

- (b) Promote pedestrian access and activity, as well as a general sense of area security;
  - (c) Restore and maintain the role of streets as civic and social spaces, framed by active uses;
  - (d) Encourage economic development and a convenient mix of uses and services; and
  - (e) Support a sense of design context that appropriately relates historic buildings, general facade and window patterns, and traditional streetscapes in the area to new redevelopment efforts, while still allowing architectural flexibility.
- (2) Key terms: Standards using the verb "shall" are required; "should" is used when the standard is to be applied unless the Planning Board finds a strong justification for an alternative solution in an unusual and specific circumstance; and "may" means that the "standard" is an optional guideline that is encouraged but not required.
- (3) Proposed new buildings should be compatible with nearby historic-quality buildings along Main Street. References to the existing context should include scale, type and texture of materials, roof and cornice forms, spacing and proportion of windows and doors, signs, and street-front fixtures. Building exteriors in or directly adjoining the Historic District and Landmark Overlay sections of the CMS District shall reinforce historic patterns and neighboring buildings with an emphasis on continuity and compatibility, not contrast, but new construction may still be distinguishable in architectural details, most evident in window construction and interiors.
- (4) Buildings should have a top-floor cornice feature and first-floor architectural articulation, such as a storefront with a secondary cornice or an architecturally emphasized entrance doorway, to accent the central body of the building.
- (5) Architectural features and windows shall be continued on all sides of the building that are clearly visible from a street or public parking area, avoiding any blank walls, except in cases of existing walls or potential common property walls. Larger buildings shall incorporate significant breaks in the facades and rooflines at intervals of no more than 35 feet.

- 223-41.18.J(6) (6) Building elements that provide additional architectural interest, such as balconies, bay windows, open porches, and

cornices, may encroach up to four feet above the sidewalk, if the bottom of the encroaching building elements is at least 12 feet above grade.

- (7) Metal, glass or canvas-type awnings and canopies or projecting signs are encouraged and may encroach up to six feet over the sidewalk above seven feet. Vinyl awnings are discouraged unless the applicant can demonstrate to the Planning Board's satisfaction that the finish and design of such awning are of high quality, aesthetically pleasing and meet the intended standards of the district.
- (8) Buildings shall have a front entrance door facing the primary street and connected to the sidewalk. Front entrance doors for commercial buildings and retail storefronts shall be active and provide main access during business hours.
- (9) Primary individual window proportions shall be greater in height than in width, but the Planning Board may allow exceptions for storefront, transom, and specialty windows. Mirrored, reflective, or tinted glass, all-glass walls, and exterior roll-down security gates shall not be permitted. Any shutters shall match the size of the window opening and appear functional.
- (10) Commercial buildings shall have at least 70% glass on the first-floor facades, located between two feet and 10 feet above the sidewalk. Main Street or East Main Street buildings should have at least 30% glass on the upper-floor facades.
- (11) Finish building materials should be wood, brick, traditional cement-based stucco, stone, smooth cast stone, smooth-finished fiber-cement siding, or other materials deemed acceptable by the approving body. Vinyl, aluminum or sheet metal siding or sheet trim, exposed concrete blocks or concrete walls, plywood or other similar prefabricated panels, unpainted or unstained lumber, synthetic rough-cut stone, synthetic brick, synthetic stucco, exterior insulation and finishing system (EIFS), direct-applied finish system (DAFS), and chain link, barbed wire, plastic, or vinyl fencing shall not be permitted.
- (12) Materials and colors should complement historic buildings on the block. Fluorescent, neon, metallic, or other intentionally garish colors, as well as stripes, dots, or other incompatible patterns, shall be prohibited.