

December 20, 2021

Honorable Mayor Trevor Chadwick
Star City Council Members
c/o Shawn Nickel, Star Planning & Zoning Administrator
10769 W. State Street
Star, Idaho 83669

RE: 2021 Unified Development Code & Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members:

Canyon Highway District No. 4 (CHD4) has received notice of the proposed Star Unified Development Code and Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Staff has reviewed the application and associated draft materials available for the December 21, 2021 Council meeting, and offers the following comments on these matters:

UDC Amendments

1. **Section 8-4A-17 Sidewalks:** Proposed updates to the minimum standards for sidewalks for Arterial, Collector, and Local streets are not consistent with the standard street sections adopted by CHD4 for use in the Canyon County area of Star. Current standard street sections are from the Ada County Highway District Policy Manual Sections 7205 -7207, and were selected to maintain consistent street sections between both the Ada and Canyon county portions of the city.

The new sidewalk standards proposed require 7-foot walks with 8-foot planter strips for arterial and collector roadways (formerly 5-foot detached with 6-foot planter), and will require additional right-of-way (approximately 4-feet additional per street-half) to retain the detached walk fully within the public right-of-way and to provide the desired planter width. The proposed local street sidewalk with 5-foot walk and 6-foot planter will also require an additional 4-feet of right-of-way for each street half.

CHD4 recommends that, if this desirable to the city, you request ACHD and CHD4 to revise the standard street sections adopted for use within Star so these may be applied to new developments.

2. **Section 8-4A-17.F Trees:** CHD4 requests time to allow review and comment relating City Code Chapter 8 Article D, to ensure these standards allow for best practices in locating trees within public right-of-way. Improperly selected or planted trees can have significant conflicts with roadway and public utility infrastructure that occupies the public right-of-way.
3. **Section 8-4B Off Street Parking:** Any proposed on-street parking should be provided in addition to the standard street sections for collector streets. On-street parking is not recommended for arterial streets.

4. **Section 8-6A-3 Preliminary Plat Process:** CHD4 recommends this section be amended to include a requirement that any preliminary plat affecting public roads be approved, or conditionally approved by the transportation agency having jurisdiction over the affected roads prior to final approval by the City Council. A “letter” from the transportation agency may only point out significant issues relating to access or public road development, and may require non-trivial revisions to meet transportation standards or public needs.
5. **Section 8-6A-6 Short Land Division Process:** CHD4 requests written approval from the highway district of the proposed access location(s) to serve the new lots be required prior to administrative approval. This is largely covered in Part 9.d, but would provide documentation on the number and location of new access points that could be provided.
6. **Section 8-8A-6.A.2 General Sign Requirements- Vision Triangle:** Please see the attached minimum standards for intersection sight distance recommended by AASHTO (ACCHD SD-107B). Signs should not be located within this recommended vision triangle to provide for safe operation of public streets and driveway approaches.

