Medium Density Residential Zone

Issues

The Medium Density Residential Zone (MRZ) provides predominantly for medium density residential development in *urban area*s with few constraints and that are within easy walking distance to public open space and commercial centres. Over the foreseeable future, while traditional single *residential unit* properties will likely remain a dominant feature within the Medium Density Residential Zone, the zone is anticipated to provide for a greater range of housing choices and improved affordability, with an increasing prevalence of housing typologies such as low-rise apartments, walk-ups, terrace housing, semi-detached housing and detached townhouses on smaller sections.

While it is recognised that more intensive residential development has the potential to generate adverse effects on established residential environments, it can and should be well designed so that the layout and scale of housing complements established neighbourhoods. However, care has been taken not to set development controls at such a level that the feasibility of development may be unduly compromised.

It is expected that any changes to existing amenity levels resulting from further residential intensification will be gradual. Such changes will be off-set by advantages gained from increased neighbourhood activity and vitality, better population support for commercial centres, an emphasis on good quality urban design, a greater range of housing options, better utilisation of existing public facilities and infrastructure, and reduced urban sprawl.

Commercial activities are discouraged in the Medium Density Residential Zone. However, some opportunities are provided for non-*residential activities* such as *community activities*, *visitor accommodation* and *retail activities*, while ensuring that residential amenity and character are not compromised and that the activity is sympathetic to the surrounding residential context.

Objectives

MRZ-O1 Density

Subdivision and development are consistent with the planned medium density built environment and are compatible with the amenity levels of medium density residential development.

MRZ-O2 Housing Capacity

Increase housing capacity, intensity and variety.

MRZ-O3 Amenity

Subdivision and development provide quality residential amenity for residents, adjoining *site*s and the street while acknowledging the potential for reduced on-site amenity due to increased *building* scale and density.

MRZ-O4 Non-Residential Activities

Residential activities remain the dominant activity in the Medium Density Residential Zone and any non-*residential activities* are compatible with residential amenity.

Policies

MRZ-P1 Residential Activities

To recognise and provide for the diverse accommodation needs of the community by:

1. Allowing for decreased *outdoor living space* and *landscaping* provided that public open space is conveniently accessible.
2. Enabling a variety of medium density housing types including apartments, terrace housing, semi-detached townhouses, compact detached townhouses and *multi unit developments*.

MRZ-P2 On-Site Amenity

To require *residential activities* to achieve good levels of on-site amenity by providing:

1. Useable *outdoor living courts*.
2. Sufficient access to sunlight throughout the year.
3. Adequate space to accommodate typical residential living requirements.

MRZ-P3 Outdoor Living Courts

To provide for development that infringes minimum *outdoor living court* and sunlight access requirements where the development is designed to minimise impacts on on-site amenity, including through access to:

1. Communal *outdoor living space*; or
2. Public open space that is conveniently accessible and of sufficient size.

MRZ-P4 Adjacent Properties

To mitigate adverse amenity effects on adjacent properties by sensitively designing development to:

1. Manage the intrusion of privacy and the extent of *building* dominance on adjoining *residential unit*s and areas of outdoor amenity.
2. Minimise the degree of overshadowing or obstruction of sunlight penetration to any adjoining *site* or *residential unit*.

MRZ-P5 Residential Amenity and Character

To manage adverse effects on residential amenity and character by requiring new developments to have regard to the way the development:

1. Provides street activation through connection between front doors and the street.
2. Provides *landscaping* and planting that enhances on-site and local residential amenity, with particular regard to *site frontage*.
3. Minimises large monotonous *building* facades and walls that do not include design variation or are not broken down into smaller elements.
4. Relates to neighbouring properties by employing *setback*s, sensitive *building* orientation and design, and *landscaping* to mitigate dominance and privacy impacts.
5. Provides an active interface to *Open Space and Recreation Zones* on to which it fronts.
6. Is sympathetic to other *buildings* in the vicinity, having regard to bulk, scale and symmetry.

MRZ-P6 Impervious Areas

To restrict *impervious areas* within *site*s in order to:

1. Manage *stormwater* runoff.
2. Maintain and enhance *amenity values*.
3. Safeguard esplanade areas and waterfront walkways.

MRZ-P7 Supported Residential Care and Retirement Villages

To enable a range of appropriate *residential activities* by providing for *supported residential care* and retirement villages where they are designed, located and managed to:

1. Provide a high level of amenity for residents.
2. Ensure any adverse effects on surrounding *Residential Zones* and *Open Space and Recreation Zones* are minimised.

3. Maintain the residential character of the surrounding environment.
4. Avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on infrastructure, including the transport network.

