



**Staff Report
Amendments
Applicability and Minimum
Requirements**

**Attachments: Applicability and
Minimum Requirements**

Work Session: Thursday, March 5, 2026
Public Hearing: Thursday, March 12, 2026
City Council Introduction: Tuesday, March 24, 2026
City Council Public Hearing: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Request:

Update to the Unified Development Code (UDC) by the City Planner regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.

City Planner Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval.

Public Hearing:

For: 4
Against: 0

Commission Recommendation:

Motion:

Recommend approval for an amendment to the UDC regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.

For: Kylan Douglas, Monica Perez, Trey Tycer, Judah Richardson
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Ron Matthews

Ordinance to Read:

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2026 the Hammond Zoning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approval for an amendment to the UDC regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT ORDAINED, the Hammond City Council held a public hearing on April 14, 2026 and approved the amendment to the UDC regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.

Article 1. General Provisions

1.3 Applicability

A. The provisions of this development code apply to the development of all land within **City of Hammond**, Louisiana. No development shall be undertaken without prior authorization pursuant to this development code.

The development code requirements are in addition to the requirements of any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, and where any provision of this article imposes restrictions different from those imposed by any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, whichever provision is more restrictive or imposes higher protective standards for human health or the environment shall control.

1.7 ~~Minimum Requirements~~ **Rules of interpretation**

~~The requirements of this development code shall be considered as the minimum requirements for the promotion of the public health, safety, and general welfare.~~

- A. **Generally.** In interpreting and applying the provisions of this UDC, these provisions shall be considered as the minimum requirements necessary for the promotion of the public health, safety, and general welfare.
- B. **Delegation of authority.** Whenever a provision appears requiring the department head or some other officer or employee to do some act or perform some duty, the city planner or other officer may designate, delegate, and authorize professional-level subordinates to perform the required act or duty, unless the terms of the provision or section specify otherwise.
- C. **Authority to interpret.** Unless otherwise specified in this section, the city planner shall have the authority to determine the meaning, applicability, and interpretation of any provision of this code. Any person aggrieved, or any officer, department, board or commission of the city affected by an interpretation of the director may appeal the interpretation to the board of adjustment.
- D. **Rules of Language.** For the purpose of interpretation of the UDC, the following rules of language shall apply:
- (1) Illustrations, diagrams, figures, captions, and flowcharts are provided for purposes of describing, clarifying or presenting examples of the definitions in the text and do not replace or limit the meaning of the text. In case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text and any illustration, diagrams, figures, captions, or flowcharts, the text shall control.
 - (2) The word "shall," "will" and "must" are mandatory implying an obligation or duty to comply with the particular provision. The word "may" is discretionary, meaning that the requirement is at the discretion of the Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, or City Council.
 - (3) The terms "shall not," "must not," "will not," and "may not" are prohibiting.

- (4) Words used in the singular number include the plural and the plural includes the singular. Words of one (1) gender include all other genders, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary.
- (5) All words, terms and phrases not otherwise defined herein shall be given their usual and customary meaning, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning was intended.
- (6) Unless the context clearly indicated the contrary, conjunctions shall be interpreted as follows:
 - (a) AND indicates that all connected items, conditions, provisions, or events shall apply.
 - (b) OR indicates that one or more connected items, conditions, provisions, or events may apply singly or in any combination.
 - (c) EITHER...OR indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events shall apply singularly but not in combination.
- (6) Any fraction of a half or more shall be rounded up to nearest whole number, unless how such fraction is treated is specifically indicated in an Ordinance regulation.
- (7) Unless otherwise specifically indicated, lists of items or examples that use terms "including" and "such as" or similar language are intended to provide examples, not to be exhaustive lists of all possibilities.
- (8) Sometimes there may be general and specific regulations that pertain to one particular aspect of site design. In such instances, the specific regulations shall be followed.

E. Abbreviations and Acronyms

The following abbreviations and acronyms are used:

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act (1990)
CFR	Code of Federal Ordinances
C.C.	Louisiana Civil Code, as amended from time to time.
DOT	Department of Transportation (U.S.)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Maps
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GFA	Gross floor area
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
R.S.	Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended from time to time.
ROW	Right of Way