

Adopted by LCDC October 5, 2006

**OAR 660, DIVISION 24
URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARIES**

660-024-0000

Purpose and Applicability

(1) The rules in this division clarify procedures and requirements of Goal 14 regarding local government adoption or amendment of an urban growth boundary (UGB).

(2) The rules in this division interpret Goal 14 as amended by Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) on or after April 28, 2005, and are not applicable to plan amendments or land use decisions governed by previous versions of Goal 14 still in effect.

(3) The rules in this division are effective April 5, 2007, except as follows:

(a) A local government may choose to apply this division prior to April 5, 2007;

(b) A local government may choose to not apply this division to a plan amendment concerning the evaluation or amendment of a UGB, regardless of the date of that amendment, if the local government initiated the evaluation or amendment of the UGB prior to April 5, 2007;

(c) For purposes of this rule, "initiated" means that the local government either:

(i) Issued the public notice specified in OAR 660-018-0020 for the proposed plan amendment concerning the evaluation or amendment of the UGB, or

(ii) Received LCDC approval of a periodic review work program that includes a work task to evaluate the UGB land supply or amend the UGB;

(d) A local government choice whether to apply this division must include the entire division and may not differ with respect to individual rules in the division.

660-024-0010

Definitions

In this division, the definitions in the statewide goals and the following definitions apply:

(1) "Local government" means a city or county, or a metropolitan service district described in ORS 197.015(14).

(2) "Safe harbor" means an optional course of action that a local government may use to satisfy a requirement of Goal 14. Use of a safe harbor prescribed in this division will satisfy the requirement for which it is prescribed. A safe harbor is not the only way or necessarily the preferred way to comply with a requirement and it is not intended to interpret the requirement for any purpose other than applying a safe harbor within this division.

(3) "UGB" means "urban growth boundary."

(4) "Urban area" means the land within a UGB.

660-024-0020

Adoption or Amendment of a UGB

(1) All statewide goals and related administrative rules are applicable when establishing or amending a UGB, except as follows:

(a) The exceptions process in Goal 2 and OAR 660, division 4, is not applicable unless a local government chooses to take an exception to a particular goal requirement, for example, as provided in OAR 660-004-0010(1);

(b) Goals 3 and 4 are not applicable;

(c) Goal 5 and related rules under OAR 660, division 23, apply only in areas added to the UGB, except as required under OAR 660-023-0070 and 660-023-0250;

(d) The transportation planning rule requirements under OAR 660-012-0060 need not be applied to a UGB amendment if the land added to the UGB is zoned as urbanizable land, either by retaining the zoning that was assigned prior to inclusion in the boundary or by assigning interim zoning that does not allow development that would generate more vehicle trips than development allowed by the zoning assigned prior to inclusion in the boundary;

(e) Goal 15 is not applicable to land added to the UGB unless the land is within the Willamette River Greenway Boundary;

(f) Goals 16 to 18 are not applicable to land added to the UGB unless the land is within a coastal shorelands boundary;

(g) Goal 19 is not applicable to a UGB amendment.

(2) The UGB and amendments to the UGB must be shown on the city and county plan and zone maps at a scale sufficient to determine which particular lots or parcels are included in the UGB. Where a UGB does not follow lot or parcel lines, the map must provide sufficient information to determine the precise UGB location.

660-024-0030

Population Forecasts

(1) Counties must adopt and maintain a coordinated 20-year population forecast for the county and for each urban area within the county consistent with statutory requirements for such forecasts under ORS 195.025 and 195.036. Cities must adopt a 20-year population forecast for the urban area consistent with the coordinated county forecast, except that a metropolitan service district must adopt and maintain a 20-year population forecast for the area within its jurisdiction. In adopting the coordinated forecast, local governments must follow applicable procedures and requirements in ORS 197.610 to 197.650 and must provide notice to all other local governments in the county. The adopted forecast must be included in the comprehensive plan or in a document referenced by the plan.

(2) The forecast must be developed using commonly accepted practices and standards for population forecasting used by professional practitioners in the field of demography or economics, and must be based on current, reliable and objective sources and verifiable factual information, such as the most recent long-range forecast for the county published by the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA). The forecast must take into account documented long-term demographic trends as well as recent events that have a reasonable likelihood of changing historical trends. The population forecast is an estimate which, although based on the best available information and methodology, should not be held to an unreasonably high level of precision.

