

ORDINANCE NO. 16,512

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended, by amending Section 135-2.1.7, relating to trash recycling, refuse locations, and Sections 135-9.1.2, 135-9.1.3 and 135-9.2.3, relating to review and approval procedures.

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

Section 1. That the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended, by amending Section 135-2.1.7, relating to trash recycling, refuse locations, and Sections 135-9.1.2, 135-9.1.3 and 135-9.2.3, relating to review and approval procedures, as follows:

Article 2. BUILDING TYPES

135-2.1 GENERAL

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2.1.7 TRASH, RECYCLING, REFUSE LOCATIONS

Unless otherwise defined by the building type, all trash, recycling, and other refuse areas shall be located and treated as follows:

- A. Unless located inside a building, all trash, recycling, and other refuse areas for one- or two-household uses shall be located outside of the front yard or screened to the satisfaction of the development services director.
- B. Unless located inside the building as described below, for all uses other than one- or two-household uses:
 1. Trash, recycling, and other refuse areas must be located in the rear yard of the lot and outside of any required landscape buffer per article 7 of this chapter.
 2. When no rear yard exists or when the rear yard is less than 10 feet in depth, trash, recycling, and other refuse areas may be located in the rear portion of an interior side yard.
 3. Trash, recycling, and other refuse areas may be located inside the building with access doors off the rear or interior side facade. Access doors may be located off a non-primary frontage facade with a Type 1 design alternative per section 135-9.2 of this chapter. Access doors shall be opaque, screening a minimum of 80% of the opening.
 4. Refer to section 135-7.10 of this chapter for required screening of trash, recycling, and other refuse areas.

Article 9. REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES

135-9.1 GENERAL

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9.1.2 APPLICABILITY

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D. Expansion.

1. Structures. The regulations of this chapter apply whenever a building is enlarged by over 50% of the existing building gross floor area.

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9.1.3 EXEMPTIONS

A. The following are exempt from submitting a formal site plan in accordance with this article:

1. Projects that comply with all applicable zoning and design regulations and that will result in the cumulative addition of no more than 500 square feet of floor area, not to exceed 10% of the existing floor area;
2. Interior alterations that do not alter the footprint, height, exterior or use of a building;

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135-9.2. SITE DESIGN AND DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

9.2.3 TYPE 1 DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

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B. Other Type 1 Design Alternatives

1. Except as noted above in this section, reduce by up to 50% any minimum requirements of the building type regulations of Article 2 of this chapter and design regulations of Article 4 of this chapter that are expressed as a dimension or distance.
2. Except as noted above in this section and excluding maximum overall building height for property within the Capitol Dominance Area, increase by up to 50% any maximum requirements included in the building type regulations of Article 2 of this chapter and design regulations of Article 4 of this chapter that are expressed as a dimension or distance.

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Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law.

FORM APPROVED: Chas M. Cahill, Assistant City Attorney

Connie Boesen, Mayor

Attest: I, Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of an Ordinance (Roll Call No. 25-1450), passed by the City Council of said City at the meeting held on October 20, 2025 and signed by the Mayor on October 20, 2025 and published and provided by law in the Business Record on November 7, 2025. Authorized by Publication Order No. 13168.

Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk