

Sec. 12-103. Conditions of use.

- (a) *Planned development.* Planned developments shall follow the planned development provisions contained in sections 12-73 and 12-159, and the code text and zoning district map amendments provisions contained in section 12-158.
- (b) *Educational services.* Educational services are those services offered for the exclusive use of residents, on island employees and guests of Kiawah Island for instruction and care of their dependent children. The following conditions must be met for an educational services use:
 - (1) Proof of application for the facilities license from the South Carolina Department of Social Services where appropriate;
 - (2) Play areas within 50 feet of a residential zoning district shall be buffered pursuant to section 12-127;
 - (3) Off-street parking requirements contained within this article are met and are buffered in accordance with section 12-128;
 - (4) Site plans for ingress/egress, loading/unloading and the location of the parking areas are approved by the Planning Director; and
 - (5) Proposed outdoor lighting of the facility does not negatively impact neighboring properties or the beachfront.
- (c) *Health care services.* These services include medical clinics with outpatient services, physicians' and dentist's offices. Outpatient clinics, including offices for physicians or dentists, shall be limited to 2,000 square feet of floor area and shall not provide a base for emergency medical vehicles or service unless approved as a special exception pursuant to special exception provisions contained in this article.
- (d) *Museums, historical sites and similar institutions.*
 - (1) Historical sites within residential areas shall be restricted to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - (2) Historical sites, libraries, archives, museums and/or art galleries shall be completely housed within the principal use.
 - (3) Nature exhibitions.
 - a. Where nature exhibitions are of public ownership or listed in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks or registered as a Heritage Site with the South Carolina Heritage Trust in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 600 of the 1976 Acts and Joint Resolutions, either in public or private ownership, accessory uses to acquire maintenance revenue are permitted.
 - b. Accessory uses are limited to the retail sale of gifts, novelties, souvenirs, and food services. Accessory structures so used shall not exceed ten percent in size of the principal structures when the nature exhibit is housed, or 1,200 square feet for each acre when the nature exhibit is not enclosed.
 - c. Parking requirements for each accessory use, in addition to the parking requirements for the principal use, shall comply with the parking requirements of section 12-128.
 - d. Signs advertising accessory uses shall be located on the premises and not visible from a public road.
 - (4) Botanical gardens and/or arboretums shall be housed completely on the grounds of the principal use.

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- (e) *Postal Service of the United States.* Any postal service facility shall have a maximum floor area of 5,000 square feet or less.
- (f) *Recreation and entertainment.* The following standards shall apply to approval of a site plan for community recreation, including, but not limited to, sports activities, playgrounds, athletic areas or swimming areas and recreation or vacation day camps:
- (1) All parks with soccer, baseball and similar playfields shall meet all off street parking requirements of section 12-128. The Planning Director shall determine the need for additional spaces based on available parking studies for similar uses in similar communities;
 - (2) All parking areas and recreational equipment storage areas shall meet the buffering requirements of section 12-127 and be screened from view from any adjacent residential use. Screening shall be opaque and shall be at least four feet in height. Screening may be masonry or natural materials if approved by the Planning Director;
 - (3) Small passive parks of one acre or less within residential neighborhoods shall have no parking requirements;
 - (4) Be designed so that light sources are shielded from adjacent single-family residential properties and the beachfront.
- (g) *Utilities and waste-related uses.*
- (1) Aboveground water storage tanks, sewage pumping stations, telephone relay towers, electric regulating substations and similar utility/communications structures shall comply with the following standards:
 - a. Facilities shall be located at least 50 feet from any residential property line;
 - b. Facilities shall be secured by a fence located at least 25 feet from any residential property line;
 - c. Facilities shall be surrounded by a buffer pursuant to section 12-127;
 - d. Telephone exchange stations and communications towers shall be limited to unmanned facilities, and shall provide at least two parking spaces for service vehicles; and
 - e. Radio transmitting stations and towers shall be set back from zoning district boundaries a distance equal to their height.
 - (2) Communications, utility distribution lines and water transmission lines shall be located underground in all districts.
 - (3) The equipment set forth in this subsection is permitted in all zoning districts. Aboveground equipment (e.g., pad-mounted transformers) shall be screened from public view:
 - a. Electrical pedestals.
 - b. Electrical pad-mounted transformers.
 - c. Electrical switch gear cabinets.
 - d. Electrical service meters.
 - e. Telephone equipment cabinets.
 - f. Telephone pedestals.
 - g. Irrigation controllers.
 - h. Backflow preventors.

