installed will adhere to minimum City standards contained in this ordinance; and (2) if a homeowner is to install plastic fencing, a sample of the product to be installed will be provided with the permit application to confirm that it will meet minimum City standards.
3. *Materials.* All plastic fencing shall include additives for strength and ultraviolet inhibitors to protect the finish. All plastic fencing shall have a manufacturer's warranty for workmanship and materials for at least 20 years, and provide independent testing for the product through industry ASTM standards. All plastic fencing is to include an integral color as part of its permanent exterior finish and shall not be painted or stained. Plastic fence posts shall be constructed from extruded material a minimum of 0.150 inch thick, and horizontal rails shall be constructed from extruded material a minimum of 0.9 inch thick. Horizontal rails for picket, ornamental and privacy fencing shall include internal plastic ribbing or steel reinforcement for strength.
4. *Installation.* Plastic fencing may be routed to accept posts, rails, and pickets without the use of fasteners. All metal fasteners and brackets shall be stainless steel, and painted the same color of the fence if not covered and concealed by a trim piece. Fasteners used on the outside face of the fence shall be covered and shall not dimple the board surface. All vertical plastic fence posts shall be filled

with concrete to at least grade level. All vertical plastic fence posts and pickets shall have decorative top caps.

5. *Sample Designs.* Refer to Figure 17.3d below for illustrations of typical plastic fence styles. The Planning Department shall also maintain samples of acceptable plastic fence components that satisfy the requirements of this section.

(E) *Special Design Requirements for Fences Constructed Under the City of Aurora Masonry Fence Program.*

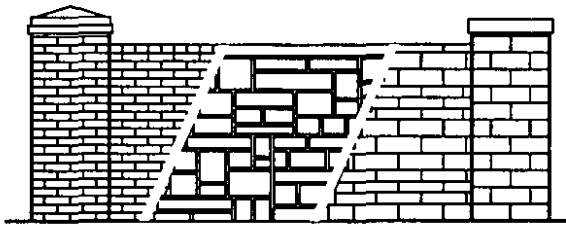
1. *Definitions.* "Masonry fence" under the City of Aurora Fence Replacement Program shall mean a fence constructed of masonry materials (brick, stone, concrete, tile, or other similar building units or materials) laid up unit by unit to construct a fence and/or its main support structure. Siding and veneers may be permitted to be applied (i.e. stucco) as long as the internal support structure or bearing wall of the fence is constructed of the aforementioned masonry materials. Masonry fence construction fabricated in a location other than its final in-service location (now known as prefabricated and panelized masonry) shall be permitted as long as the fence panel is constructed entirely of masonry materials. Poured concrete construction has been classified as masonry, and therefore shall mean that pre-cast concrete panels shall be permitted for use as fences under this definition. "Nominal unit size" shall mean brick or concrete unit dimension larger than the actual dimension to account for the thickness of a mortar joint or normal variations in manufacture's standard product sizes.
2. *General Requirements.* All portions and side of a fence shall be finished with the same quantity and quality of materials as the predominate side facing the street.
3. *Minimum Column Spacing.* Except for panelized construction, all masonry fences shall include masonry columns with a minimum cross-section of 24 inches by 24 inches placed at a maximum interval of 60 feet along the length of the fence. Additional columns shall also be required at all fence corners and turning points and at all fence termination points. Where panelized construction is used, the same requirements shall be met, except that the maximum column spacing interval shall be reduced to 30 feet.
4. *Color.* All fence colors shall be integral to the material. Fence materials shall not be painted or stained with exterior coat systems. All colors shall be earth tones such as tans, browns, and traditional red brick tones. Uncolored concrete is not permitted.
5. *Masonry Unit Sizes.* When brick and concrete masonry are used, individual unit sizes shall not exceed 16 inches in length by 8 inches in height, except that units with a height in excess of 4 inches shall not constitute more than 30% of the total wall surface. When panelized construction is used, the design of individual panels shall replicate the appearance of individual unit sizes as described above, or of a fence constructed of irregularly shaped stones.
6. *Texture.* Fences consisting of masonry units no more than 4 inches in height shall have a surface texture resembling traditional brick. Masonry units in excess of 4 inches in height shall have a decorative split-face texture. Units designed to resemble stone shall have a natural-looking stone texture. Panelized materials

shall duplicate the textures of masonry and stone units as described above.

