

the imposition of the requirements of this section would impose such an economic burden upon the project relative to its scope that it renders the project impossible to develop; and

4. The requested relief does not constitute a grant of a special privilege inconsistent with the limitations upon similar properties.

The Zoning Board of Appeals must make positive findings on each of the four (4) criteria above in order for any such adjustment to be valid. An applicant aggrieved of a decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal a decision under this subsection pursuant to Sec. 14-553 of the City Code.

(1) *Effect of Other City Ordinances.*

1. *Historic Preservation.* Nothing in this division shall permit the demolition or conversion to non-residential use, of dwelling units in residential property protected by the Historic Preservation Ordinance (Sections 14-601, et seq.), except as permitted by that ordinance.
2. *Conditional Zone.* A conditional zone may not be used to circumvent the application of this section. The terms of this section shall apply to any conditional zone which involves dwelling units affected by this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the City and the applicant from agreeing to terms which exceed those imposed by this section by means of a conditional zone.

(m) *Appeals.* Any applicant aggrieved by a decision of the Planning Authority under this section may appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals within 30 days of that decision.
(Ord. No. 27-02/03, 10-7-02; Ord. No. 280-09/10, 7-19-10; Ord. No. 241-10/11, 6-6-11)

DIVISION 30. INCENTIVES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Sec.14-484. Purpose.

The city believes that it is in the public interest to promote an adequate supply of affordable housing for its residents. The purpose of this division therefore is to offer

incentives to developers to include units of affordable housing within development projects, thereby mitigating the impact of market rate housing construction on the limited supply of available land for suitable housing, and helping to meet the housing needs of all economic groups within the city. The city believes that this division will assist in meeting the city's comprehensive goals for affordable housing, in the prevention of overcrowding and deterioration of the limited supply of affordable housing, and by doing so promote the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

(Ord. No. 98-06/07, 12-4-06)

Sec. 14-485. Definitions.

Affordable housing unit for rent means a dwelling unit for which:

- (a) The rent is affordable to a household earning 80% or less of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development moderate-income figure for metropolitan Cumberland county Maine for a household of that size; and
- (b) Annual rent increases for that unit are limited in perpetuity by deed restriction or other legally binding agreement to the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development moderate-income figure for metropolitan Cumberland county Maine for a household of that size.

Affordable housing unit for sale means a dwelling unit for which:

- (a) The sale price is affordable to a household earning 120% or less of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development moderate-income figure for metropolitan Cumberland county Maine for a household of that size; and
- (b) The resale price is limited by deed restriction or other legally binding agreement for all future sales of the unit to an amount that is affordable to a household earning 120% of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development moderate-income figure for metropolitan Cumberland county Maine for a

household of that size, as calculated for the year in which the sale takes place.

Development fees means:

- (a) The following fees, as described in this chapter: site plan review and inspection fees; subdivision review and inspection fees; and administrative fees; and
- (b) Construction and permit fees as described in chapter 6. "Development fees" does not include any fees charged for reviews conducted by a party other than the city.

Dwelling unit has the same meaning as that term is defined in section 14-47.

Eligible project means a development project:

- (a) That is permissible under the provisions of this chapter in the zone in which it is proposed;
- (b) That will be a multi-family dwelling, as defined in section 14-47, and will not be located in an R-1 or R-2 zone;
- (c) Reserve; and
- (d) That creates new dwelling units, among which is at least one affordable housing unit for rent or sale, through new construction, substantial rehabilitation of existing structures, adaptive reuse or conversion of a non-residential use to residential use, or any combination of these elements. Affordable housing units for sale or rent may not differ in exterior design from other units within an eligible project.

(Ord. No. 98-06/07, 12-4-06; Ord. No. 84-08/09, 10-20-08)

Sec. 14-486. Reduction of fees.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or chapter 6 to the contrary, development fees shall be reduced by the city for an eligible project in the manner described in the following table:

Percentage of new units that	Percentage discount of
------------------------------	------------------------

are affordable units	development fees
5% up to but not including 10%	5% reduction
10% up to but not including 15%	10% reduction
15% up to but not including 20%	15% reduction
20% up to but not including 25%	20% reduction
25% or more	25% reduction

(Ord. No. 98-06/07, 12-4-06)

Sec. 14-487. Priority review.

The planning division shall perform its review of an eligible project in as expedited a manner as is practical, without impairing the scope or thoroughness of the review. The planning division may adopt administrative procedures to prioritize review of eligible projects and facilitate this expedited review.

The planning board shall make its best efforts to give priority in scheduling workshops and public hearings related to any plans or applications required for an eligible project that are within the planning board's jurisdiction, without impairing the scope or thoroughness of its review. At the conclusion of these public meetings, the planning board shall promptly issue a decision on all such plans and applications before it for consideration.

(Ord. No. 98-06/07, 12-4-06)

Sec. 14-488. Density, parking and dimensional bonuses and reductions.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary:

- (a) *Density bonuses.* The maximum number of units that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter shall be increased for an eligible project in the manner described in the following table:

Percentage of new units that are affordable units	Percentage increase in maximum number of units allowed

5% up to but not including 10%	5% increase
10% up to but not including 15%	10% increase
15% up to but not including 20%	15% increase
20% up to but not including 25%	20% increase
25% or more	25% increase

- (b) *Off-street parking.* Off-street parking is required as provided in Division 20 (off-street parking) of this article.
- (c) *Building height bonus.* The maximum structure height for an eligible project building:
1. That is located in a B-2 or B-2b community business zone;
 2. That contains five (5) or more dwelling units; and
 3. Of which 20% or more of new dwelling units created are affordable units for rent or sale, is an additional ten feet above the maximum structure height that would otherwise apply to the building pursuant to this chapter.

The total height of the eligible project, including any bonus received pursuant to this subsection, may not exceed the maximum height recommended for the location of the project pursuant to a height study that has been adopted as part of the city's comprehensive plan.

(Ord. No. 98-06/07, 12-4-06; Ord No. 240-09/10, 6-21-10)

DIVISION 31. HOUSING TRUST FUND

Sec. 14-489. Housing trust fund.

- (a) *Purpose.* The purpose of enacting this section is:
1. To establish a City of Portland housing trust fund for the promotion, retention and cration of an adequate