MRZ-P8 Non-Residential Activities

To only enable non-*residential activities* where they:

1. Will not detract from the vitality and viability of *Business Zones*.
2. Are complementary in design, scale, nature and intensity to the residential context.
3. Avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on residential *amenity values* such as noise, traffic, parking, lighting, glare and visual impact.

MRZ-P9 Comprehensive Design

To encourage *subdivision* and land use proposals to be undertaken concurrently as part of a comprehensive design process.

MRZ-P10 Subdivision

To promote design and layout of *subdivision* which achieves the following:

1. *Site*s are shaped and sized to allow adequate sunlight to living and outdoor spaces, and to provide appropriate on-site amenity and privacy.
2. Where possible, *site*s are located so that they over-look and front roads and open spaces.
3. *Rear sites* are limited.
4. A permeable street network where the use of cul-de-sacs is limited.
5. Pedestrian and vehicular connections within a development, and between developments and the public realm, are maximised.
6. Opportunities for connections to public open space, services and facilities in the neighbourhood are identified and created.

Rules

MRZ-R1 Any Activity Not Otherwise Listed in This Chapter

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. Resource consent is not required under any rule of the District Plan.
2. The activity is not prohibited under any rule of the District Plan.

MRZ-R2 Minor Buildings

Activity Status: Permitted

Note:

1. *Minor buildings are exempt from rules MRZ-R3 – R5 and R8.*

MRZ-R3 Building and Major Structure Height

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The maximum *building* height and *major structure* height is 11m above *ground level*, except that 50% of a *building's* roof in elevation, measured vertically from the junction between wall and roof, may exceed this height by 1m where the entire roof slopes 15 degrees or more.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matter of discretion:

1. Effects on amenity of adjoining *sites*.
2. The extent to which visual dominance effects are minimised.

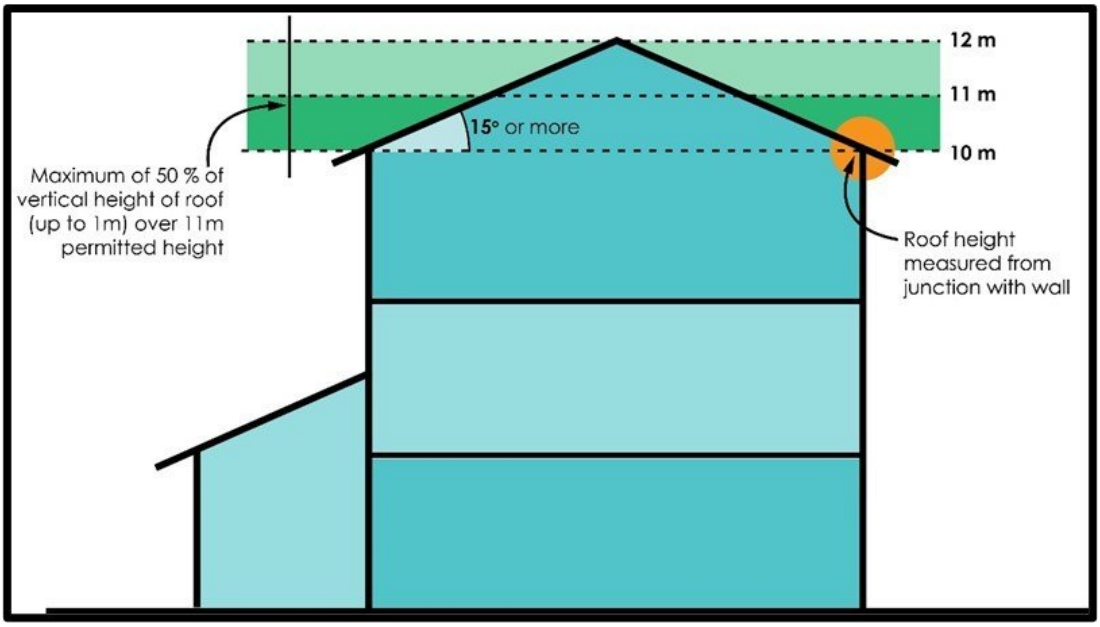


Figure MRZ 1. Diagram of MRZ-R3 Building and Major Structure Height Rule

MRZ-R4 Building and Major Structure Setbacks

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. All *buildings* and *major structure*s are set back at least:
    a. 2m from road boundaries.
    b. 1m from side and rear boundaries.
    c. 20m from Mean High Water Springs or the top of the bank of any *river* that has a width exceeding 3m (excluding bridges, culverts and fences).
2. Except that:
    a. MRZ-R4.1(b) does not apply where there is an existing or proposed common wall between two *buildings* on adjacent *site*s; and
    b. Non-habitable *major structure*s and *buildings*, and non-*habitable room*s of *building*s, may be set back 0m for a maximum cumulative length of 7.5m on a single side or rear *boundary* and a maximum cumulative length of 10.5m on all side and rear boundaries, provided they are *setback* at least 2m from *habitable room*s on any other *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved with MRZ-R4.1(a) – (b) or MRZ-R4.2: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The outlook and privacy of adjoining and adjacent properties.
2. Effects of shading and visual dominance on adjoining properties.
3. Impacts on the amenity of any adjacent public walkway.
4. Where MRZ-R4.1(a) is infringed, the effects on the:
    a. Streetscape character anticipated within the Medium Density Residential Zone.
    b. Safety and efficiency of the adjacent transport network

Activity Status when compliance not achieved with MRZ-R4.1(c): Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The effectiveness of the proposed method for controlling *stormwater* runoff.
2. That the proposal will maintain and enhance the *amenity values* of the area.
3. That esplanade areas and waterfront walkways are appropriately safeguarded.

4. The potential to establish an *esplanade reserve*.

MRZ-R5 Building and Major Structure Height in Relation to Boundary

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. All *buildings* and *major structure*s do not exceed a height equal to 3m above *ground level* plus the shortest horizontal distance between that part of the *building* or *major structure* and any side or rear *boundary*, except any *boundary*:

    a. Where there is an existing or proposed common wall between two *buildings* on adjacent *site*s; or

    b. That is adjoining a business zone; or

    c. That is adjoining an Open Space and Recreation Zone where the Open Space and Recreation Zone *site* is:

        i. Greater than 2,000m^2; and

        ii. Greater than 20m in width when measured perpendicular to the point where the measurement of MRZ-R5.1 is taken from.

2. Except that, any parts of the *buildings* or *major structure*s that are within 20m of the *site frontage* may exceed the maximum *height in relation to boundary* in MRZ-R5.1, provided they:

    a. Do not exceed a height of 3.6m above *ground level* where they are 1m or less from side and rear boundaries adjoining the Medium Density Residential Zone; and

    b. Thereafter, are set back 0.3m for every additional metre in height (73.3 degrees) up to 6.9m and then 1m for every additional metre in height (45 degrees).

Compliance Standards:

1. *Where an Open Space and Recreation Zone comprises multiple adjoining sites but has a common zoning, the cumulative area of the sites can be used for the purposes of calculating MRZ-R5.1(c)(i) – (ii).*

2. *Measurements for MRZ-R5.1 – 2 can be taken from the furthest boundary when adjoining an access lot.*

3. *Up to two gable ends, dormers or portions of a roof may exceed the height in relation to boundary plane on each site boundary where each portion exceeding the height in relation to boundary is no greater than:*

    a. 1.5m^2 in area; and

b. 1m in height; and

c. 2.5m in length.

When measured in accordance with Figure MRZ 3.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The outlook and privacy of adjoining and adjacent properties.
2. Effects of shading and visual dominance on adjoining and adjacent properties.
3. Effects on sunlight access to outdoor areas and *habitable room*s on adjoining *site*s.

