

Proposed Text Amendment to Article XXIV
Paradise Valley Zoning Ordinance

Article XXIV. WALLS AND FENCES

Section 2401. Intent:

The Town of Paradise Valley encourages visual openness and the preservation of the natural environment. Walls and fences are inconsistent with this intent, but may be desired by residents for safety, noise abatement, and/or security. When walls and fences are necessary, the Town requires that such walls and fences meet the criteria set forth in this Article.

Section 2402. Definitions:

Wall - A wall or fence (including gates) is a freestanding, upright structure, other than plant material, constructed of barriers to enclose, divide, delineate, screen, retain water or earth, or protect an area. The term wall shall include all fences, except a view fence as defined below.

View Fence – A view fence (including gates) is a free-standing, upright structure, constructed with openings between the materials used for construction of the fence, where the openings represent at least 80 percent of the total fence surface area, or where the opening represent at least 70 percent of the total fence surface area when decorative elements such as knuckles, scrolls, spear points and ball caps are present to accentuate the design of the fence.

Combination View Fence – A combination view fence (including gates) is a free-standing, upright structure that meets this Section’s definition for “view fence” for at least 50% of the height of the structure and meets this Section’s definition for “wall” for the remaining portion. The portion of the Combination View Fence meeting the definition of “view fence” must be positioned above the portion meeting the definition of “wall.”

Meandering Wall – A meandering wall is a free-standing, upright structure providing significant variations in setback. Meandering walls may consist of curvilinear, square, rectangular, triangular, or freeform design patterns and shall meet the criteria set forth in Tables 2404 A and B in addition to other criteria specified in this article.

Section 2403. Wall Finishes: ⁶⁵⁴

Any wall visible from adjoining properties, adjacent rights-of-way, and/or open space areas shall consist of finished materials such as stucco, brick, stone, metal, rails, wood, or tile.

The maximum height of a wall and view fence, including the berm, adjoining a major arterial street shall not exceed eight (8) feet. The maximum exposed vertical wall or view fence element from the exterior side of the property shall be no more than six (6) feet, except for a single entry gate and columns as permitted under Section 2413. See Table 2404A for additional criteria.

4. Adjoining Non-Residential Properties Other Than Along A Right-Of-Way

The maximum height of a wall and view fence, including the berm, between a residential property and an adjoining non-residential property, other than a right-of-way, shall not exceed eight (8) feet. When such a wall is adjoining or visible from a right-of-way and/or open space area, it shall complement the architectural character of the main house, and shall have a finish texture, color, and material on both sides compatible with the primary building on-site, or as determined by the town. See Table 2404A for additional criteria.

b. Setbacks Regulations

1. In General.

Setbacks for a wall or view fence will vary depending on whether it is a) adjoining a right-of-way or other property; b) adjoining a major arterial or other street classification; c) located in the front yard or other sides of the lot; d) considered a wall or a view fence; ~~or e)~~ meandering and based on the amount of meander utilized in the wall's construction or f) meets the criteria for combination view fencing set forth in Section 2402. Walls or view fences not adjoining a public or private right-of-way may be built at or on the property lines with no setback requirement. See Table 2404A and B for additional criteria.

2. Adjoining Local, Collector, and Minor Arterial Streets.

Solid Walls or view fences not meeting the criteria for view fencing or combination view fencing located in the front yard of a lot adjoining local, collector, or minor arterial streets that exceed three (3) feet in height shall be setback at least forty (40) feet from the right-of-way property line. View fences or combination view fences located in the front yard of a lot adjoining local, collector, or minor arterial streets that are six (6) feet in height or less shall be setback at least twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way property line. Walls, ~~or view fences,~~ or combination view fences located in the front yard of a lot adjoining local, collector, or minor arterial streets that are three (3) feet in height or less shall be setback at least ten (10) feet from the right-of-way property line, except for the area allotted to an entry gate, as permitted under Section 2413, may be greater than the three foot height limitation. Walls located in the side or rear yard of a lot adjoining local, collector, or minor arterial streets, three (3) feet in height or less, shall be setback at least ten (10) feet from the right-of-way property line. Walls located in the rear or side yard of a lot adjoining local, collector, or minor arterial streets that exceed (3) three feet in height, shall be setback at least twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way property line; however, a view fence may be constructed at a ten (10) foot setback, or a meandering wall may be constructed at an average fifteen (15) foot setback, provided they meet the

criteria set forth in this article and Table 2404A. See Table 2404A for additional criteria.

