

SECTION 127.2: - CE (Corridor Employment) District

A. Purpose

The CE District is intended to encourage the development and redevelopment of employment land near U.S. Route 1. Development in the CE District should provide for new office, flex, and light industrial uses, while reducing the spread of strip commercial development and encouraging consolidation of fragmented parcels. The requirements of this district, in conjunction with the Route 1 Manual and required vehicular and pedestrian improvements, will result in development that improves the appearance of the Route 1 streetscape, enhances traffic safety and better accommodates public transit and pedestrian travel.

Many parcels in the CE District were developed before this district was created. It is not the intent of these requirements to disallow the continued use of sites developed prior to the CE District. The intent of this district will be achieved by bringing sites into compliance with these requirements and the standards of the Route 1 Manual as uses are redeveloped or expanded.

B. Uses Permitted as a Matter Of Right

1. Ambulatory health care facilities.
2. Animal hospitals, completely enclosed.
3. Athletic facilities, commercial.
4. Banks, savings and loan associations, investment companies, credit unions, brokers and similar financial institutions without drive-through lanes.
5. Biomedical laboratories.
6. Blueprinting, printing, duplicating or engraving services.
7. Breweries that manufacture 22,500 barrels or less of fermented malt beverages per year.
8. Carnivals and fairs sponsored by and operated on a nonprofit basis for the benefit of charitable, social, civic or educational organizations, subject to the requirements of Section 128.0.D.
9. Catering establishments and banquet facilities.
10. Child day care centers and nursery schools.
11. Commercial communication antennas.
12. Commercial communication towers with a height of less than 200 feet measured from ground level, subject to the requirements of Section 128.0.E.2 and 128.0.E.3.
13. Conservation areas, including wildlife and forest preserves, environmental

management areas, reforestation areas, and similar uses.

14. Data processing and telecommunication centers.
15. Day treatment or care facility.
16. Flex space.
17. Food and drink production, processing, packaging and distribution for dairy products, food products, bakery products, nonalcoholic beverages, spices, ice and meats, excluding slaughtering.
18. Furniture, appliance and business machine repair, furniture upholstery and similar services.
19. Government structures, facilities and uses, including public schools and colleges.
20. Hotels, motels, conference centers, and country inns.
21. Housing Commission Housing Developments, subject to the requirements of Section 128.0.J
22. Laundry or dry cleaning establishments.
23. Light industrial uses.
24. Nonprofit clubs, lodges, community halls.
25. Offices, professional and business.
26. Parking facilities that serve adjacent off-site uses in accordance with Section 133.0.B.4.
27. Pet grooming establishments and day care, completely enclosed.
28. Photographic processing plants.
29. Printing, lithography, bookbinding or publishing.
30. Recreation facilities, commercial.
31. Religious facilities, structures and land used primarily for religious activities.
32. Repair of electronic equipment, radios, televisions, computers, clocks, watches, jewelry, and similar items.
33. Research and development establishments.
34. Restaurants, carryout.
35. Restaurants, standard, and beverage establishments, including those serving beer, wine and liquor for consumption on premises only.
36. Schools, commercial
37. Schools, private academic, including colleges and universities.
38. Seasonal sales of Christmas trees or other decorative plant materials, subject to the requirements of Section 128.0.D.

39. Service agencies.
 40. Sign-making shops
 41. Transitional Mobile Home Parks which meet the requirements of Section 127.2.
 42. Underground pipelines; electric transmission and distribution lines; telephone, telegraph and CATV lines; mobile transformer units; telephone equipment boxes; and other similar public utility uses not requiring a Conditional Use.
 43. Volunteer fire departments.
- C. Commercial Uses Permitted in Multistory Buildings
1. All uses listed in B. above.
 2. Banks, savings and loan associations, investments companies, credit unions, brokers and similar financial institutions with a single drive-through lane, provided the drive-through service shall be permitted for one establishment in the project and the drive-through service area is not visible from Route 1.
 3. Personal Services.
 4. Restaurants, fast food with or without a single drive-through lane, provided the drive-through service shall be permitted for one establishment in the project and the drive-through service area is not visible from Route 1.
- D. Accessory Uses
1. Any use normally and customarily incidental to any use permitted as a matter of right in this district.
 2. Communication towers and antennas which are accessory to a principal use on the lot and which exclusively serve that use. Towers are subject to the requirements of Sections 128.0.E.2 and 128.0.E.3.
 3. Private parks, swimming pools, athletic fields, exercise facilities, tennis courts, basketball courts and similar private, non-commercial recreation facilities.
 4. Small Wind Energy System, building mounted, subject to the requirements of Section 128.0.L.
 5. Accessory Solar Collectors.
- E. Bulk Regulations
- (Also see Section 128.0.A, Supplementary Bulk Regulations.)
1. Maximum Height Limitation
 - a. Structure with minimum setback from a public street right-of-way60 feet
 - b. Structure with an additional 1 foot of setback from a public street right-of-way for the portion of the structure over 60 feet for every 2 feet of additional height100

feet

2. Minimum setback requirements for sites complying fully with the use provisions of the CE District and the Route 1 Manual standards

The following minimum setback requirements apply to sites that comply fully with the CE zoning regulations and the Route 1 Manual's requirements:

- a. From Route 1 Right-Of-Way:

- (1) All structures and uses, except those listed in (2), (3) and (4)10 feet
- (2) Parking40 feet

Except if a greater maximum structure setback for industrial or flex buildings is approved under section 127.2.E.310 feet

- (3) Loading docks, outdoor storage areas, dumpsters and fencing used to enclose or screen these uses60 feet
- (4) Amenity Areas0 feet

- b. From Internal Public Street Right-Of-Way:

- (1) All structures and uses, except those listed in (2), (3) and (4)10 feet
- (2) Parking, except truck parking20 feet
- (3) Truck parking, loading docks, outdoor storage areas, dumpsters, and fencing used to enclose or screen these uses40 feet
- (4) Amenity Areas0 feet

- c. From Residential Districts

- (1) For manufacturing, processing and assembly uses, communication towers, and any other uses that have truck parking areas, loading docks or outdoor storage areas:

All structures and uses100 feet

- (2) For all other uses:

- (a) Structures and uses30 feet
- (b) Except parking, driveways, dumpsters and fencing used to enclose or screen these uses50 feet

- (3) If a residential district is separated from the CE District by a public street right-of-way, only the setbacks from a public street right-of-way shall apply.