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- i. Cable television amplifiers.
 - j. Other such similar equipment, typically installed above ground.
- (4) *Utility cabinets, utility structures.* For utility cabinets which measure approximately nine feet in length by six feet in width, and once installed, stand approximately five feet above grade, and for any other utility structures which the zoning administrator determines are similar in size and impact on the community shall be treated as accessory structures and the following standards shall apply:
- a. Structure shall not be located on property zoned for residential use and must be located a minimum of ten feet from any residential property line.
 - b. Structure shall be surrounded by a landscaped buffer, pursuant to section 12-127.
- (h) *Commercial accommodations.* Hotels or inns providing more than 50 guestrooms shall comply with the special exception provisions of this article or shall be a part of a development agreement.
- (i) *Financial services.*
- (1) Automated teller machines (ATM), stand-alone.
 - (2) ATMs shall be walk-up style and shall be permitted as accessory uses.
- (j) *Food and beverage services.*
- (1) *Bars, cocktail lounges, taverns.*
 - a. Bars or lounges, including taverns, cocktail lounges or member exclusive bars or lounges serving alcoholic beverages are only permitted in restaurants, private clubs, hotels, inns, or country clubs.
 - b. Where applicable, these uses shall comply with the special exception provisions of this article.
 - (2) *Catering services.* Catering service facilities shall only prepare and store food in permitted restaurants, private clubs, hotels, inns, or country clubs.
 - (3) *Restaurant, general.* All general restaurants not a part of a hotel, inn, private club or country club and occupying over 2,000 square feet of floor area shall comply with the special exception provisions of this article.
 - (4) Restaurant, café, coffee shop or snack bar is only permitted in the CS-2 as an ancillary use to the building's primary function as office and meeting space.
 - (5) Be designed so that light sources are shielded from adjacent single-family residential properties, and property zoned R-2.
- (k) *Information industries.*
- (1) *Advertising services.* All advertising associated with this use shall be contained within the structure and not visible, except for any permitted sign, on the exterior of the structure.
 - (2) *Radio and television broadcasting studios.* All radio or television broadcast studios shall be located within a structure. No mobile radio or television broadcast stations are permitted as a permanent use. Temporary use permits may be granted if applicant complies with temporary use permit requirements.
- (l) *Government offices.* Government offices shall:
- (1) Meet the buffer requirements of section 12-127;
 - (2) Provide off-street parking as required in section 12-128; and
 - (3) Be designed so that light sources are shielded from adjacent single-family residential properties.

(m) *Communications towers.*

- (1) *Purpose and legislative intent.* The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 affirmed the Town of Kiawah Island's authority concerning the placement, construction and modification of wireless telecommunications facilities. The regulations of this section are designed to site communications towers on Kiawah Island. It is the intent of this article to allow for the harmonious co-existence of communications towers and other land uses. It is also the intent of this article to reduce the overall negative impact of communications towers by:
 - a. Reducing the number of towers needed through a policy of encouraging collocation; and
 - b. Encouraging the following, if collocation is not feasible:
 1. The use of stealth tower design, as defined in subsection (m)(3) of this section;
 2. The clustering of towers (tower farms);
 3. The placement of towers away from roadways;
 4. The provision of effective screening; and
 5. The location of communications equipment on existing structures.
- (2) *Collocation exemption.* Proposed communications equipment collocating on existing towers and structures without adding to their height shall require only a zoning permit and shall not be subject to the requirements of this section.
- (3) *Stealth tower provision.*
 - a. For the purposes of this section, the term "stealth tower" means a communications tower not exceeding 120 feet in height designed to unobtrusively blend into its existing surroundings so as not to have the appearance of a communications tower and is designed to hide, obscure, or conceal the presence of the towers and antennas. Examples of stealth towers include, but are not limited to, antenna tower alternative structures, architecturally roof-mounted antennas, building-mounted antennas painted to match the existing or proposed trees and landscaping, antenna structures designed to look like light poles or electrical utility poles, artificial trees, clock towers, flagpoles, steeples, water towers or water tanks.
 - b. All proposed stealth tower designs must be approved by the Planning Director.
 - c. A complete zoning permit application for a stealth tower that meets all requirements of this article shall be approved.
- (4) *Preapplication meeting.* Prior to submitting a formal application for a zoning permit for a communications tower the applicant is required to attend one or more preapplication meetings. The purpose of the preapplication meeting is to address key issues which will help to expedite the review and permitting process. The Planning Director may conduct a site visit at the preapplication meeting.
- (5) *Zoning permit submittal requirements.* Prior to zoning permit approval, all applications for communications towers shall complete the site plan review process as provided in section 12-162. In addition to any site plan review requirements, the application must contain the following items:
 - a. A site plan, drawn to engineer's scale, showing the location of the tower guy anchors (if any), existing or proposed buildings and structures or improvements, including parking, driveways or access roads, fences and protected Grand trees affected by the proposed construction. If there are no Grand trees affected, a surveyor's statement on the site plan must be shown. Adjacent land uses shall also be noted on the site plan, with precise measurements noted between the proposed tower and any residential structures on surrounding properties.