7. *Concrete Split Rail.* Pre-cast concrete split rail and other open rail fence designs are not approved under this program for use along streets.

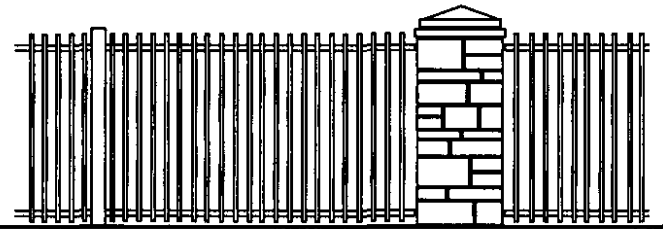
**Secs. 1744 – 146-1749. Reserved.**

**Figure 17.3 Sample Fence Types**



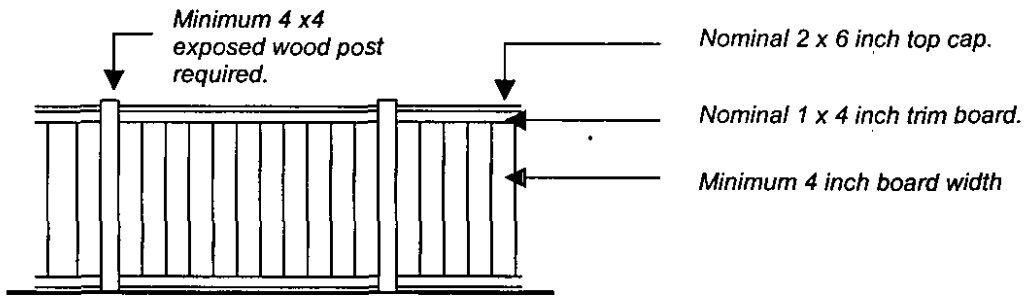
The interior and exterior of these style fences including any required columns or pilasters shall be composed of brick, stone, or decorative concrete masonry units (CMUs) or any combination thereof. A suitable cap element shall protect the top of all fences and columns. When the fence is entirely composed of CMUs, individual unit sizes shall conform to the design requirements of the City's Masonry Fence Program as listed in Section 146-1743(E)5.

**Figure 17.3a Fences with brick, stone, or decorative concrete masonry units**

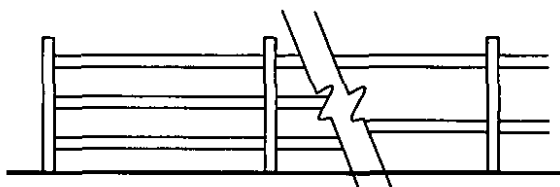


Wrought iron style fences are defined as those fences primarily composed of metal rails, bars, and posts that simulate the appearance of traditional wrought iron fencing. A suitable cap element shall protect the top of all columns. Provide 18 x 18 inch masonry columns on arterials and collectors.

**Figure 17.3b Wrought iron style fence**



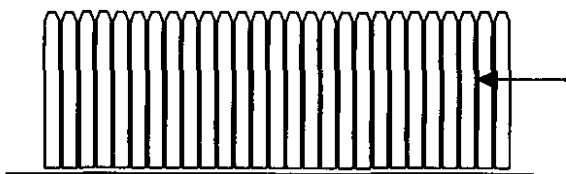
**Figure 17.3c Upgraded wood fence** Minimum required features on street-facing side.



**Wood Fences:** All wood components shall be pressure treated with posts a minimum cross-section as required by Table 17.1 and horizontal rails a minimum nominal cross section of 2 by 6 inches.

**Concrete Fences:** Concrete posts shall have a minimum nominal cross section of 4 by 4 inches and horizontal rails a minimum nominal cross section of 2 by 4 inches.