(3) As a safe harbor, if a coordinated population forecast was adopted by a county within the previous 10 years but does not provide a 20-year forecast for an urban area at the time a city initiates an evaluation or amendment of the UGB, a city and county may adopt an updated forecast for the urban area consistent with this section. The updated forecast is deemed

to comply with applicable goals and laws regarding population forecasts for purposes of the current UGB evaluation or amendment provided the forecast:

(a) Is adopted by the city and county in accordance with the notice, procedures and requirements described in section (1) of this rule; and

(b) Extends the current urban area forecast to a 20-year period commencing on the date determined under OAR 660-024-0040(2) by using the same growth trend for the urban area assumed in the county's current adopted forecast.

(4) As a safe harbor, a city and county may adopt a 20-year forecast for an urban area consistent with this section. The forecast is deemed to comply with applicable goals and laws regarding population forecasts for purposes of the current UGB evaluation or amendment provided the forecast:

(a) Is adopted by the city and county in accordance with the notice, procedures and requirements described in section (1) of this rule;

(b) Is based on OEA's population forecast for the county for a 20-year period commencing on the date determined under OAR 660-024-0040(2); and

(c) Is developed by assuming that the urban area's share of the forecasted county population determined in subsection (b) of this rule will be the same as the urban area's current share of county population based on the most recent certified population estimates from Portland State University and the most recent data for the urban area published by the U.S. Census Bureau.

660-024-0040

Land Need

(1) The UGB must be based on the adopted 20-year population forecast for the urban area described in OAR 660-024-0030, and must provide for needed housing, employment and other urban uses such as public facilities, streets and roads, schools, parks and open space over the 20-year planning period consistent with the land need requirements of Goal 14 and this rule. The 20-year need determinations are estimates which, although based on the best available information and methodologies, should not be held to an unreasonably high level of precision.

(2) If the UGB analysis or amendment is conducted as part of a periodic review work program, the 20-year planning period must commence on the date initially scheduled for completion of the appropriate work task. If the UGB analysis or amendment is conducted as a post-acknowledgement plan amendment under ORS 197.610 to 197.625, the 20-year planning period must commence either:

(a) On the date initially scheduled for final adoption of the amendment specified by the local government in the initial notice of the amendment required by OAR 660-018-0020, or

(b) If more recent than the date determined in subsection (a), at the beginning of the 20-year period specified in the coordinated population forecast for the urban area adopted by the city and county pursuant to OAR 660-024-0030, unless ORS 197.296 requires a different date for local governments subject to that statute.

(3) A local government may review and amend the UGB in consideration of one category of land need (for example, housing need) without a simultaneous review and amendment in consideration of other categories of land need (for example, employment need).

(4) The determination of 20-year residential land needs for an urban area must be consistent with the adopted 20-year coordinated population forecast for the urban area, and with the requirements for determining housing needs in Goal 10, OAR 660, division 7 or 8, and applicable provisions of ORS 197.295 to 197.314 and 197.475 to 197.490.

(5) Except for a metropolitan service district described in ORS 197.015(14), the determination of 20-year employment land need for an urban area must comply with applicable requirements of Goal 9 and OAR 660, division 9, and must include a determination of the need for a short-term supply of land for employment uses consistent with OAR 660-009-0025. Employment land need may be based on an estimate of job growth over the planning period; local government must provide a reasonable justification for the job growth estimate but Goal 14 does not require that job growth estimates necessarily be proportional to population growth.

(6) The determination of 20-year land needs for transportation and public facilities for an urban area must comply with applicable requirements of Goals 11 and 12, rules in OAR 660, divisions 11 and 12, and public facilities requirements in ORS 197.712 and 197.768. The determination of school facility needs must also comply with ORS 195.110 and 197.296 for local governments specified in those statutes.

(7) The following safe harbors may be applied in determining housing needs:

(a) Local governments may estimate persons per household for the 20-year planning period using the persons per household for the urban area indicated in the most current data for the urban area published by the U.S. Census Bureau.

(b) If a local government does not regulate government-assisted housing differently than other housing types, it is not required to estimate the need for government-assisted housing as a separate housing type.

(c) If a local government allows manufactured homes on individual lots as a permitted use in all residential zones that allow 10 or fewer dwelling units per net buildable acre, it is not necessary to provide an estimate of the need for manufactured dwellings on individual lots.

(d) If a local government allows manufactured dwelling parks required by ORS 197.475 to 197.490 in all areas planned and zoned for a residential density of six to 12 units per acre, a separate estimate of the need for manufactured dwelling parks is not required.