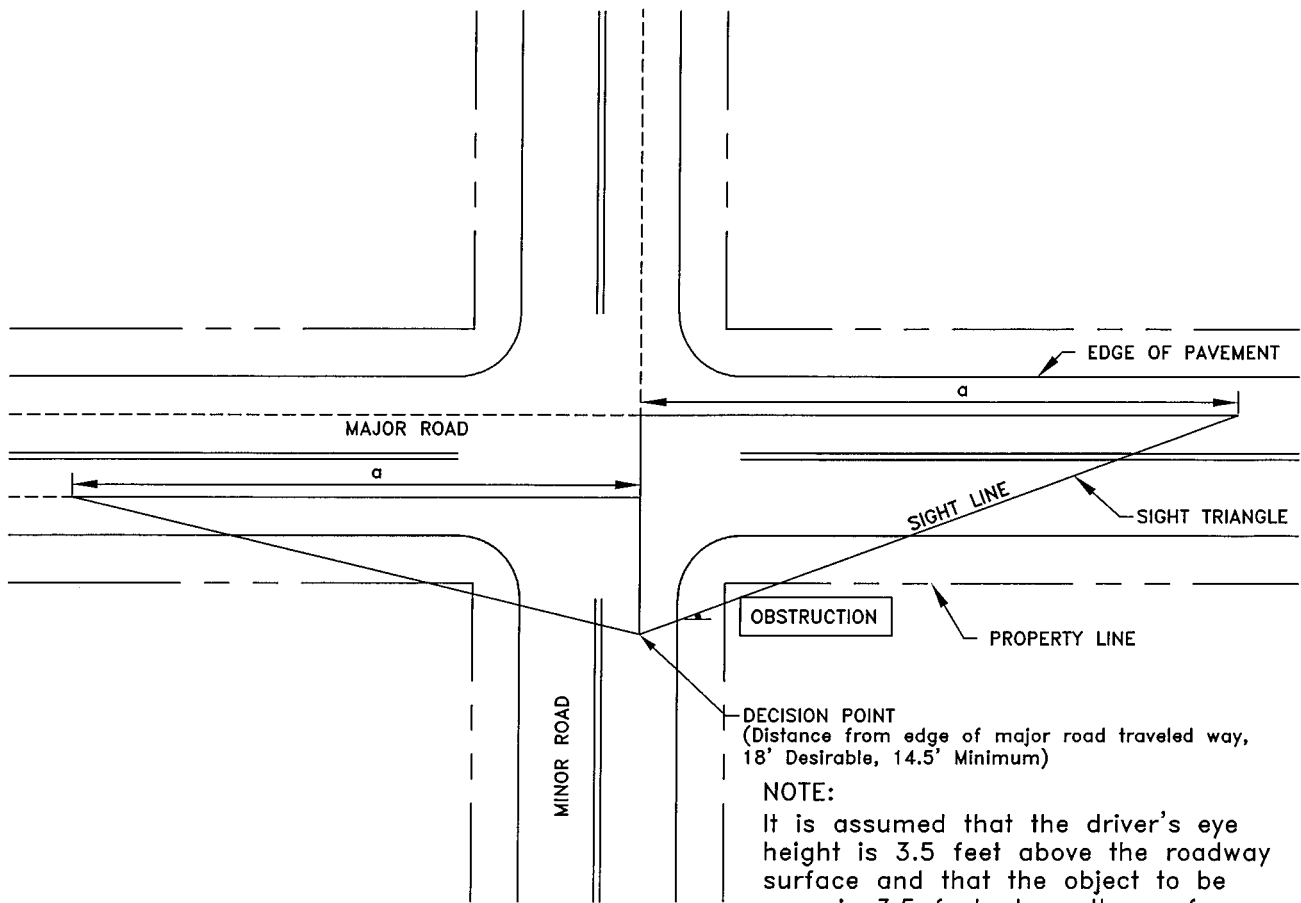
CHD4 appreciates the opportunity to review the proposed amendments, and requests these comments be considered in amending the current city code and comprehensive plan. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, or to discuss any of the comments provided.

Respectfully,



Chris Hopper, P.E.
District Engineer
Canyon Highway District No. 4

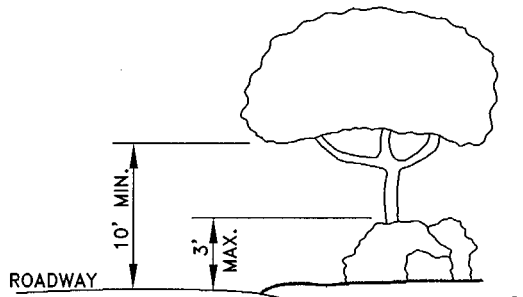
CC: Ada County Highway District Planning Review



EDGE OF PAVEMENT
 a
 MAJOR ROAD
 a
 MINOR ROAD
 OBSTRUCTION
 PROPERTY LINE
 SIGHT LINE
 SIGHT TRIANGLE
 DECISION POINT
 (Distance from edge of major road traveled way,
 18' Desirable, 14.5' Minimum)

NOTE:
 It is assumed that the driver's eye height is 3.5 feet above the roadway surface and that the object to be seen is 3.5 feet above the surface of the intersecting road.

Design Speed (mph)	Stopping Sight Distance (ft)	Length of Leg a (ft)
20	115	225
25	155	280
30	200	335
35	250	390
40	305	445
45	360	500
50	425	555
55	495	610
60	570	665
65	645	720



Obstructions between 3' and 10' above the roadway centerline surface elevation are prohibited within sight triangles

Sight triangles for controlled intersections shall also meet the Idaho Code requirements shown on Standard Drawing No. ACCHD-107

SIGHT TRIANGLE AT CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS

N.T.S.

STANDARD DRAWING No. ACCHD-107B
 CANYON COUNTY HIGHWAY DISTRICTS
 CANYON COUNTY, IDAHO

REVISED 10/16