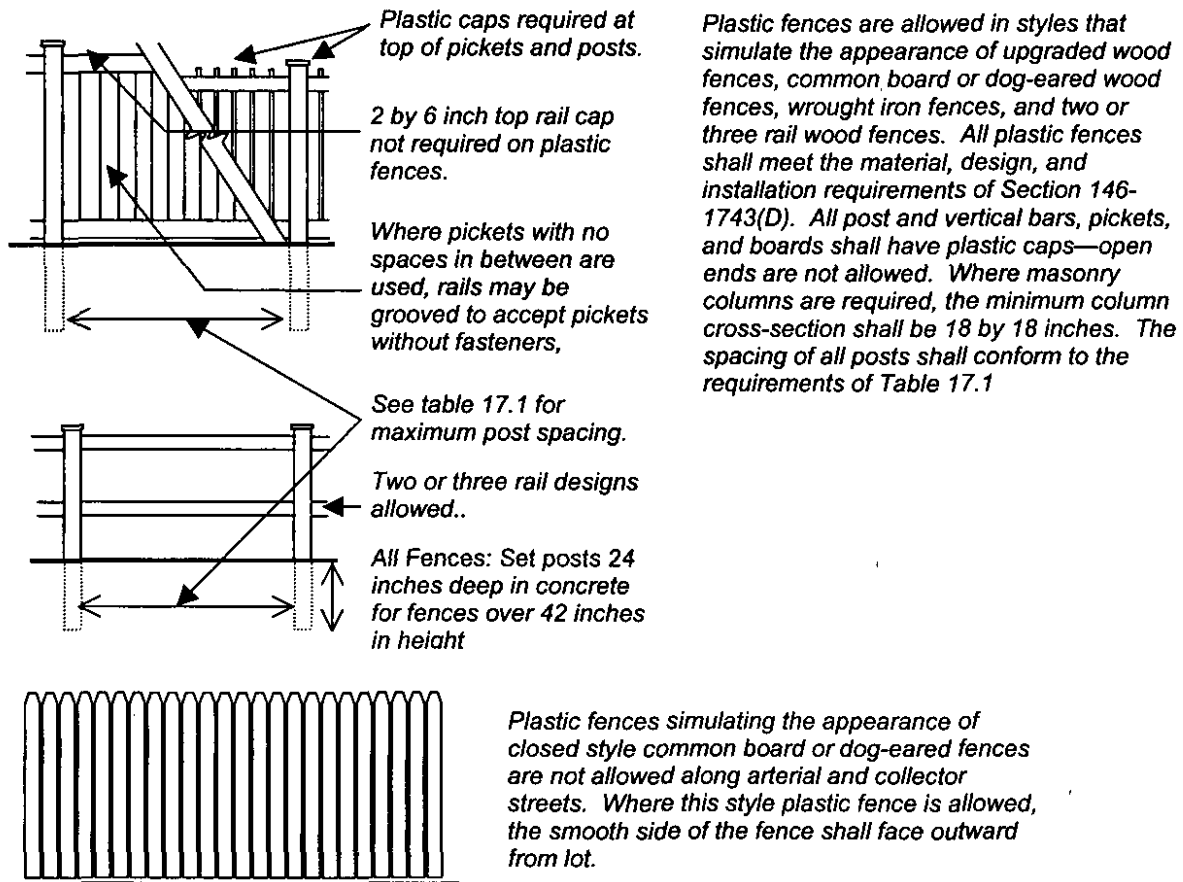
**Figure 17.3d Wood or concrete open-style two or three rail fence**