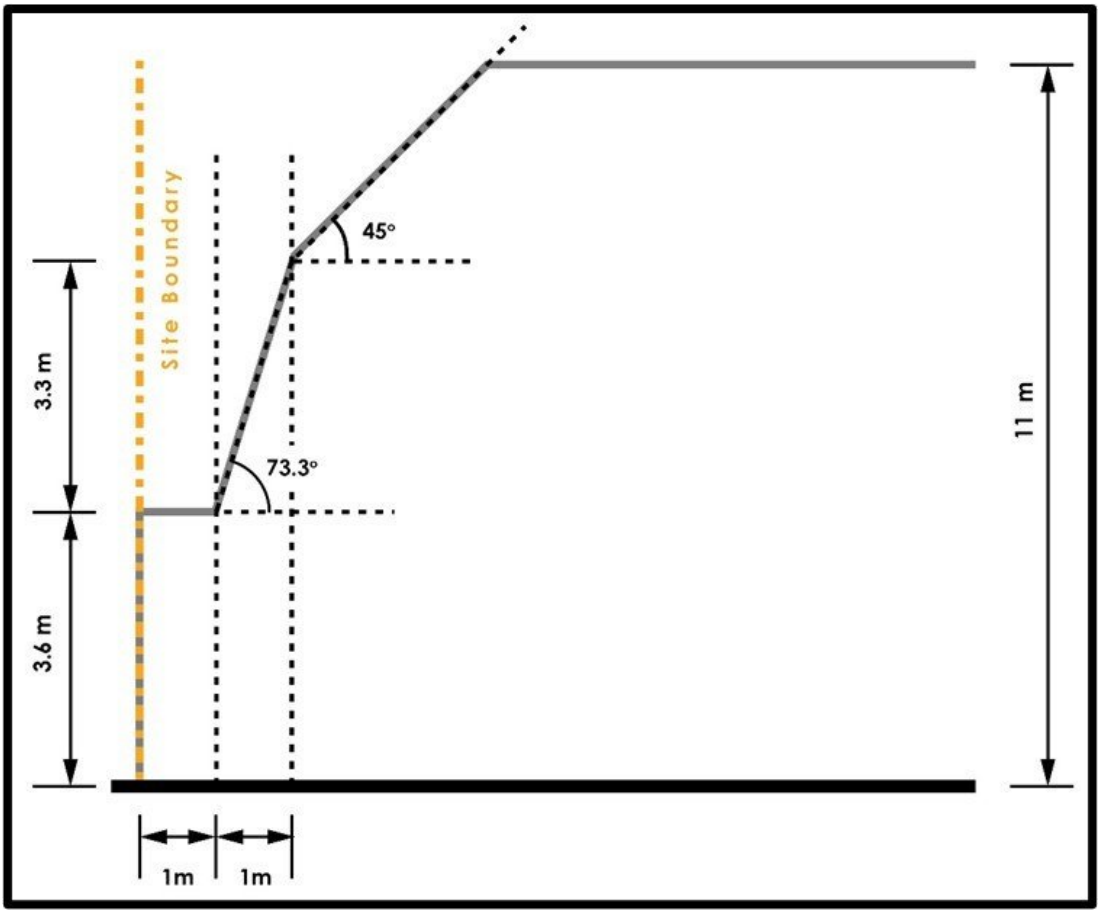


Figure MRZ 2. Diagram of MRZ-R5.2 Alternative Height in Relation to Boundary Rule