3. Maximum Structure Setback

As provided in the Route 1 Manual, for lots abutting U.S. Route 1, the building facade closest to Route 1 shall be located no more than 50 feet from the public right-of-way unless the presence of rear loaded truck docks for industrial or flex buildings uses requires a greater building setback to allow for a separate auto parking area along the Route 1 frontage. In this case, the 50 foot setback may be increased to a maximum of 80 feet without a variance in accordance with the Route 1 Manual.

4. Minimum Setback Requirements for Sites Not Complying with the Use Provisions of the CE District and the Route 1 Manual standards.

The following minimum setback requirements apply to sites developed prior to the creation of the CE District that do not comply or only partially comply with the Howard County landscape manual and the Route 1 Manual:

- a. From Route 1 right-of-way
 - (1) Structures and uses30 feet
 - (2) Parking uses and fences adjoining parking uses30 feet
- b. From other public street right-of-way
 - (1) Structures and uses50 feet
 - (2) Except for parking uses and fences adjoining parking uses30 feet
- c. From any residential district:
 - All structures and uses100 feet
- d. If a residential district is separated from the CE District by a public street right-of-way, only the setbacks from a public street right-of-way shall apply.

5. Minimum requirements for Transitional Mobile Home Parks:

The following minimum provisions apply to mobile home parks which existed as of April 30, 2008 and which may be developed and operated as described below, on land within the CE District and within 50 feet of existing nonconforming mobile home parks.

- a. Area of Park5 Acres
 - Minimum
- b. Density15
 - Mobile Home Units per Acre
- c. Setbacks—Mobile Homes:
 - (1) From external public street right-of-way50 feet
 - (2) From a different zoning district other than R-MH50 feet
 - (3) From a R-MH District10 feet

(4) Between structures10 feet

Including steps, decks, and open porches.

(5) Across an internal private drive between structures30 feet

F. Amenity Area

CE developments of 3 acres or more with any uses other than manufacturing shall include an amenity area. The amenity area, or areas, shall be a minimum of 5% of the net acreage. The amenity area shall include seating and trees proportional to the size of the amenity area. Amenity areas shall have pedestrian and bicycle improvements that link with existing and future connections to surrounding developments.

G. Outdoor Storage Areas

The cumulative square footage of outdoor storage areas associated with permitted uses shall not exceed 5% of the site, must be screened in accordance with the Route 1 Manual, and may not be located between a building and the Route 1 right-of-way.

H. Compliance With Route 1 Manual

1. New Development

New development in the CE District shall comply with the standards of the Route 1 Manual.

2. Alterations to Existing Uses Requiring Compliance with the Route 1 Manual

a. The following minor alterations or enlargements are exempt from complying:

- (1) Expansion of a building by 10% or less of the floor area of the building on April 13, 2004, up to a maximum of 5,000 square feet of floor area.
- (2) Building repairs, repaving or restriping parking areas, and other maintenance or repair that does not enlarge a building or use.
- (3) Removal of parking areas, driveways or other paved areas.
- (4) A change in the use of an existing building to a use permitted in this district, if the Department of Planning and Zoning determines, in accordance with the Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, that no changes to site improvements are required.
- (5) Other minor alterations to a developed site that do not require a Site Development Plan or a revision to an approved Site Development Plan. This includes alterations approved through a waiver of the Site Development Plan requirement or a red-line revision to an existing Site Development Plan.

b. Other than the above exceptions, any alteration or enlargement of an existing use

must comply with the Route 1 Manual. The following standards determine the extent to which improvements must be brought into compliance. Additional guidance is provided in the Manual.

(1) Expansion of Existing Improvements

If buildings and/or site improvements are expanded, the site shall be brought into compliance with the Route 1 Manual in equal proportion to the percentage of the site impacted by the expansion. (For example, if the expansion impacts 20% of the site, 20% of the existing improved area shall be brought into compliance with the manual.) The area impacted by the expansion includes the square foot area of building additions and additional parking, loading, driveways, infrastructure, and land cleared or graded.

(2) Site Improvements That Do Not Alter Buildings

If alterations or enlargements are limited to site improvements that do not involve buildings, buildings are not required to be brought into compliance with the Route 1 Manual.

(3) Building Expansions

Expanded buildings shall be brought into compliance with the Route 1 Manual to the extent possible, including design and location of the addition. Relocation or reconstruction of existing buildings is not required.

(4) Route 1 Right-of-way Improvements

All alterations, both major and minor, comply with the streetscape standards of the Route 1 Manual in proportion to the proposed alterations.

- c. A site that does not fully comply with the Route 1 Manual is subject to the bulk requirements in Subsection E.4 above.

H. Conditional Uses

Conditional Uses in the CE district are subject to the detailed requirements for Conditional Uses given in Section 131.0. For the list of permitted Conditional Uses, refer to the chart in Section 131.0.