

Zoning Ordinance Section

Sec. 32-250.200. Outdoor Lighting

Sec. 32-250.201. Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent is to establish outdoor lighting standards that reduce the impacts of glare, light trespass, overlighting, skyglow, and poorly shielded or inappropriately directed lighting fixtures, and that promote safety and encourage energy conservation.

Sec. 32-250.202. General Outdoor Lighting Standards

- (1) All outdoor lighting fixtures shall be designed, shielded, aimed, located and maintained to shield adjacent properties and to not produce glare onto adjacent properties or roadways. Parking lot light fixtures and light fixtures on buildings shall be full cut-off fixtures.
- (2) Street lighting shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Design and Construction Standards Manual.
- (3) Flashing, revolving, or intermittent exterior lighting visible from any property line or street shall be prohibited. High intensity light beams, such as, but not limited to, outdoor searchlights, lasers or strobe lights shall be prohibited.
- (4) In parking lots, light fixture poles shall not be more than 30 feet in height, unless modified pursuant to either section 32-300.05 or 32-400.03.
- (5) The average maintained lighting level shall be determined by multiplying the initial raw lamp output specified by the manufacturer by a light loss factor of not less than 0.72.

Sec. 32-250.203. Outdoor Lighting Standards for Nonresidential Uses.

- (1) The average maintained lighting levels for nonresidential uses shall not exceed the following standards:
 - (a) 5 foot-candles for parking lot and other areas. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2.5 to 1.
 - (b) 10 foot-candles along fronts of buildings and along main drive aisles. The maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2.5 to 1.
 - (c) 30 foot-candles for high security areas, such as, but not limited to automated teller machines (ATMs), motor vehicle display areas and vehicle fuel station canopies, but not including parking lots. The maximum to average ratio shall not exceed 1.5 to 1 for canopy lighting, and 2.5 to 1 for pole- or building-mounted lighting. Lighting levels shall be reduced to a maximum of 10 foot-candles after the close of business.
- (2) Light fixtures under any canopy shall be recessed into the canopy ceiling with a flat lens to prevent glare. The bottom of the fixtures may protrude a maximum of two (2) inches from the ceiling. The portions of the canopy not included in the sign area shall not be illuminated.
- (3) Lighting levels shall not exceed 0.5 foot-candles at any common property line with property zoned, used as or planned for residential or agricultural uses.
- (4) Property owners may demonstrate compliance with the standards contained within this section by submitting a

Zoning Ordinance Section

current photometric plan (less than 30 days old) that has been certified by a licensed lighting engineer to the Planning Office.

Sec. 32-250.204. Outdoor Lighting Standards for Recreational Sports Facilities Lighting.

- (1) The average maintained lighting levels for recreational uses, other than professional sports teams, shall not exceed the following:
 - (a) 50 foot-candles in the infield and 30 foot-candles in the outfield for baseball/softball. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2 to 1.
 - (b) 50 foot-candles for football/soccer fields. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2 to 1.
 - (c) 50 foot-candles for tennis courts. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2 to 1.
 - (d) 30 foot-candles for basketball courts. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2 to 1.
 - (e) 5 foot-candles for golf related facilities (20 foot-candles maximum for driving range tees). However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2 to 1.
 - (f) 5 foot-candles for parking lots. However, the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 2.5 to 1.
- (2) All light fixtures/light poles shall be set back a minimum of one foot for every foot in height from any residential property line or right-of-way.
- (3) Lighting levels shall not exceed 0.5 foot-candles at any common property line with property zoned, used as, or planned for residential or agricultural uses.
- (4) All newly lighted fields shall be turned off within ½ hour after the games are over, preferably with override timing devices which will automatically turn off the lights.

Sec. 32-250.205. Outdoor Lighting Standards for Multi-Family Uses.

The average maintained lighting levels for multi-family units shall not exceed the following:

- (1) 0.5 foot-candles at property line boundaries.
- (2) 10 foot-candles at buildings/parking lots/other areas. The maximum to average ratio shall not exceed 2.5 to 1.

Sec. 32-250.206 Outdoor Lighting Standards for Buildings, Statues, Other Man-made Objects and Landscapes

Spotlighting or floodlighting used to illuminate buildings, statues, signs or any other objects mounted on a pole, pedestal or platform, or used to accentuate landscaping shall consist of full cut-off or directionally shielded lighting fixtures that are aimed and controlled so that the directed light shall be substantially confined to the object intended to be illuminated to minimize glare, sky glow and light trespass. The beam width shall not be wider than that needed to light the feature with minimum spillover. The lighting shall not shine directly into the window of a residence or directly into a roadway. Light fixtures attached to a building shall be directed downward.

Sec. 32-250.207 Exemptions from Lighting Ordinance

- 1) Airport lighting, lighting of the American flag, and lighting not subject to this chapter by state or federal law.
- 2) Street lighting installed per the Design and Construction Standards Manual, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and/or the Building Code.
- 3) Security lighting controlled and activated by motion sensor devices for a duration of 15 minutes or less.

Zoning Ordinance Section

- 4) Construction and emergency Lighting used by construction workers or police, firefighting, or medical personnel, provided said lighting is temporary and is discontinued immediately upon completion of the construction work or abatement of the emergency requiring said lighting.

Sec. 32-250.208 Site and Subdivision Plan Requirements for Outdoor Lighting

- 1) As part of the submission for a site plan or a building, electrical or sign permit to install outdoor lighting fixtures as part of the application, the applicant shall submit evidence that the proposed work complies with this section.
- 2) A photometric plan shall be prepared by a licensed lighting engineer and submitted with a site plan.

W:\Sue Chozick\ZOU\BOCS Finals\Article II - Part 250 Table of Changes Final.doc