3. Adjoining Major Arterial Streets.

Walls exceeding three (3) feet in height that adjoin major arterial streets shall be setback at least twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way property line; however, a view fence may be constructed at a ten (10) foot setback or a meandering wall may be constructed at an average fifteen (15) foot setback provided they meet the criteria set forth in this article and Table 2404 A. Walls three (3) feet in height or less may be constructed at the ten (10) foot setback. See Table 2404A for additional criteria.

c. Additional Criteria for Meandering Walls.

Meandering walls shall maintain an average setback of not less than fifteen (15) feet, said average to be determined by comparing the area between the ten (10) and the fifteen (15) foot setback area (noted as Area "A" on Figures 2404-A through -C) with the area encroaching between the fifteen (15) and the twenty (20) foot setback area (noted as Area "B" on Figures 2404-A through -C) such that the area located between the ten (10) and the fifteen (15) foot setback area shall be equal to or less than the area located between the fifteen (15) and twenty (20) foot setback area. Walls that have no significant meander and that are configured to meet the criteria set forth herein solely for the purpose of moving to a fifteen (15) foot setback are impermissible. See Tables 2404A and 2404B for additional criteria.

Table 2404A summarizes many of the regulations relating to height and setback regulations for walls, meandering walls, ~~and~~ view fences, and combination view fences; and sets forth additional criteria related to these structures. Table 2404B sets forth additional criteria for meandering walls.

TABLE 2404A – ALL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS SETBACK AND HEIGHT REGULATIONS FOR WALLS / VIEW FENCES/COMBINATION VIEW FENCES

FRONT YARD ALONG RIGHTS-OF-WAY			
STREET TYPE	TYPE OF WALL OR FENCE	SETBACK FROM PROPERTY LINE, FEET	MAXIMUM HEIGHT, FEET
Major	View Fence	10, Minimum	**8, including berm
	Meandering Wall	15, Average	**8, including berm
	All Others	20, Minimum	**8, including berm
	Any	10, Minimum	3
Local, Collector, Minor	Any	10, Minimum	3
	Any	*40, Minimum	6
	<u>View Fence/Combination View Fence</u>	<u>20, Minimum</u>	<u>6</u>
SIDE OR REAR YARD ALONG RIGHTS-OF-WAY			
Major	View Fence	10, Minimum	**8, including berm
	Meandering Wall	15, Average	**8, including berm
	All Others	20, Minimum	**8, including berm
	Any	10, Minimum	3
Local, Collector, Minor	View Fence	10, Minimum	6
	Meandering Wall	15, Average	6
	All Others	20, Minimum	6
	Any	10, Minimum	3
SIDE OR REAR YARD INTERIOR (not along any right-of-way)			
Not applicable	Any	None Required	6
SIDE OR REAR YARD INTERIOR (adjoining non-residential property other than a right-of-way)			
Not applicable	Any	None Required	**8, including berm

* In R-18A Zoning Districts, the front yard setback along local, collector, or minor streets is minimum 35 feet.

In R-10 Zoning Districts, the front yard setback along local, collector, or minor streets is minimum 20 feet, or as shown on the recorded plat, or as existing at the time of annexation. The setbacks shown on the recorded plat take precedence. If there are no setbacks shown on the recorded plat, the applicant shall choose a setback of 20 feet or a setback as existing at time of annexation. Reference Table 2404A for R-10 Zoning District side and rear yard setbacks.

** Refer to Section 2404(a) for details

TABLE 2404B – ADDITIONAL MEANDERING WALLS CRITERIA

Minimum setback from property line	10 feet
Minimum variation offset from average setback	4 feet
Maximum length of any single section meandering between the 10' and 20' setback	15% of total wall length
Maximum setback area allowed in determining meandering setback	20 feet