



CITY OF CAPITOLA

FENCE PERMIT INFORMATION

CITY OF CAPITOLA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
420 CAPITOLA AVENUE, CAPITOLA, CA 95010
831-475-7300 WWW.CITYOFCAPITOLA.ORG

Fence Permit Overview

A Fence Permit is required to build a new fence. The purpose of a Fence Permit is to ensure fences are built in a manner which is safe and provides a property owner's desired separation and privacy without creating undesirable impacts on neighbors. A Fence Permit is a ministerial permit, meaning that the City is required to issue a permit if it complies with City standards.

If a property owner wishes to build a fence which does not comply with City standards, a publicly noticed hearing before the Planning Commission is required.

A fence permit is not required to repair an existing fence, to replace an existing fence which complies with City standards, or for temporary construction fences.

Fence Permit Standards

Capitola [Zoning Code](#) section 17.54 establishes design standards for fences. Fences must be designed as follows:

1. Front yard fences may be a maximum of 3-feet, 6-inches tall. Front yard fences include those built between the street and front line of a home or other principal building.
2. Side and rear yard fences may be a maximum of 8-feet tall, provided that the top 2-feet of the fence is made of lattice or other open material.
3. On corner lots, fences must be set back at least 5-feet from the property line on the side of the lot which has the greatest length along the street.
4. Front yard fences located on corner lots or adjacent to driveways must be 30-

inches or less to maintain an adequate line of sight.

See the attached diagram for fence height and location standards.

Application Requirements

Applicants must submit a [Fence Application](#) and submit necessary fees as established in the City's adopted [Fee Schedule](#).

Although not required, it is strongly recommended that property owners have a survey prepared prior to submitting an application to ensure the fence is located entirely within their property. The City does not provide survey services and is not responsible if a property owner improperly builds a fence over a property line.

Time and Cost

Fence Permits are typically issued the same day. Fence Permits require a \$43 fee. Requests for the Planning Commission to consider exceptions to fence standards require a \$794 fee.

Fence Permit Process

Fence Permits are issued over-the-counter and do not require any public noticing or public hearings, unless a property owner applies for exceptions to fence design standards (e.g., an over-height fence request).

If a Fence Permit is part of a larger project which requires other discretionary permits (e.g., Design Permit, Conditional Use Permit), the Fence Permit will be processed and issued concurrently.



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Fence Height and Location Standards Diagram