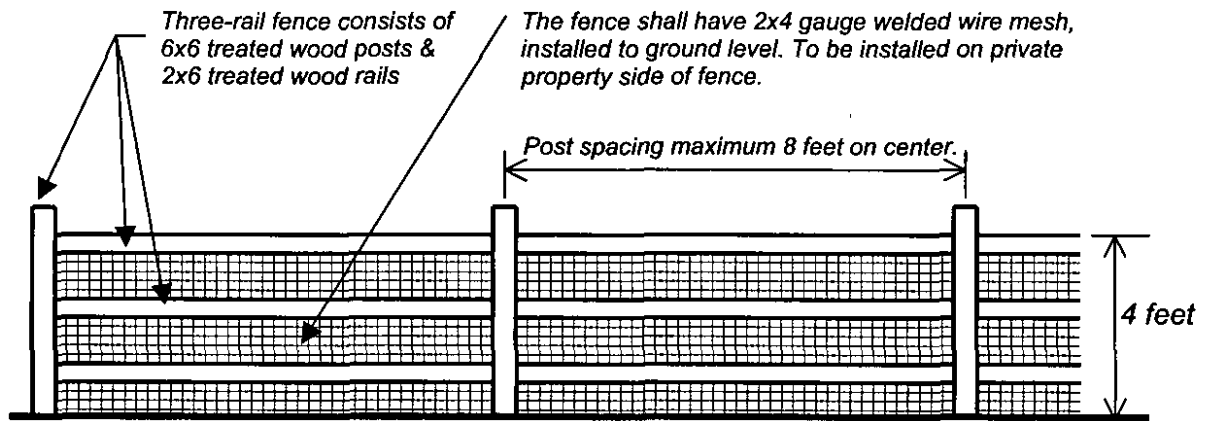
Smooth side of the fence to face outward from the lot. Rails and posts to be placed on the inward side of the fence. The minimum post cross-section shall meet the requirements Table 17.1. This style fence is not allowed on arterial, collector, and local streets.

**Figure 17.3e Common board or dog-eared wood picket fence**

**Figure 17.3 Continued—Sample Fence Types**



**Figure 17.3f Plastic Fence Designs**



**Figure 17.3g Parks & Open Space Department Standard Open Space Fence Design**

## DIVISION 5: STANDARDS FOR REPLACEMENT FENCES

### **Sec. 146-1750 Replacement Fence Standards**

Replacement fences shall meet all of the setback, height, design, and material standards required for new fences (Division 3), but with the exceptions listed in Section 1717, below:

#### **Section 146-1751 Replacement Fence Waivers for Individual Homeowners and Neighborhood and Homeowner Associations.**

The Director of Planning may grant an administrative waiver of replacement fence requirements of this article under any of the following circumstances:

- (A) An owner of a single family home seeks to construct a replacement fence which does not meet the requirements of Table 17.2 on an arterial or collector street, if the replacement section is a part of a longer run of fence owned by others, and the replacement section matches the location, materials, height and design of the existing longer run of fence. Such a replacement, however, shall meet the general construction requirements of section 1710.
- (B) A homeowner's or neighborhood association seeks to erect a replacement fence which does not meet the arterial or collector street setback requirements of section 1741 and/or the maximum length and unbroken fence plan requirements of Table 17.2-row 4, and meeting these requirements would involve decreasing the existing depth of the backyards of existing homeowners.
- (C) A homeowner's or neighborhood association seeks to erect a replacement fence which does not meet the arterial or collector street design and material requirements of Table 17.2 where any of the following conditions apply:
  - 1. The length of fencing needing replacement is insufficient to constitute a coherent whole such as a block face; or
  - 2. The fence or wall is being constructed or was constructed pursuant to the city's neighborhood fence replacement program; or
  - 3. Requiring these standards would impose an undue financial burden on such an association. Submittal of pertinent financial records to the director is necessary to qualify for this criterion.

**Secs. 146-1752 – 146-1759. Reserved.**

## DIVISION 6: MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

### **Sec. 146-1760 Requirement to Maintain Fences.**

All fences and adjacent landscaping shall be maintained by their owners in good structural condition and in good repair at all times. This shall include general maintenance, painting and staining, and the replacement of any broken, warped, or missing portions of the fences with materials of equal or better quality and which are

consistent in design, appearance and structural integrity. All fences shall be vertically aligned and structurally sound. Areas adjacent to fences and hedges shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, free and clear of all rubbish and weeds. Angled or non-vertical fence post supports shall not be permitted.

**Sec. 146-1761 Fence Repairs and Maintenance Not Requiring a Permit.**

(A) Repair and maintenance work may be carried out without meeting all the location, design, and material requirements of this article, and without a fence permit, providing that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The work to be performed meets the definition of repair and maintenance as defined in section 1710; and
2. Repair and maintenance work matches the materials, height, general design, and location of existing fence areas adjacent to the repair; and
3. The work meets the general construction requirements of section 1730.

(B) Repair and maintenance work not meeting the conditions of section 1761(A) above shall require a fence permit and at the discretion of the Director of Planning may be required to meet all or some of the standards listed in this article.

**Secs. 146-1762 –146-1799. Reserved.**