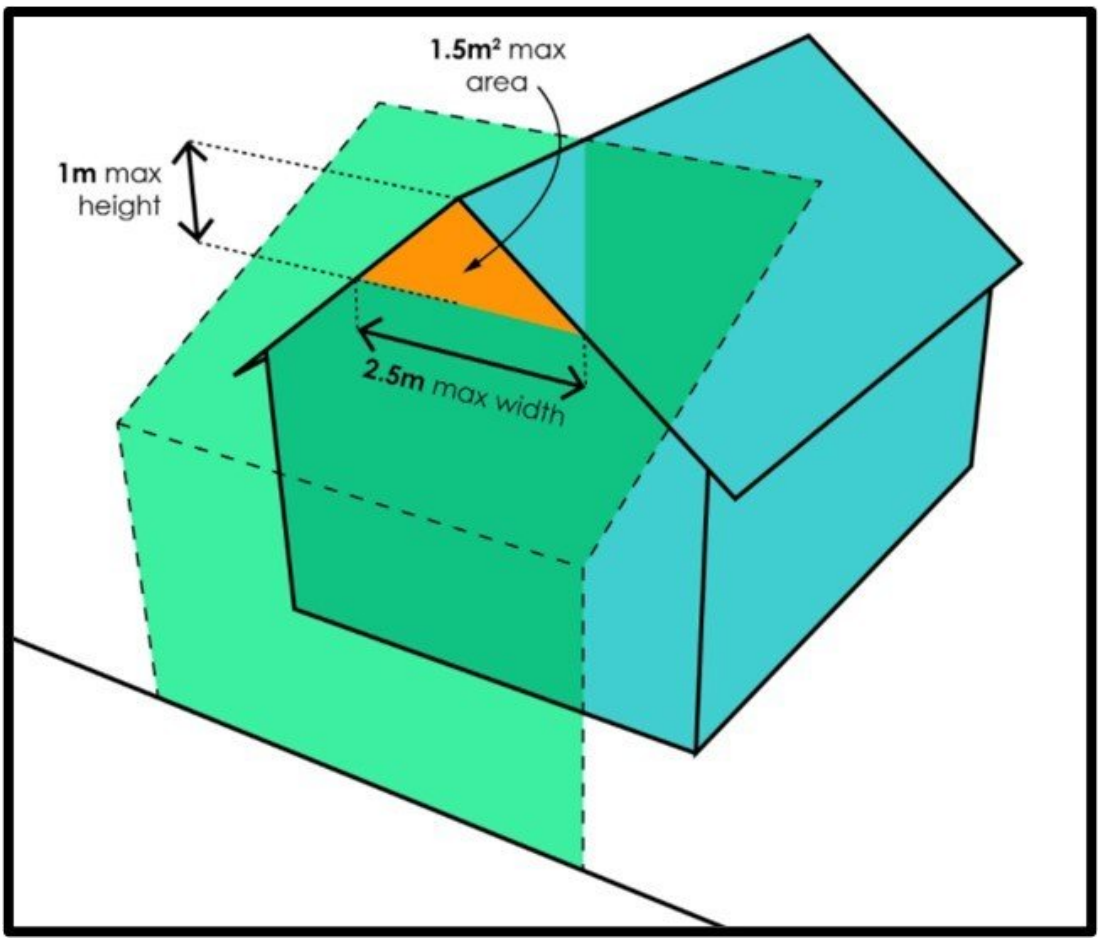


Figure MRZ 3. Diagram of MRZ-R5 Compliance Standard 3

MRZ-R6 Outdoor Living Court

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. Every *residential unit*:
    a. With one or more *habitable room*s at ground floor level provides an *outdoor living court* of which at least 20m^2 has a minimum depth of 4m.
    b. With all *habitable room*s above ground floor with 1 bedroom provides an *outdoor living court* of which at least 4m^2 has a minimum depth of 1.5m.
    c. With all *habitable room*s above ground floor, with 2 or more bedrooms provides an *outdoor living court* of which at least 8m^2 has a minimum depth of 1.8m.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. Appropriate privacy and amenity of the occupants on-site.

2. Sufficient sunlight access to outdoor areas and *habitable rooms* within the *site*.

3. The proximity of the *site* to communal or public open space that has the potential to mitigate any lack of private *outdoor living space*.

Notification:

Any restricted discretionary activity under MRZ-R6 shall not require the written consent of affected persons and shall not be notified or limited-notified unless Council decides that special circumstances exist under section 95A(4) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

MRZ-R7 Impervious Areas

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The *impervious area* within the *site* does not exceed 65% of the site area.

2. The *impervious area* is set back at least 5m from Mean High Water Springs and the top of the bank of any *river* that has a width exceeding 3m (excluding bridges, culverts and fences).

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of Discretion:

1. The extent to which the increased *impervious area* will affect the ability to control *stormwater* runoff from the *site*.

2. The extent to which the additional *impervious area* will affect *amenity values*.

3. The extent to which the additional *impervious area* will affect existing or future esplanade areas, waterfront areas or waterfront walkways.

MRZ-R8 Building and Major Structure Coverage

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The maximum cumulative *building* and *major structure* coverage is 45% of the *net site area*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The scale and bulk of *buildings* and *major structures* in relation to the *site* and the existing built density of the locality.

2. The outlook and privacy of adjoining and adjacent properties.

3. Visual dominance of *buildings* and *major structure*s.

MRZ-R9 Fences

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The fence has a maximum height of 2m above *ground level*.
2. Fencing within 3m of a road *boundary*, except any state highway, is at least 50% visually permeable for any portion above 1m high.
3. Fencing along a *boundary* shared with Open Space and Recreation Zone is at least 50% visually permeable for any portion above 1.5m high.
4. The fence is not fortified with barbed wire, broken glass or any form of electrification.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The extent to which privacy is provided for *residential unit*s, while enabling opportunities for passive surveillance of *public place*s.
2. The extent to which shading and visual dominance effects to immediate neighbours and the street are minimised.
3. Health and safety effects.

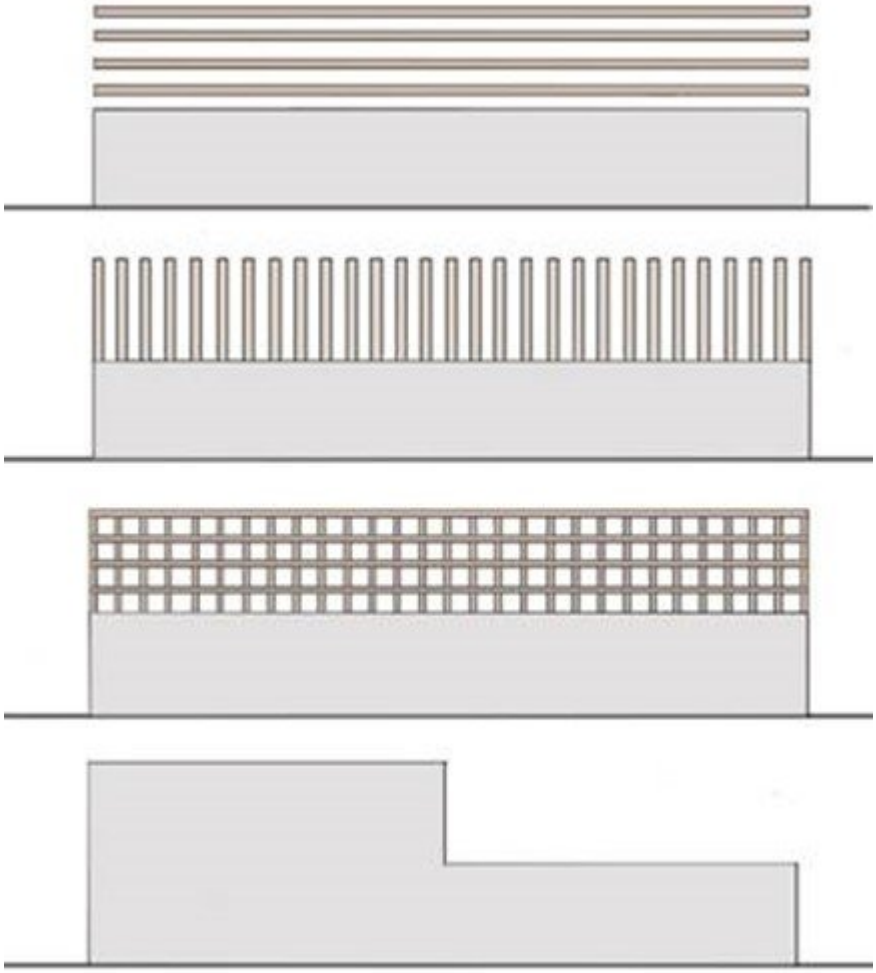


Figure MRZ 4: Examples of fences solid up to 1m and 50% visually permeable between 1m and 2m high

MRZ-R10 Car Parking

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. Formed car parking spaces (excluding *garages*) are located at least 2m from any road *boundary*, excluding any on-street car parking.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. Traffic safety effects in relation to *site* ingress and egress.
2. Effects on pedestrian and cyclist safety and navigability.
3. Effects on streetscape character and amenity.

MRZ-R11 Outdoor Areas of Storage or Stockpiles

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The outdoor area of *storage* or stockpile:
    a. Complies with rules MRZ-R3.
    b. Complies with rules MRZ-R4 – R5 and R8.
    c. Is screened from view from adjacent *public place*s and surrounding *site*s, except for construction materials to be used on-*site* for a maximum period of 12 months within each 10-year period from 26 August 2021.

Activity Status when compliance with MRZ-R11.1(b) – (c) not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. Effects in relation to *dust* and odour.
2. Visual amenity effects.
3. The matters of discretion in MRZ-R4 – R5 and R8.

Activity Status when compliance with MRZ-R11.1(a) not achieved: Discretionary

MRZ-R12 Supported Residential Care

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The activity generates less than 25 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Discretionary

MRZ-R13 Retirement Village

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The activity generates less than 25 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Discretionary

MRZ-R14 Residential Unit

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The maximum density is 2 *residential unit*s per *site*, except where a *multi unit development* is proposed under MRZ-R22.
2. Every *residential unit* provides a *net floor area* of at least:
    a. $35m^2$ for *residential unit*s with only one *habitable room*.
    b. $45m^2$ for *residential unit*s with more than one *habitable room*.
3. Every *residential unit* provides a living area with a window that faces to the north (between, and including, 270 degrees and 90 degrees as shown in Figure MRZ 5).
4. There is a separation distance of at least 6m from any window in a *habitable room* to a window of a habitable room in a separate *residential unit* (excluding any ancillary *minor residential unit*) where there is a direct line of sight between the windows.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The design, size and layout of *buildings* to provide appropriate privacy and amenity for occupants on-site.
2. Where MRZ-R14.4 is infringed, the privacy of separate *residential unit*s.

Notification:

Any restricted discretionary activity under MRZ-R14.2 – 3 shall not require the written consent of affected persons and shall not be notified or limited-notified unless Council decides that special circumstances exist under section 95A(4) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

