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A. Purpose

The purpose of this model middle housing code (“code”) is to implement HB 2001, codified in ORS 197.758 et seq, by providing siting and design standards for duplexes developed on lots or parcels that allow for the development of detached single family dwellings.

B. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this code, notwithstanding other definitions in the development code:

1. “Detached single family dwelling” means a detached structure on a lot or parcel that is comprised of a single dwelling unit. Detached single family dwellings may be constructed off-site, e.g., manufactured dwellings or modular homes.
2. “Duplex” means two dwelling units on a lot or parcel in any configuration. Figures 1–6 in Section I illustrate examples of possible duplex configurations. In instances where a development can meet the definition of a duplex and also meets the definition of a primary dwelling unit with an accessory dwelling unit (ADU), the applicant shall specify at the time of application review whether the development is considered a duplex or a primary dwelling unit with an ADU.
3. “Lot or Parcel” means any legally created unit of land.
4. “Zoned for residential use” means a zoning district in which residential dwellings are the primary use and which implements a residential Comprehensive Plan map designation.

C. Applicability

1. Except as specified in subsection (2) of this section (C), the standards in this code allow for the development of duplexes, including those created through conversion of existing detached single family dwellings, on lots or parcels zoned for residential use that allow for the development of detached single family dwellings.
2. The standards in this code do not allow the following, unless otherwise permitted by the development code:

- Creation of duplexes on lots or parcels on lands that are not zoned for residential use. This includes lands zoned primarily for commercial, industrial, agricultural, public, or mixed uses, even if those zones allow for the development of detached single family dwellings.
- Creation of more than two dwelling units on a single lot or parcel.

D. Relationship to Other Regulations

1. Conflicts. In the event of a conflict between this code and other standards applicable to a duplex, the standards of this code control.
2. Public Works Standards. Clear and objective exceptions to public works standards granted to single family dwellings shall also be granted to duplexes.
3. Protective Measures. Duplexes shall comply with protective measures (plans, policies, or regulations) adopted pursuant to statewide land use planning goals (e.g., environmental and natural hazard protections).

E. Permitted Uses and Approval Process

Duplexes are permitted outright on lots or parcels zoned for residential use that allow for the development of detached single family dwellings. Duplexes are subject to the same approval process as that for detached single family dwellings in the same zone and are subject only to clear and objective standards, approval criteria, conditions, and procedures. Alternatively, an applicant may choose to submit an application for a duplex subject to discretionary standards and criteria adopted in accordance with ORS 197.307, if such a process is available.

F. Development Standards

Except as specified below, duplexes shall meet all clear and objective development standards that apply to detached single family dwellings in the same zone (including, but not limited to, minimum and maximum lot size, minimum and maximum setbacks, and building height), unless those standards conflict with this code.

The following development standards are invalid and do not apply to duplexes being developed on lots or parcels zoned for residential use that allow the development of a detached single family dwelling:

1. Maximum Density. The jurisdiction's pre-existing density maximums and minimum lot sizes for duplexes do not apply.
2. Setbacks. A minimum front setback of greater than 20 feet or a minimum rear setback of greater than 15 feet except for those minimum setbacks applicable to garages and carports.
3. Off-Street Parking. Any off-street parking requirement.

G. Design Standards

New duplexes shall meet all clear and objective design standards (e.g., entry orientation, window coverage, articulation, etc.) that apply to detached single family dwellings in the same zone, unless those standards conflict with this code. Facades of dwellings that are separated from the street property line by another dwelling are exempt from meeting building design standards.

Any design standards that apply only to duplexes are invalid.

H. Duplex Conversions

Conversion of an existing detached single family dwelling to a duplex is allowed, pursuant to Section C, provided that the conversion does not increase nonconformance with applicable clear and objective standards.

I. Figures

The following figures illustrate examples of possible duplex configurations. Other configurations may also be acceptable, provided the development meets the definition of duplex, pursuant to Section B.

