

NOV 22 2011

ORDINANCE NO. 31A-252BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JAMES CITY COUNTY
VIRGINIA

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 24, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, SPECIAL REGULATIONS, BY ADDING DIVISION 7, OUTDOOR LIGHTING, SECTION 24-129, STATEMENT OF INTENT; SECTION 24-130, LIGHTING PLAN SUBMISSION; SECTION 24-131, REQUIRED LIGHTING; SECTION 24-132, STANDARDS; SECTION 24-133, INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING FIXTURES; SECTION 24-134, MAINTENANCE; SECTION 24-135, SIGNS; AND SECTION 24-136, STREETLIGHTS IN RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of James City, Virginia, that Chapter 24, Zoning, is hereby amended and reordained by amending Article II, Special Regulations, by adding Division 7, Outdoor Lighting, Section 24-129, Statement of intent; Section 24-130, Lighting plan submission; Section 24-131, Required lighting; Section 24-132, Standards; Section 24-133, Installation of lighting fixtures; Section 24-134, Maintenance; Section 24-135, Signs; and Section 24-136, Streetlights in residential subdivisions.

Chapter 24. Zoning

ARTICLE II. SPECIAL REGULATIONS

DIVISION 7. OUTDOOR LIGHTING

Section 24-129. Statement of intent.

The intent of this ordinance is to require and set minimum standards for outdoor lighting to provide and control lighting in outdoor public places to promote public health, safety and welfare. These standards are intended to protect drivers and pedestrians from the glare of non-vehicular light sources; protect citizens and the night sky from nuisance glare and light trespass from improperly selected, placed, aimed, applied, maintained or shielded light sources; promote energy efficient lighting design and operation; and protect and retain the intended visual character of the county.

Section 24-130. Lighting plan submission.

Where site lighting is required by this section, or is proposed by an applicant, lighting plans shall be submitted for county review and approval for site and subdivision plans. The lighting plan shall include the following:

(a) The layout of the site, complete with all structures, parking spaces, building entrances, traffic areas (both vehicular and pedestrian), existing and proposed landscaping as shown on the landscape plan, and adjacent uses.

(b) The location of all proposed and existing light fixtures, including but not limited to, area, architectural, building entrance, canopy, soffit, landscape, flag, and sign.

(c) For all lighting of predominantly horizontal surfaces specified in section 24-132(a), an isofootcandle diagram that includes all light fixtures. The diagram shall depict the aiming angle of all fixtures and the projected foot-candle pattern to at least the 0.1 foot-candle level.

(d) Details for each light fixture, or category of light fixture, showing the type, pole design, mounting height, and wattage.

(e) Required Plan Notations:

(1) Post-approval alterations to lighting plans or intended substitutions for specified lighting equipment on the approved plan shall be submitted to the county for review and approval prior to installation. Requests for substitutions shall be accompanied by a lighting plan that meets all requirements of this section and which demonstrates that proposed substitutions will result in a lighting design that equals or exceeds the quality of the approved plan.

(2) The county may conduct a post-installation inspection to verify compliance with the requirements of this section and the approved lighting plan.

- (3) *Upon written request by the applicant, the planning director may waive any requirement listed above after finding that such information would not be germane to the use and type of lighting proposed.*

Section 24-131. Required lighting.

