

Greetings, Foster City Community

The City of Foster City Community Development Department invites you to review and provide feedback on the Draft Objective Design and Development Standards (ODDS) Ordinance for multi-family residential housing and mixed-use developments.

THE JOURNEY SO FAR:

Recent state laws such as Senate Bill (SB) 35 and SB 330 have limited a local jurisdiction's ability to apply subjective design standards for qualifying housing projects, and local jurisdictions can now only rely on the application of objective design standards for these projects. Objective design standards are those that do not involve personal or subjective judgment.



City staff and the consultant team have drafted ODDS for multi-family residential housing and mixed-use development(s). The new standards will establish requirements for new multi-family and mixed-use development(s) and will be applied to future development(s).

PAST ENGAGEMENTS:

Our journey began in 2021, marked by two (2) public study sessions on July 15, 2021, and October 21, 2021. In addition, community feedback was also solicited through the 'Urban Design Data Walk'. Your thoughts and perspectives shaped our direction as we forged ahead, leading to the creation of a comprehensive draft Ordinance. Most recently, the Planning Commission held a Study Session on August 17, 2023, to review the draft Ordinance. A video of the presentation and Planning Commission discussion is available on <https://www.fostercity.org/agendasandminutes>.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

At this time , we are seeking public feedback on the draft ODDS ordinance. The draft Ordinance and helpful documents/links are all available on the ODDS webpage:

<https://engagefostercity.org/objective-design-and-development-standards>.

We invite you to review the Draft Ordinance and share your insights by using our user-friendly feedback form, accessible through the QR code by September 25, 2023.

For any questions and/or concerns on this project, please contact the Planning Division at planning@fostercity.org. Remember to include "ODDS" in the subject line.

NEXT STEPS AND TIMINGS:

Following the conclusion of the comment period, staff will implement essential revisions to the draft ordinance. Subsequently, staff will present it to the Planning Commission and City Council for adoption. The new regulations will be applicable to projects that are submitted on or after the date new ordinance takes effect (60 days after the second hearing by the City Council).