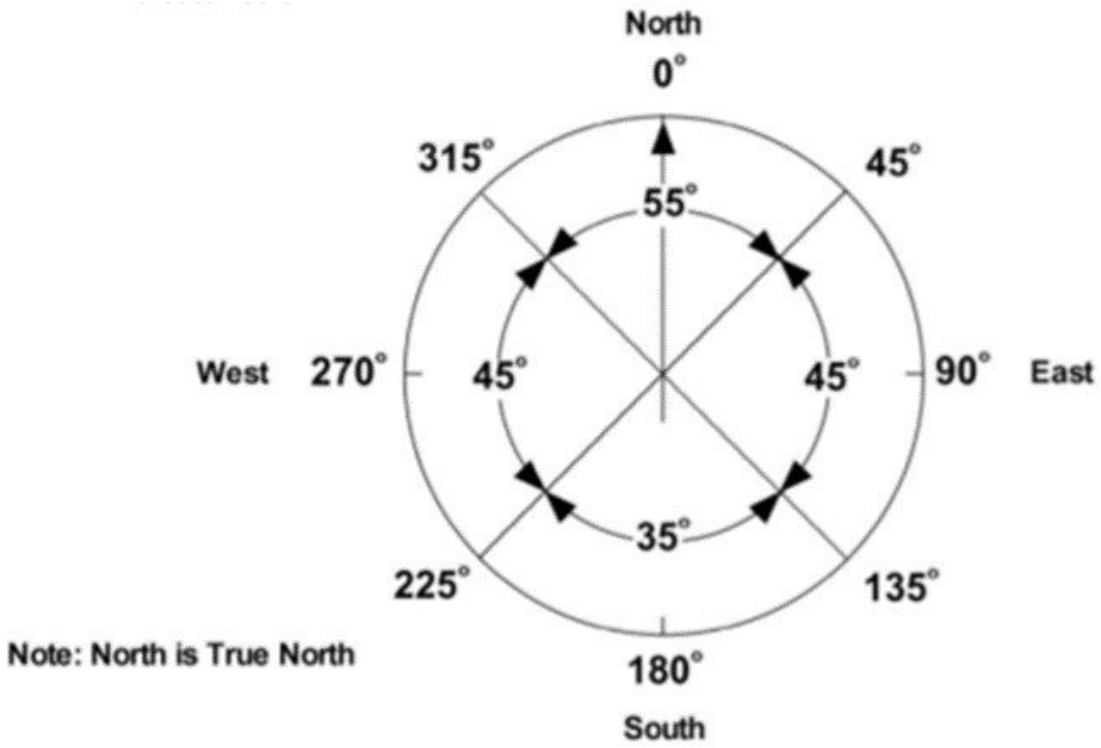


Figure MRZ 5. MRZ-R14.3 Living Area Window Orientation Diagram

MRZ-R15 Retail Activity

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *days* out of every 365-*day* period; and
2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and
3. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*; and
4. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and
5. The activity is carried out inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *buildings* on the *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R16 Commercial Services

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *day*s out of every 365-*day* period; and
2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and
3. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*; and
4. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and
5. The activity is carried out inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *buildings* on the *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R17 Food and Beverage Activity

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *day*s out of every 365-*day* period; and
2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and
3. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*; and
4. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and
5. The activity is carried out inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *buildings* on the *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R18 Care Centre

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *day*s out of every 365-*day* period; and

2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and

3. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*; and

4. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and

5. The activity is carried out inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *buildings* on the *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R19 Visitor Accommodation

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The activity is undertaken in an existing lawfully established *residential unit*, provided that the maximum visitor occupancy, in addition to any permanent residents on the *site*, is no more than six tariff-paid visitors at any given time; OR

2. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *day*s out of every 365-*day* period; and

3. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers (except visitors checking into accommodation) or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and

4. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*; and

5. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and

6. The *visitor accommodation* is provided inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *buildings* on the *site*; and

7. Each *visitor accommodation* unit provides an *outdoor living court* of at least $6m^2$ and at least 1.8m depth.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R20 Artisan Industrial Activity

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The principal operator of the activity lives on the *site* for at least 183 *day*s out of every 365-*day* period; and
2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles; and
3. The activity generates less than 20 *traffic movement*s per *site*, per *day*; and
4. In addition to the principal operator, the activity has no more than two other persons engaged in providing the activity; and
5. The activity is carried out inside a *building* and does not exceed the use of 15% of the total *gross floor area* of all *building*s on the *site*.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R21 Show Homes

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

1. The activity generates less than 25 *traffic movements* per *site*, per *day*.
2. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles.
3. The use of the residential *building* and land as a *show home* ceases within 36 months from the time of first use as a *show home*.

Activity Status where compliance not achieved: Non-Complying

MRZ-R22 Multi Unit Development

Activity Status: Restricted Discretionary

Where:

1. The activity complies with Rules MRZ-R3 – R8 and R14.

Matters of discretion:

1. Appropriate privacy and amenity of the occupants on-site and that of adjoining *site*s.
2. Sufficient sunlight access to *outdoor living space* and *habitable room*s within the *site*.
3. The proximity of the *site* to communal or public open space that has the potential to mitigate any lack of private *outdoor living space*.

4. *Building* bulk, scale and symmetry.

