

RESOLUTION NO. PC -2024

Resolution of the Fort Bragg Planning Commission Recommending that the City Council Amend Chapter 18.42.175 “Tiny Homes”, of Division 18 of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code, to Modify Regulations and Standards for Tiny Homes.

WHEREAS, California Constitution Article XI, Section 7, enables the City of Fort Bragg (the “City”) to enact local planning and land use regulations; and

WHEREAS the authority to adopt and enforce zoning regulations is an exercise of the City’s police power to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS the City of Fort Bragg (“City”) adopted a General Plan in 2002 which established policies for all lands within Fort Bragg city limits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Bragg (“City”) adopted an Inland General Plan and certified an Environmental Impact Report Addendum (“EIR Addendum”) for the Inland General Plan on December 2, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Bragg (“City”) adopted an Inland Land Use and Development Code and Negative Declaration on February 10, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of an Inland Land Use and Development Code is necessary to: 1) provide a regulatory framework for implementation of the Inland General Plan; 2) to implement new state planning and land use requirements; and 3) update zoning regulations in accordance with City Council policy direction; and

WHEREAS the City desires to ensure that residential development occurs in an orderly manner, in accordance with the goals and objectives of the General Plan and reasonable land use planning principles; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, the City of Fort Bragg amended the Housing Element of the General Plan for conformance with State Housing Law. The 2019 Housing Element includes the following non-mandatory program regarding Tiny Homes. *Program H-1.3.5 Allow Tiny Homes as Second Units. Consider revising the zoning ordinance so that people can park mobile residencies (residences built under the vehicle code) as a second unit, so long as the residence looks like a house (e.g., external siding that is compatible with the residential neighborhood, skirted if the wheels would otherwise be visible from the public right of way, etc.); and*

WHEREAS, On April 22, 2022, the City Council adopted Ordinance 980 establishing a Tiny Home Ordinance, but the ordinance was subsequently found to have some conflicts with State law; and

WHEREAS, on May 17 of 2023, the Community Development Committee received a Tiny Home presentation from Marie Jones Consulting and discussed this item without providing recommendations regarding ordinance revisions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15074 of the CEQA Guidelines, a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was prepared and circulated for public comment for the zoning amendment and approval of the Mitigated Negative Declaration will mitigate the effects of the Project to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment would occur and there is no

substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment; and

WHEREAS the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on March 27, 2024, to consider the zoning amendment, accept public testimony; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Fort Bragg Planning Commission, based on the entirety of the record before it, which includes without limitation, CEQA, Public Resources Code §21000, et seq. and the CEQA Guidelines, 14 California Code of Regulations §15000, et seq.; the Fort Bragg Inland General Plan; the Fort Bragg Inland Land Use and Development Code; the Project application; all reports and public testimony submitted as part of the Planning Commission meeting of December 13, 2023 and Planning Commission deliberations; and any other evidence (within the meaning of Public Resources Code §21080(e) and §21082.2), the Planning Commission of the City of Fort Bragg does hereby make the following findings and determinations:

SECTION 1: INLAND LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT FINDINGS

Pursuant to Fort Bragg Municipal Code Section 18.94.060, the Planning Commission recommends that the City Council make the following findings for adoption of the proposed amendments to the Fort Bragg Inland Land Use and Development Code:

- a. The proposed amendment is consistent with the General Plan and any applicable specific plan; and

The proposed amendment is consistent with the following applicable General Plan policies: Policy LU-6.1, Policy PF-1.2, Policy PF-2.1, Policy C-9.2, Program H-1.3.5, Program H-2.3.2, Policy H-1.6, Program H-3.2

- b. The proposed amendment would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the City.

The proposed amendment is in the public interest to permit alternative opportunities for housing, which will provide for better convenience and welfare for the residents of the City of Fort Bragg as it will result in additional housing. The proposed amendment requires conformance with applicable building and vehicle codes which will ensure healthy and safe housing.

- c. The proposed amendment is internally consistent with other applicable provisions of this Development Code.

The proposed amendment is consistent with ILUDC standards for setbacks, parking, height, lot coverage, and density limits as illustrated in the attached consistency analysis.

