

Maximum FAR's for a land use designation are an absolute ceiling, not an entitlement. Other controls in the zoning code, such as maximum permitted height, building coverage, and parking, also limit building intensity. Variances for FAR limits established by the General Plan are not permitted.

The goals, policies, and actions contained in this Element provide direction on how the various land use designations should be developed to contribute to the overall character of Capitola. Allowed uses are generally characterized within each land use designation description of this General Plan. Additional use types may be permitted as specified by the zoning ordinance.

Residential Designations

- ◆ Single-Family Residential (R-1). The R-1 designation applies to residential neighborhoods primarily characterized by detached single-family homes. Permitted land uses include single-family homes and public facilities such as schools, religious institutions, parks, and other community facilities appropriate within a residential neighborhood. The maximum permitted residential density in the R-1 designation is 10 dwelling units per acre.¹
- ◆ Multi-Family Residential (RM). The RM designation applies to areas primarily intended for multi-family residential development. All residential uses are permitted in the RM designation, including single-family homes, duplex homes, townhomes, and multi-family structures. Public facilities, such as schools, religious institutions, parks, and other community facilities appropriate within a multi-family residential setting are also permitted. The maximum permitted residential density in the RM designation is between 10 and 40 dwelling units per acre depending upon the zoning classification.



Jewel Box homes in the R-1 designation (top) and Fanmar Way homes in the RM designation (bottom)

¹ Maximum densities prescribed by the General Plan are not entitlements and may not be realized due to other development regulations, including but not limited to, minimum lot size, setbacks, height, and parking requirements.