Narrative

Introduction

Since adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-15, Planning Staff has used the LDRs contained in Chapters 87 and 89 and has uncovered some necessary changes. Some of these are minor clerical errors, including incorrect section references and leftover wording from previous drafts. Others are necessary clarifications, such as the additional text regarding front yards. The third category of changes are revisions to items that cause an issue or impose undesirable regulations. The tables in this document will lay out the changes by type and includes the need and/or justification for each.

List of Changes

Errors

Section	Change	Need/Justification
Ch. 87, Tables 2.3.3- 2.3.5.1, 2.3.8- 2.3.11	References to Sec. 4: Compatibility in the Height row should be removed	Section 4 no longer has any regulations specific to height
2.3.4 2.3.5.1 2.3.6 2.3.8-12	"lesser" should be "less" in the Building Frontage row	Grammatical error
Ch. 87, Table 2.3.6	The Loading reference should be 3.6.5.G, not 7.4, and the Signage row should be removed	Loading reference is a typo; no other table has a signage row so this is removed for consistency (this row only provided a reference, no regulatory content)
Ch. 87, Sec. 2.4.3.B.4	The word "duplex" should be exchanged for the term "paired villas"	Consistency with the definition in 2.4.3.B.5
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.1.9.B.7	Removed the word "required"	Causes unnecessary confusion. The area defined as a "front yard" for any given property may be larger than the minimum requirement but still subject to this code. Accessory structures would not be allowed in front of the primary structure, regardless of yard size.
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.5.4.A.2	Landscape reference should be 3.7, not 3.5	Typo (sections were rearranged and the reference was not updated)
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.7.6.B.2	The reference to Fences, Walls, and Berms in 3.6 should be 3.8	The referenced section moved
Ch. 87, Sec. 4.2.D.2	The reference to Fences, Walls, and Berms in 3.6 should be 3.8	The referenced section moved
Ch. 87, Sec. 6.7.C.4	The reference to temporary sign code should be 3.5.3	The reference was incorrect
Ch. 87, Sec. 7.3.A & 7.8.1.G	"Historic Resources Manager" should be updated to "Historical Resources Manager"	This matches the City's job description for the position

Clarifications

Section	Change	Need/Justification
Ch. 87, Sec. 1.1.2.M.1	Adding "except those proposed for Chapter 88" to clarify the review authority for LDR text amendments	Amendments to Ch. 88 are not subject to Planning Commission Review
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.5.4.B.5	The phrase "for multitenant buildings" should be added to the Location and Number row of the table for wall signage	This provision is specific to multitenant scenarios, and without this clarification the wording has caused reviewers confusion when looking at single user buildings
Ch. 87, Sec. 1.2, 1.7.3, 1.8.4, 1.9.3, 1.10.1 & Sec. 5.1.2 and 5.2.2	Concurrency and Traffic Study requirements should be removed from Common Application Requirements and placed in the specific requirements for the appropriate application types (RZ to Planned Districts, PP, SD, CU for attainable housing). Some wording has been edited for clarity in Sec. 5 to reflect these changes as well.	Having these items on other applications where they are irrelevant may cause confusion for applicants and is unnecessary overall. The Code clearly defines where these items should be considered.

Issues

Section	Change	Need/Justification
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.6.3, Table 3.6.1	The minimum number of required parking spaces for multifamily should be 1.0/unit	Venice is not yet dense enough to support 0.5 spaces per dwelling unit; most trips are still vehicle trips in the city and it may be unreasonable to assume that there will be less than one car per household on average.
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.6.3, Table 3.6.3	The minimum number of required parking spaces for restaurants with drive through should be 4/1000 SF	The existing minimum of 6/1000 SF is likely to create conflict with the increased requirement for stacking spaces (from 6 in the previous code to 8 today), as has been demonstrated by a drive-through project already. It is more appropriate for this type of use to have increased stacking and decreased parking. 4/1000SF was chosen based on comparison with surrounding jurisdictions; this rate is towards the lower end of the range but is not the most permissive compared to other local codes.
Ch. 87, Sec. 3.6.5.G.2(a)	The requirement for landscaping or screening walls around loading spaces should be removed	Loading spaces are often just extra parking spaces, perhaps in a different orientation and sometimes larger than a typical space, but they are usually still part of the parking area and it may not be practical to wall them off or surround them with landscaping.
Ch. 87, Sec. 7.7.A.6	The words "building or" should be removed	Building fees cannot be waived, although development review fees can be.
Ch. 89, Sec. 3.5.2.C	Language related to stormwater runoff in a Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) should be added as item C under Required Best Management Practices	This language will require that surface water be conveyed away from the TPZ to prevent soil saturation. The intention for this provision is to have more resilient trees in development areas and was added in response to lessons learned from Hurricane Ian.

Conclusion

These revisions come as a result of using the Land Development Code that was adopted on July 12, 2022. Staff has often stated that we will be bringing revisions and updates to the Planning Commission and City Council as the need arises and that the Code is a living document. This is the second group of changes to be proposed. Staff finds this list to be mostly minor changes, though we are still working on the more substantive areas of research that interest the City, as directed by Council.