Fences, Walls & Hedges
Section 165.22(9)

Fences, walls and hedges. The regulations set forth in this Subsection regulate the placement of fences in all districts.

A. Fences shall be constructed of material commonly used for landscape fencing, such as masonry block, lumber, plastic, chain link or natural plantings, but shall not include barbed wire, salvage material, or be electrified. Electrified fences and barbed wire may be used for permitted livestock containment and horse stables.
   a. In all zoning districts, the smooth, finished, nonstructural or dressed side of the fence, if any, shall be directed toward the neighboring property or properties.

B. Fences, walls or screen plantings may be located on a residential property in any rear or side yard from the front building line to the rear property line not to exceed 6 feet. In the front yard from the front building line to the front property surface to permit the transmission of light, air or vision through the vertical surface at a right angle may be constructed to a height not to exceed 4 feet.

C. On corner lots, both yards that abut a street must follow the requirements for fences in front yards, except that fences not providing openings of at least 75 percent may not exceed a height of 3 feet and must provide a 20 foot visual clearance zone at all street intersections and a 10 foot visual clearance zone when a corner lot front or side property line abuts an alley. Fences not meeting the height standards must be located 10 feet from the side and rear property line on the corner side.
   a. Fences located on the front and side property lines abutting a street may not exceed 4 feet in height. If the fence does not provide openings of at least 75 percent in area of the vertical surface to permit the transmission of light, air or vision through the vertical surface at a right angle, a 20-foot visual clearance zone must be observed at all street intersections. A 10-foot visual clearance zone must be observed when a corner front or side property line abuts an alley.
   b. Fences higher than 4 feet in a side and rear yards of corner lots must be located 10 feet from the side property line on the corner side.

D. In all commercial and industrial districts except the C-1, C-3, C-4 and C-R Zoning Districts, nonresidential fences may be up to 8 feet in height in the rear and side yards and up to 6 feet in height in a front yard, provided that all fences located in a front yard are constructed of see through material. If barbed wire is needed for security reasons, the fence may be extended another foot to a maximum height of 9 feet in rear and side yards and 7 feet in front yards. Barbed wire may not be closer than 6 feet to the ground and may not overhang any public right-of-way. Any fence higher that this maximum height or constructed of material other than see through material in front yards must be approved by the Board of Adjustment. Visual clearance zones shall also apply.
   a. Chain link fencing for public parks and recreational areas and school facilities may be erected to a height of 6 feet.
   b. In all zoning districts, public and non public buildings and facilities essential to the physical welfare of an area, such as electrical distribution substations, pipeline plunging stations, gas regulators, water storage facilities and similar uses may be surrounded by a fence having a height above ground of not more than 10 feet.

E. Fences located outside of property lines on public right-of-ways are allowed only if approved by the Public Works Director. If approved, the abutting property owner must assume responsibility for maintenance of the fence. If the property is needed by the City, the owner is responsible for removal of the fence. Fences placed in the right-of-way may not be closer than 18 inches from a public sidewalk.