SECTION 2: GENERAL FINDINGS:

The foregoing recitals are true and correct and made a part of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fort Bragg Planning Commission does hereby

recommend that the City Council amend Chapter 18.42.175 “Tiny Homes”, of Division 18 of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code, to Modify Regulations and Standards for Tiny Homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fort Bragg Planning Commission hereby recommends that the City Council approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

The above and foregoing Resolution was introduced by _____ seconded by _____, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Fort Bragg held on the 27th day of March 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

RECUSE:

Scott Dietz, Chair

ATTEST:

**Maria Flynn, Administrative Assistant
Community Development Department**

Attachment 2 - Draft Ordinance

Amends Title 18.21.030 & 18.21.050 Land Use Tables as follows:

Amends 18.21.030(B) Table 2-1 Allowable Land Uses and Permit Requirements for Residential Zoning Districts:

TABLE 2-1 Allowed Land Uses and Permit Requirements for Residential Zoning Districts	P	Permitted Use, Zoning Clearance required					
	MUP	Minor Use Permit required (see Section 18.71.060)					
	UP	Use Permit required (see Section 18.71.060)					
	S	Permit requirement set by Specific Use Regulations					
	—	Use not allowed					
LAND USE (1)	PERMIT REQUIRED BY DISTRICT						Specific Use Regulations
	RR	RS	RL	RM	RH	RVH	
RESIDENTIAL USES							
Tiny Home	P	P	P	P	P	P	18.42.175

Amends 18.22.030(C) Table 2-6 Allowable Land Uses and Permit Requirements for Commercial Zoning Districts:

TABLE 2-6 Allowed Land Uses and Permit Requirements for Commercial Zoning Districts	P	Permitted Use, Zoning Clearance required				
	MUP	Minor Use Permit required (see Section 18.71.060)				
	UP	Use Permit required (see Section 18.71.060)				
	S	Permit requirement set by Specific Use Regulations				
	—	Use not allowed				
LAND USE (1)	PERMIT REQUIRED BY DISTRICT					Specific Use Regulations
	CN	CO	CBD	CG	CH	
RESIDENTIAL USES						
Primary Residential Unit	P(3)	--	P(4)	P(4)	—	
Tiny Home	P(6)			P(6)		18.42.175

(6) Use permitted only on parcels with existing single residential unit or existing/proposed multifamily development, and only in compliance with § 18.42.175.

18.42.175 Tiny Homes & Model Park RVs

A. **Applicability.** Where allowed by Article 2 (Zoning Districts and Allowable Land Uses), Tiny Homes and Park Model RVs shall comply with the standards of this section.

B. **Definitions.**

A Tiny Home is a small towable residential unit that is not on a permanent foundation, and that meets the design and construction criteria listed in C below. Tiny homes shall meet either the provisions of ANSI 119.5 or NFPA 1192. It shall be the burden of the applicant to show compliance with these standards. Tiny homes shall be licensed and registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Park Model RV. As defined in Health and Safety Code Section 18009.3, a Park Model RV is a trailer designed for human habitation that meets the following requirements:

- 1. It contains 400 square feet or less of gross floor area, excluding loft area space if that loft area space meets the requirements of subdivision (b) and Section 18033; and
- 2. It may not exceed 14 feet in width at the maximum horizontal projection; and
- 3. It is built upon a single chassis; and
- 4. It may only be transported upon public highways with a permit issued pursuant to Section 35780 of the Vehicle Code. Park Model RVs shall be licensed and registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

A Park Model RV is not a self-propelled recreational vehicle.

C. **Tiny Home and Park Model RV Standards.** Tiny Homes and Park Model RVs shall be subject to all of the following additional criteria:

1. **Limitations on location.**

- a. Tiny homes and Park Model RV are allowed as accessory residential use to a Primary Residential Unit.

2. **Development Standards.** Tiny Homes and Park Model RVs (Unit) shall conform with the following requirements:

- a. **Height.** The unit shall have a maximum height of 13' 6" to comply with Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) towing requirements.
- b. **Location.** A unit shall be located toward the side or rear of the primary unit and comply with all setbacks.
- c. **Size.** Units shall be at least 150 square feet in compliance with the California Health & Safety Code, but no more than 400 square feet.
- d. **Number of Units Allowed.** Units are allowed on a parcel in the following configurations:
 - i. On a parcel with an existing primary unit, a maximum of one Tiny home or Park Model RV unit is permitted. Neither is permitted if there is a detached ADU on the property.
 - ii. Tiny homes and Park Model RVs are permitted in Tiny Home Communities, and the maximum allowed is determined by Section 18.42.110.