(8) The following safe harbors may be applied in determining employment needs:

(a) The local government may estimate that the current number of jobs in the urban area will grow during the 20-year planning period at a rate equal to either:

(i) The county or regional job growth rate provided in the most recent forecast published by the Oregon Employment Department; or

(ii) The population growth rate for the urban area in the adopted 20-year coordinated population forecast specified in OAR 660-024-0030.

(b) A local government with a population of 10,000 or less may assume that retail and service commercial land needs will grow in direct proportion to the forecasted urban area population growth over the 20-year planning period. This safe harbor may not be used to determine employment land needs for sectors other than retail and service commercial.

(9) As a safe harbor during periodic review or other legislative review of the UGB, a local government may estimate that the 20-year land needs for streets and roads, parks and

school facilities will together require an additional amount of land equal to 25 percent of the net buildable acres determined for residential land needs under section (4) of this rule. For purposes of this rule, a "Net Buildable Acre" consists of 43,560 square feet of residentially designated buildable land, after excluding present and future rights-of-way, restricted hazard areas, public open spaces and restricted resource protection areas.

660-024-0050

Land Inventory and Response to Deficiency

(1) When evaluating or amending a UGB, a local government must inventory land inside the UGB to determine whether there is adequate development capacity to accommodate 20-year needs determined in OAR 660-024-0040. For residential land, the buildable land inventory must include vacant and redevelopable land, and be conducted in accordance with OAR 660-007-0045 or 660-008-0010, whichever is applicable, and ORS 197.296 for local governments subject to that statute. For employment land, the inventory must include suitable vacant and developed land designated for industrial or other employment use, and must be conducted in accordance with OAR 660-009-0015(3).

(2) As safe harbors, a local government, except a city with a population over 25,000 or a metropolitan service district described in ORS 197.015(14), may use the following assumptions in inventorying buildable lands to accommodate housing needs:

(a) The infill potential of developed residential lots or parcels of one-half acre or more may be determined by subtracting one-quarter acre (10,890 square feet) for the existing dwelling and assuming that the remainder is buildable land;

(b) Existing lots of less than one-half acre that are currently occupied by a residence may be assumed to be fully developed.

(3) As safe harbors when inventorying land to accommodate industrial and other employment needs, a local government may assume that a lot or parcel is vacant if it is:

(a) Equal to or larger than one-half acre, if the lot or parcel does not contain a permanent building; or

(b) Equal to or larger than five acres, if less than one-half acre of the lot or parcel is occupied by a permanent building.

(4) If the inventory demonstrates that the development capacity of land inside the UGB is inadequate to accommodate the estimated 20-year needs determined under OAR 660-024-0040, the local government must amend the plan to satisfy the need deficiency, either by increasing the development capacity of land already inside the city or by expanding the UGB, or both, and in accordance with ORS 197.296 where applicable. Prior to expanding the UGB, a local government must demonstrate that the estimated needs cannot reasonably be accommodated on land already inside the UGB. Changes to the UGB must be determined by evaluating alternative boundary locations consistent with OAR 660-024-0060.

(5) When land is added to the UGB, the local government must assign appropriate urban plan designations to the added land, consistent with the need determination. The local government must also apply appropriate zoning to the added land consistent with the plan designation, or may maintain the land as urbanizable land either by retaining the zoning that was assigned prior to inclusion in the boundary or by applying other interim zoning that maintains the land's potential for planned urban development until the land is rezoned for the

planned urban uses. The requirements of ORS 197.296 regarding planning and zoning also apply when local governments specified in that statute add land to the UGB.

660-024-0060

Boundary Location Alternatives Analysis

(1) When considering a UGB amendment, a local government must determine which land to add by evaluating alternative boundary locations. This determination must be consistent with the priority of land specified in ORS 197.298 and the boundary location factors of Goal 14, as follows:

(a) Beginning with the highest priority of land available, a local government must determine which land in that priority is suitable to accommodate the need deficiency determined under 660-024-0050.

(b) If the amount of suitable land in the first priority category exceeds the amount necessary to satisfy the need deficiency, a local government must apply the location factors of Goal 14 to choose which land in that priority to include in the UGB.

(c) If the amount of suitable land in the first priority category is not adequate to satisfy the identified need deficiency, a local government must determine which land in the next priority is suitable to accommodate the remaining need, and proceed using the same method specified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section until the land need is accommodated.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) through (c) of this section, a local government may consider land of lower priority as specified in ORS 197.298(3).

(e) For purposes of this rule, the determination of suitable land to accommodate land needs must include consideration of any suitability characteristics specified under section (5) of this rule, as well as other provisions of law applicable in determining whether land is buildable or suitable.