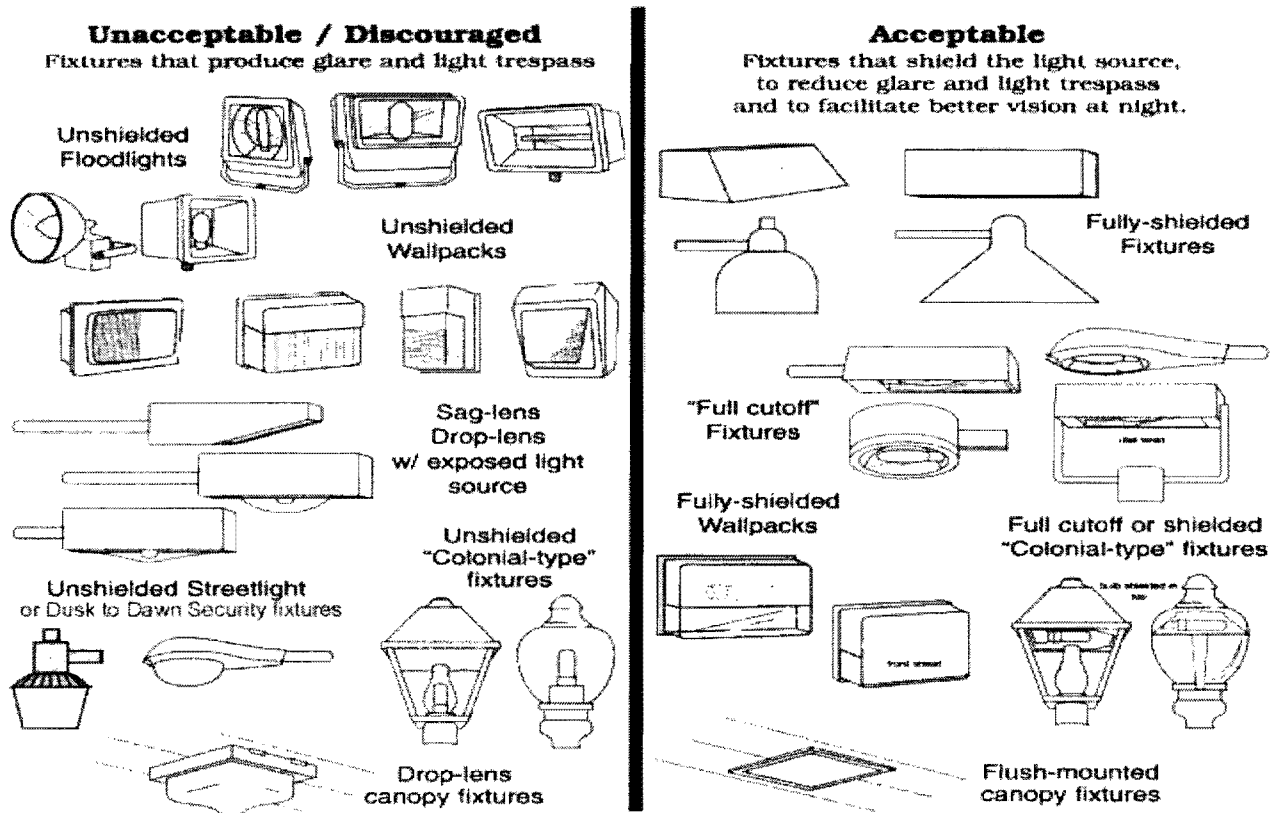
Adequate lighting shall be provided for the building entrances and parking lots of uses which will be in operation at night. All other lighting proposed by an applicant (such as landscape lighting and sign illumination) is optional, but where proposed, must meet the requirements of this Division.

Section 24-132. Standards.

All lighting shall be aimed, located, designed, fitted and maintained in a way that will not present a hazard to drivers by impairing their ability to safely traverse the roadway and in a way that will not create a nuisance by projecting or reflecting objectionable light skyward or onto a neighboring use or property.

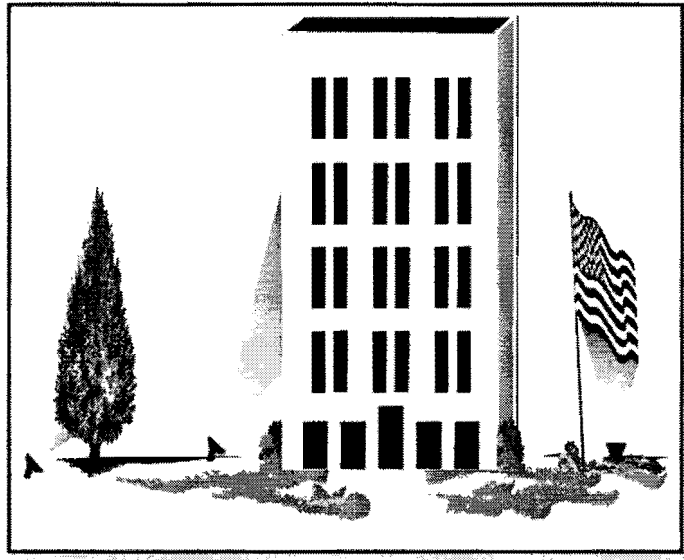
(a) *Lighting of predominantly horizontal surfaces. For the lighting of predominantly horizontal surfaces, light fixtures shall be full-cutoff fixtures that meet Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) criteria, and shall be aimed straight down (see figure 1 below). Examples of predominantly horizontal surfaces include, but are not limited to, parking areas, roadways, vehicular and pedestrian passage areas, merchandising and storage areas, under-canopy lighting (automotive-fuel dispensing facilities, drive-thrus, etc.), automotive sales areas, loading docks, active and passive recreational areas, building entrances, sidewalks, bicycle and pedestrian paths, and site entrances.*

Figure 1 - Examples of unacceptable and acceptable light fixtures



(b) *Lighting of predominantly non-horizontal surfaces. For the lighting of predominantly non-horizontal surfaces, light fixtures shall be full-cutoff or directionally shielded and shall be aimed and controlled so that light is confined, as much as possible, to the objects that are intended to be lit and does not project into the windows of neighboring residences, adjacent uses, past the object being illuminated, skyward, or onto a public roadway (see figure 2). Examples of predominantly non-horizontal surfaces include, but are not limited to, buildings, facades, landscaping, signs, displays, flags, and statuary, when their uses are specifically permitted by the county. All outdoor lighting associated with illuminating signage shall be required to follow specifications for sign lighting found in article 2, division 3.*

Figure 2 – Lighting used for architectural and landscaping lighting shall be aimed and controlled so that light is confined, as much as possible, to the objects that are intended to be lit.



(c) Light trespass. Light trespass, defined as light intensity measured at 0.1 footcandle or higher extending beyond any property line or into the public right-of-way, shall be prohibited. In cases where there is a public pedestrian accommodation located within an adjacent public right-of-way, light intensity greater than 0.1 footcandle may cross into the right-of-way in order to light the pedestrian accommodation. In all other instances, the applicant may request a waiver to allow for a light intensity higher than 0.1 footcandle to extend beyond a property line upon written application to the planning director. In evaluating such a waiver, the planning director shall consider the type of lighting, impact on adjacent properties and roadways, and any circumstances that are unique to the property.

(d) Fixture height. Pole mounted light fixtures shall not exceed 30 feet in height. Height of the light fixture shall be the distance from ground or finished grade level to the highest point. Upon application to the planning director, the applicant may request a waiver to allow for the height to be raised to a height in excess of 30 feet up to the height of the main structure on the property or a maximum of 60 feet above grade, whichever is less. Light fixtures mounted on poles which are intended for the illumination of athletic fields shall only be subject to the height limitations of the zoning district.

(e) Coordination with landscape plan. The applicant shall demonstrate that the site lighting and landscaping have been coordinated to minimize conflict between vegetation and intended light distribution, both initially and at vegetation maturity.

(f) Temporary lighting. Upon written request of the applicant, temporary use of spotlights, floodlights and other specialized lights which do not meet the standards specified above may be approved by the planning director. In this context, temporary lighting shall mean lighting used at events of a special or seasonal nature. Conditions may be attached to such approval at the discretion of the planning director.

Section 24-133. Installation of lighting fixtures.

(a) Poles and brackets for supporting light fixtures shall be those specifically manufactured for that purpose and shall be designed and rated for the light fixture and mounting accessory weights and wind loads involved.

(b) Pole foundations shall be designed to be consistent with manufacturer's wind load requirements and local soil conditions involved.

Section 24-134. Maintenance.

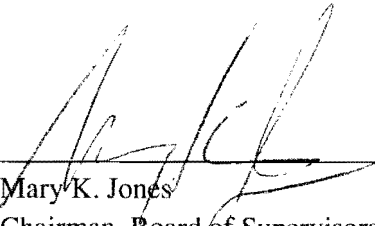
Light fixtures and ancillary equipment shall be maintained to meet the requirements of this ordinance.

Section 24-135. Signs.

All outdoor lighting used to illuminate signage shall be required to follow specifications for sign lighting found in article 2, division 3.

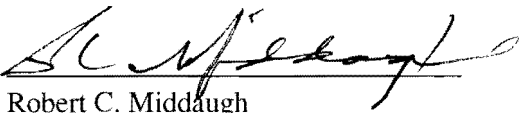
Section 24-136. Streetlights in residential subdivisions.

All outdoor lighting associated with streetlights in residential subdivisions shall only be required to follow the specifications found in Chapter 19, Subdivisions.



Mary K. Jones
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Robert C. Middaugh
Clerk to the Board

<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KENNEDY	AYE
GOODSON	AYE
MCGLENNON	AYE
ICENHOUR	AYE
JONES	AYE

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, this 22nd day of November, 2011.

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