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- b. The site plan must show a vegetated buffer, either existing or installed, that provides an effective screen from public rights-of-way and adjacent property owners and across view corridors. If a buffer is to be installed, its placement on the site will vary in order to provide the most effective screening from public view. Required materials will be based on installation of a 25-foot buffer around the fenced area.
 - c. The height and typical design of the tower, typical materials to be used, color, and lighting shall be shown on elevation drawings. The applicant shall submit documentation justifying the total height of any communications towers, facility and/or antenna and the basis therefor.
 - d. Additionally, color and material samples shall be provided. The tower must be located no closer to a residential structure than a distance equal to 1.5 feet for each foot in height of the proposed tower plus 50 feet as measured from the center of the proposed tower. At a minimum, there must be a 150-foot distance between the proposed tower and a residential structure.
 - e. A six-foot nonclimbable fence must be placed around the tower and any associated building. Guy wires may be fenced separately.
 - f. The proposed tower must be located such that adequate setbacks are provided on all sides to prevent the tower's fall zone from encroaching onto adjoining properties. The fall zone shall be determined by an engineer certified by the State of South Carolina in a letter which includes the engineer's signature and seal.
 - g. For the purposes of collocation review and review of efforts at siting a tower on the same lot near an existing tower, the applicant shall submit satisfactory written evidence such as correspondence, agreements, contracts, etc., that alternative towers, buildings, or other structures are not available or suitable for use within the applicant's tower site search area that are structurally capable of supporting the intended antenna or meeting the applicant's necessary height criteria, providing a location free of interference from other communication towers, or available at the prevailing market rate (as determined by staff communication with persons doing business within the industry). Additionally, the applicant shall make every effort to build the proposed tower in such a manner as may allow other telecommunication users to collocate.
 - h. Proposed towers may not be located within 1,000 feet of the center of an existing tower unless the applicant certifies that the existing tower does not meet the applicant's structural specifications and the applicant's technical design requirements, or that a collocation agreement could not be obtained at a reasonable market rate. In the event of the situation set forth in this subsection, the clustering of new towers on the same parcel near existing towers is permitted.
 - i. The proposed tower shall only be illuminated as required by the Federal Communications Commission or Federal Aviation Administration. Nighttime strobe lighting shall not be incorporated unless required by the Federal Communications Commission or Federal Aviation Administration. If lighting is required, the applicant shall provide a detailed plan for sufficient lighting that shall be as unobtrusive and inoffensive as permissible under State and Federal regulations, and an artist's rendering or other visual representation showing the effect of light emanating from the site on neighboring habitable structures within 1,500 feet of all property lines of the parcel on which the communications towers are located.
 - j. Communications towers shall contain a sign no larger than four square feet to provide adequate notification to persons in the immediate area of the presence of an antenna that has transmission capabilities. The sign shall contain the names of the owners and operators of the antennas, as well as emergency phone numbers. The sign shall be located so as to be visible from the access point of the site. No other signage, including advertising, shall be permitted on any facilities, antennas, antenna supporting structures or antenna towers, unless required by law.