(2) Notwithstanding OAR 660-024-0050(4) and subsection (1)(c) of this rule, except during periodic review or other legislative review of the UGB, a local government may approve an application under ORS 197.610 to 197.625 for a UGB amendment proposing to add an amount of land less than necessary to satisfy the land need deficiency determined under OAR 660-024-0050(4), provided the amendment complies with all other applicable requirements.

(3) The boundary location factors of Goal 14 are not independent criteria. When the factors are applied to compare alternative boundary locations and to determine the UGB location, a local government must show that all the factors were considered and balanced.

(4) In determining alternative land for evaluation under ORS 197.298, “land adjacent to the UGB” is not limited to those lots or parcels that abut the UGB, but also includes land in the vicinity of the UGB that has a reasonable potential to satisfy the identified need deficiency.

(5) If a local government has specified characteristics such as parcel size, topography, or proximity that are necessary for land to be suitable for an identified need, the local government may limit its consideration to land that has the specified characteristics when it conducts the boundary location alternatives analysis and applies ORS 197.298.

(6) The adopted findings for UGB adoption or amendment must describe or map all of the alternative areas evaluated in the boundary location alternatives analysis. If the analysis involves more than one parcel or area within a particular priority category in ORS 197.298 for

which circumstances are the same, these parcels or areas may be considered and evaluated as a single group.

(7) For purposes of Goal 14 Boundary Location Factor 2, “public facilities and services” means water, sanitary sewer, storm water management, and transportation facilities.

(8) The Goal 14 boundary location determination requires evaluation and comparison of the relative costs, advantages and disadvantages of alternative UGB expansion areas with respect to the provision of public facilities and services needed to urbanize alternative boundary locations. This evaluation and comparison must be conducted in coordination with service providers, including the Oregon Department of Transportation with regard to impacts on the state transportation system. “Coordination” includes timely notice to service providers and the consideration of evaluation methodologies recommended by service providers. The evaluation and comparison must include:

(a) The impacts to existing water, sanitary sewer, storm water and transportation facilities that serve nearby areas already inside the UGB;

(b) The capacity of existing public facilities and services to serve areas already inside the UGB as well as areas proposed for addition to the UGB; and

(c) The need for new transportation facilities, such as highways and other roadways, interchanges, arterials and collectors, additional travel lanes, other major improvements on existing roadways and, for urban areas of 25,000 or more, the provision of public transit service.

660-024-0070

UGB Adjustments

(1) A local government may adjust the UGB at any time to better achieve the purposes of Goal 14 and this division. Such adjustment may occur by adding or removing land from the UGB, or by exchanging land inside the UGB for land outside the UGB. The requirements of section (2) of this rule apply when removing land from the UGB. The requirements of Goal 14, this division, and ORS 197.298 apply when land is added to the UGB, including land added in exchange for land removed. The requirements of ORS 197.296 may also apply when land is added to a UGB, as specified in that statute. If a local government exchanges land inside the UGB for land outside the UGB, the applicable local government must adopt appropriate rural zoning designations for the land removed from the UGB before the local government applies ORS 197.298 and other UGB location requirements necessary for adding land to the UGB.

(2) A local government may remove land from a UGB following the procedures and requirements of ORS 197.764. Alternatively, a local government may remove land from the UGB following the procedures and requirements of ORS 197.610 to 197.650, provided it determines:

(a) The removal of land would not violate applicable statewide planning goals;

(b) The UGB would provide a 20-year supply of land for estimated needs after the land is removed, taking into consideration land added to the UGB at the same time;

(c) Public facilities agreements adopted under ORS 195.020 do not provide for urban services on the subject land unless the public facilities provider agrees to removal of the land from the UGB;

(d) Removal of the land does not preclude the efficient provision of urban services to any other buildable land that remains inside the UGB; and

(e) The land removed from the UGB is planned and zoned for rural use consistent with all applicable laws.

(3) Notwithstanding sections (1) and (2) of this rule, a local government considering an exchange of land may rely on its acknowledged population forecast and land needs analysis, rather than adopt a new forecast and need analysis, provided the land added to the UGB is planned for the same uses and at the same housing or employment density as the land removed from the UGB, and provided:

(a) For residential land, the amount of buildable land added to the UGB is substantially equivalent to the amount of buildable land removed; or

(b) For industrial or other employment land, the amount of suitable land added to the UGB is substantially equivalent to the amount of suitable land removed.