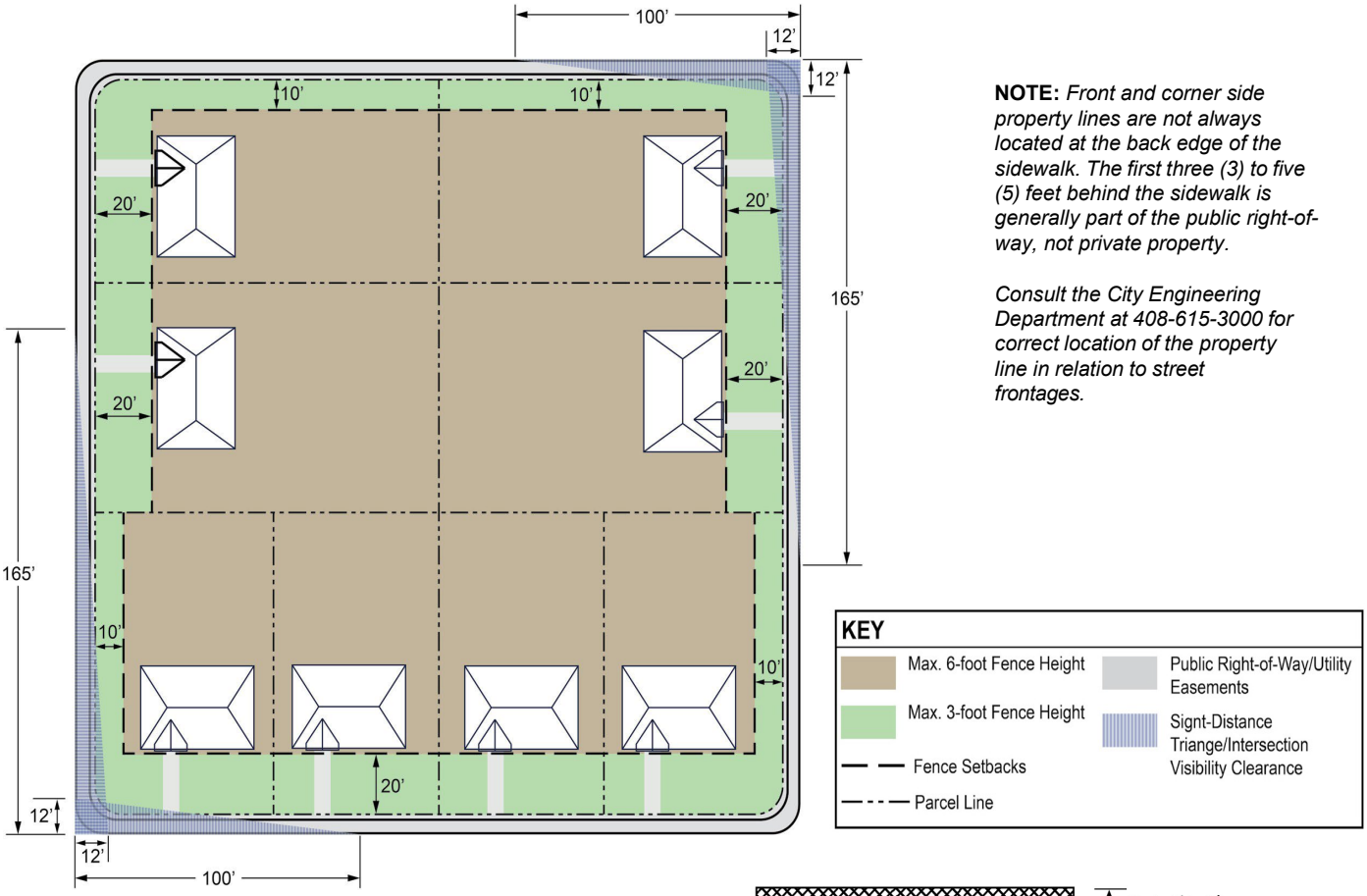
City of Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

Community Development Department
Planning Division

Fences, Walls, Hedges and Screens Regulations

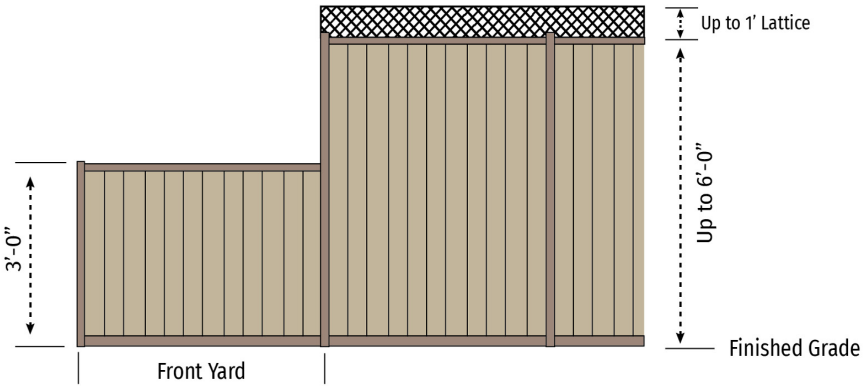
This handout summarizes key regulations for fences, walls, hedges, and screens and is not intended to be an exhaustive list. See City of Santa Clara City Code Chapter 18.34: Fences, Walls, Hedges, and Screens for more information.

- Fence, wall, hedge, and screen heights shall be measured as the vertical distance between the finished grade of the ground and the top edge of the fence, wall, or hedge. Adjacent grades shall not be artificially elevated to allow for a fence, wall, hedge, or screen that is higher than the allowable maximum height.
- The maximum height of fences, walls, and screening in yard areas shall be consistent with Section 18.30.030 – Sight-Distance Triangle.



NOTE: *Front and corner side property lines are not always located at the back edge of the sidewalk. The first three (3) to five (5) feet behind the sidewalk is generally part of the public right-of-way, not private property.*

Consult the City Engineering Department at 408-615-3000 for correct location of the property line in relation to street frontages.



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