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- k. A copy of the tower's search ring.
 - l. To ensure the removal of towers which do not meet requirements for continued use or proper maintenance, a statement of financial responsibility shall be submitted for each tower and a performance bond for the amount of anticipated removal costs shall be posted. The bond must be renewed as necessary to ensure that it is maintained at all times during the existence of the tower.
 - m. The applicant shall furnish a visual impact assessment which shall include:
 - 1. A zone visibility map which shall be provided in order to determine locations where the tower may be seen.
 - 2. Pictorial representations of before and after view from key viewpoints both inside and outside the Town including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Major highways and roads;
 - (ii) State and local parks;
 - (iii) Historic districts;
 - (iv) Preserves and historic sites normally open to the public; and
 - (v) Any other location where the site is visible to a large number of visitors, travelers or residents.
 - 3. An assessment of the visual impact of the tower base, guy wires and accessory buildings from abutting and adjacent properties and streets
- (6) *Retention of expert assistance and reimbursement by the applicant.*
- a. The Town may hire any consultant and/or expert necessary to assist the Town in reviewing and evaluating the application, including the construction and modification of the site, once permitted, and any requests for recertification.
 - b. An applicant shall deposit with the Town funds sufficient to reimburse the Town for all reasonable costs of the consultant and expert evaluation and consultation to the Town in connection with the review of any application including the construction and modification of the site, once permitted. The initial deposit shall be \$8,500.00. The application will not be processed until receipt of this initial deposit. The Town will maintain a separate escrow account for all such funds. The Town's consultants/experts shall invoice the Town for its services in reviewing the application, including the construction and modification of the site, once permitted. If, at any time during the process this escrow account has a balance less than \$2,500.00, the applicant shall immediately, upon notification by the Town, replenish said escrow account so that it has a balance of at least \$5,000.00. Such additional escrow funds shall be deposited with the Town before any further action or consideration is taken on the application. In the event that the amount held in escrow by the Town is more than the amount of the actual invoicing at the conclusion of the project, the remaining balance shall be promptly refunded to the applicant. The applicant shall not be entitled to receive any interest earnings on unused funds.
 - c. The total amount of the funds needed as set forth in subsection (m)(6)b of this section may vary with the scope and complexity of the project, the completeness of the application and other information as may be needed to complete the necessary review, analysis and inspection of any construction or modification.
- (7) *Surrounding property owner notification.*

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- a. In order to better inform the public, in the case of a new communications towers, the applicant shall hold a balloon test as follows:
 - 1. Applicant shall arrange to fly, or raise upon a temporary mast, a minimum of three-foot diameter brightly colored balloon at the maximum height of the proposed new tower.
 - 2. The dates, (including a second date, in case of poor visibility on the initial date) shall be provided to the Planning Director ten days after receipt of the complete application notice.
 - 3. The dates shall be set at minimum 15 days prior to the Planning Director making a final decision on the zoning permit.
 - 4. The balloons shall be flown for ten consecutive hours between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - b. Once the application is deemed complete by the Planning Director for a communications tower zoning permit, the Planning Department shall provide parties in interest, personal, posted and newspaper notice in accordance with the requirements of section 12-156. The public notice shall include the dates of the balloon tests as provided by the applicant and the date the Planning Director must make a final decision on the zoning permit.
- (8) *Time limit for staff review.* Upon receipt of an application deemed complete by the Planning Director for a communications tower zoning permit, the Planning Director shall have a maximum of 45 days to act on the application. The 45 days begins from the date the applicant is sent written notice of a complete application from the Planning Director. Failure to act on the application within 45 days will result in the applicant being granted a zoning permit.
- (9) *Zoning permit approval criteria.*
- a. A complete zoning permit application for a stealth tower that meets all requirements of this article shall be approved.
 - b. Upon review of a complete application, no zoning permit shall be issued for a communications tower, until the Planning Director determines that the proposed tower complies with the following criteria and standards:
 - 1. The location and height of the proposed tower will not substantially impact the character of property listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, other significant environmental, cultural or historical site officially designated scenic roads or rivers and that the tower is designed to blend into the environment and minimize visual impact.
 - 2. If a completely new tower is necessary, the applicant must provide written proof of attempts at collocation and siting a tower on the same lot near an existing tower were proven not feasible or practical.
 - 3. The applicant has pursued any available publicly owned sites and privately owned sites occupied by a compatible use, and if not utilized, that these sites are unsuitable for operation of the facility under applicable communications regulations and the applicant's technical design requirements.
 - 4. Staff shall review and approve the color and materials to be used for the proposed tower.
 - 5. If the Planning Director finds a proposed communications tower will have a substantially negative impact on a surrounding area or adjoining property, the use shall fall under the special exception (S) provisions of this article.
 - c. In determining whether the use shall fall under the special exception (S) provisions the Planning Director may consider one or more of the following items:
 - 1. The proposed use will be detrimental to adjacent land uses including historical sites;