5. Capacity and availability of infrastructure, including the affected transport network.

Notification:

Any restricted discretionary activity under MRZ-R22 where compliance is achieved with MRZ-R22.1 shall not require the written consent of affected persons and shall not be notified or limited-notified unless Council decides that special circumstances exist under section 95A(4) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Notes:

1. *Any application shall comply with information requirement rule MRZ-REQ1.*

2. *MRZ-R14.1 does not apply where a multi unit development is proposed under MRZ-R22.*

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Restricted Discretionary

Matters of discretion:

1. The matters of discretion listed in MRZ-R22.

2. The matters of discretion listed in Rules MRZ-R3 – R8 and R14 where those rules are infringed.

3. The extent to which the activity is consistent with the purpose, character and *amenity values* anticipated within the Medium Density Residential Zone.

4. The ability to accommodate incidental activities anticipated within the Medium Residential Zone such as parking (if it is to be provided), manoeuvring, waste collection and *landscaping*.

5. The availability and accessibility of open space, public amenities and *commercial activities* in proximity to service the proposed development.

6. Road access and effects on the affected transport network, including availability of public and active transport options for the proposed development.

Note:

1. *Any application shall comply with information requirement rule MRZ-REQ1*

MRZ-R23 Place of Assembly

Activity Status: Discretionary

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R24 Emergency Services

Activity Status: Discretionary

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R25 Educational Facilities

Activity Status: Discretionary

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R26 Entertainment Facilities

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R27 Service Stations

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R28 Funeral Home

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R29 Recreational Facilities

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R30 Hospital

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R31 General Commercial

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R32 General Community

Activity Status: Non-Complying

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R33 Rural Production Activity

Activity Status: Prohibited

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

MRZ-R34 Industrial Activities (Excluding Artisan Industrial Activities)

Activity Status: Prohibited

Where:

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.

Information Requirement Rules

MRZ-REQ1 Urban Design and Density

1. All applications for resource consent pursuant to MRZ-R22 shall include an urban design assessment prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced professional which details:

    a. An analysis of the *site* in relation to its context, including:

        i. The key characteristics of the local area including the character and scale of surrounding development including any cultural relationships or historic heritage features and clearly recording any matters which particularly contribute to the character of the area, or that detract from the area.

        ii. The landform and topography of the *site* and surrounding environment.

        iii. The ecology and habitat of the *site* and surrounding environment.

        iv. Access to public and active *transport infrastructure*.

    b. An assessment of how the proposal contributes to the planned medium density environment of the area, complements the established neighbourhood and is consistent with best practice urban design, including:

        i. Effects on the character of the area and neighbourhood, residential amenity and pedestrian and vehicular movements.

        ii. The relationship of the proposed development to *public place*s and how the proposal responds to any issues or characteristics identified in the site analysis.

        iii. Any proposed measures to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on adjacent *public place*s and residential *site*s.

        iv. Any proposed measures to incorporate Māori design elements.

        v. Any proposed measures to facilitate active and public transport.

    c. Any consultation undertaken as part of any pre-application meetings with Council and any mitigation measures that were recommended by Council.

    d. Any consultation undertaken with *mana whenua* and a summary of the results of that consultation.

Note:

1. *Acceptable means of compliance and best practice urban design guidance is contained within Whangārei District Council's Urban Design Guidelines.*

Western Hills Drive Precinct (PREC2)

Issues

The Western Hills Drive Precinct enable small-scale *commercial services* to operate within a portion of the Medium Density Residential Zone on Western Hills Drive. The precinct recognises the environment is suitable for small-scale commercial services.

Objectives

PREC2-O1 Appropriate Activities

Enable small-scale *commercial services* which are compatible with the amenity of the surrounding environment.

Policies

PREC2-P1 Commercial Services

To enable the establishment and operation of commercial service activities.

PREC2-P2 Character and Amenity

To maintain and enhance amenity by:

1. Providing *landscaping* on boundaries that adjoin *Residential Zones* and *Open Space and Recreation Zones*.
2. Limiting the scale of *buildings* for commercial service activities to a scale that is compatible with that of nearby residential *buildings*.
3. Limiting the hours of operation.

Rules

PREC2-R1 Commercial Services

Activity Status: Permitted

1. The activity is a primary activity or *ancillary activity*.
2. All *site* boundaries which are adjoining a Residential Zone or Open Space and Recreation Zone are planted with trees or shrubs to a minimum height of 1.8m above *ground level* and a minimum depth of 1m, except within 5m or a road *boundary* where the maximum height is 1.2m above *ground level*.

3. The activity does not include, before 08:00 or after 18:00 on any *day*, the operation of machinery, receiving customers or the loading or unloading of vehicles.

4. The maximum *gross floor area* of the activity is 200m^2.

Activity Status when compliance not achieved: Discretionary