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2. The proposed use will have a negative aesthetic visual impact;
 3. The proposed use will have an adverse affect on the environment (not including radio frequency emissions); and
 4. The proposed use is contrary to the public health, safety or welfare.
- (10) *Tower abandonment.* A tower that is not used for communication purposes for more than 120 days (with no new application on file for any communication user) is presumed to be out of service and the owner of such tower must notify the staff and remove the tower within 50 days. Towers which are not maintained by the owner according to the Town building code shall be removed by the owner within 60 days. To ensure the removal of towers which do not meet requirements for continued use or proper maintenance, a statement of financial responsibility shall be submitted for each tower and a performance bond for the amount of anticipated removal costs shall be posted. Removal costs shall be charged to the tower owner. The bond must be renewed as necessary to ensure that it is maintained at all times during the existence of the tower.
- (n) *Convention center or visitors bureau.* The convention center or visitors bureau using over a total of 10,000 square feet must comply with the special exception provisions of this article.
- (o) *Repair and maintenance services.*
- (1) *Consumer repair services.* Consumer repair services, including repair and servicing of appliances, shoes, watches, furniture, jewelry, musical instruments or similar items, may only occur within an enclosed structure. No noise or other emissions from the structure are permitted.
 - (2) *Vehicle service.* Limited vehicle service, including automotive oil change or lubrication operations and shall be conducted within an enclosed building. Vehicle storage shall be located in an enclosed building or in an opaquely screened yard.
- (p) *Retail sales and retail or personal services.* Retail sales, display and storage of goods are permitted only within a designated building for that particular use. **Personal improvement services shall not be permitted as a free-standing single use and shall be only permitted as accessory use to golf clubhouses, resort amenities facilities within a designated building for such uses.**
- (q) *Construction services.* Contract construction services operations (e.g., contractor's shops, plumbing shops, heating and air conditioning shops, etc.) excluding construction sites for authorized development activities, shall be conducted within an enclosed building. Authorized development activities, for the purpose of this section, include the permitted installation, construction of buildings, structures or utilities at the site on which they will be used. Vehicle, equipment and materials storage at construction services offices shall be located in an enclosed building or in an opaquely screened yard.
- (r) *Warehouse and storage facilities.* Warehouse and storage facilities shall be designed so that all stored items are located within a completely enclosed building, or are completely screened from view from adjacent property lines. Portable storage units shall not be allowed to remain on any property for more than 72 hours within a week.
- (s) *Vehicle storage, including boat or recreational vehicle storage.*
- (1) Storage of boats, campers and other major recreational equipment, if provided, must be contained within completely enclosed buildings or opaquely screened storage areas on an approved lot. No such equipment shall be used for living, sleeping or housekeeping purposes.
 - (2) Canoes and kayaks may be stored in a semi-enclosed storage rack which is suitably landscaped.
- (t) *Recycling services; recycling collection, dropoff.* Recycling collection and dropoff structures are limited to the following:

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- (1) Maximum dimensions: nine feet in length by six feet in width, and once installed, stands no more than five feet above grade.
 - (2) Structure shall not be located on property zoned for residential use and must be located a minimum of ten feet from any residential property line.
 - (3) Structure shall be surrounded by a landscaped buffer, as determined by the Planning Director pursuant to section 12-127.
- (u) *Transportation; bus passenger stands.* The design and location of bus passenger stands shall only be approved after completing the site plan review procedures contained within section 12-162.
- (Code 1993, § 12A-302; Ord. No. 2005-08, § 12A-302, 10-12-2005; Ord. No. 2006-08, § 2.1(12A-302), 11-7-2006; Ord. No. 2016-04 , § 1, 9-6-2016)