Figure 1. Stacked Duplex

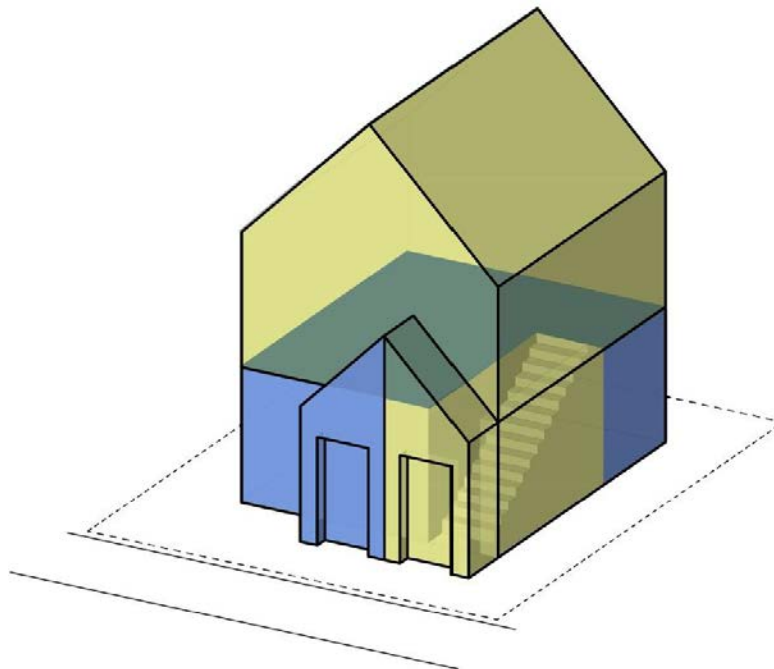


Figure 2. Side-by-Side Duplex

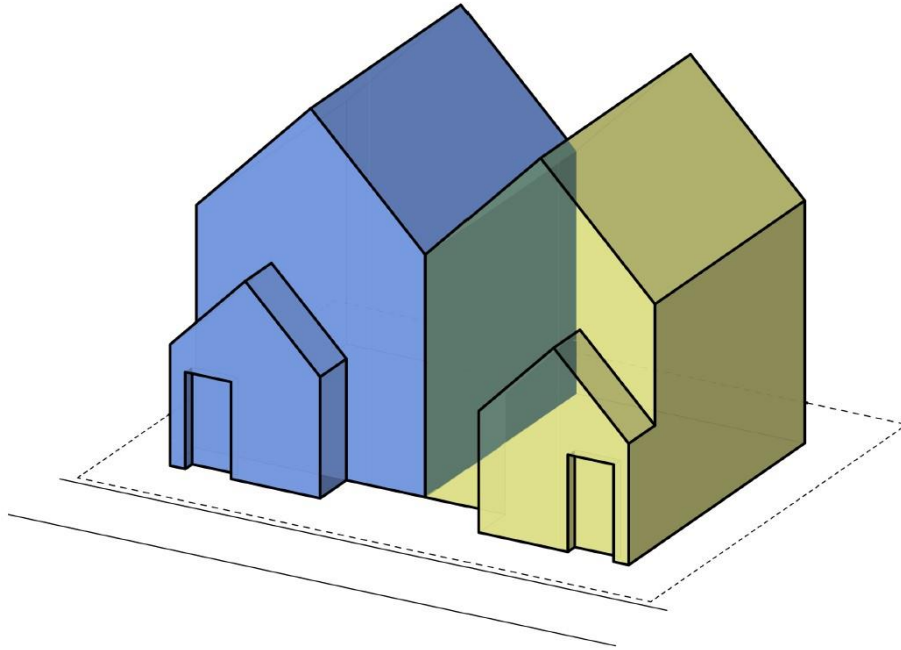


Figure 3. Duplex Attached by Garage Wall

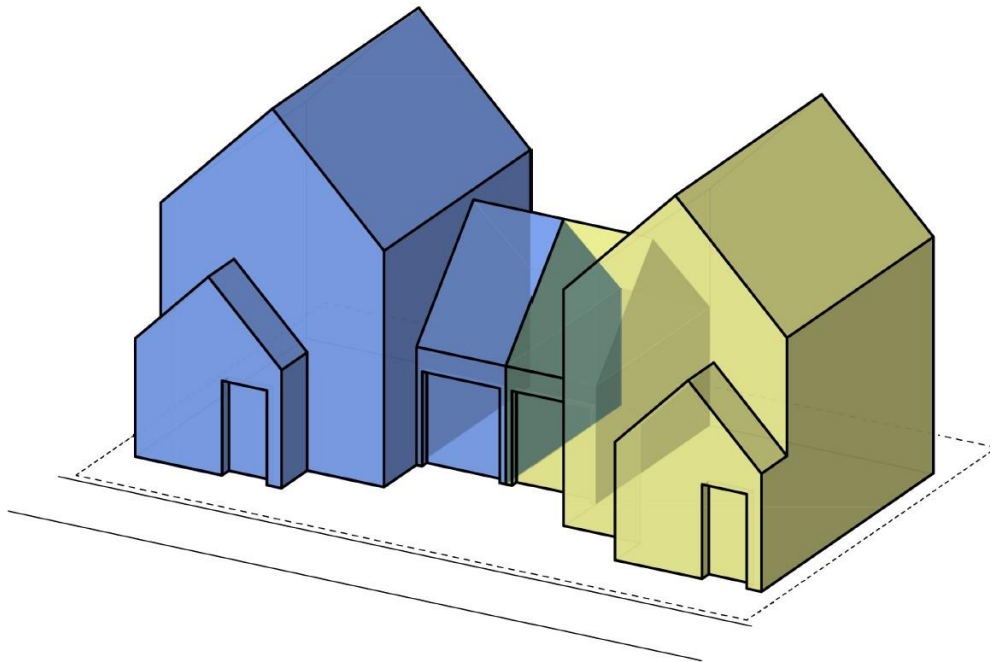


Figure 4. Duplex Attached by Breezeway

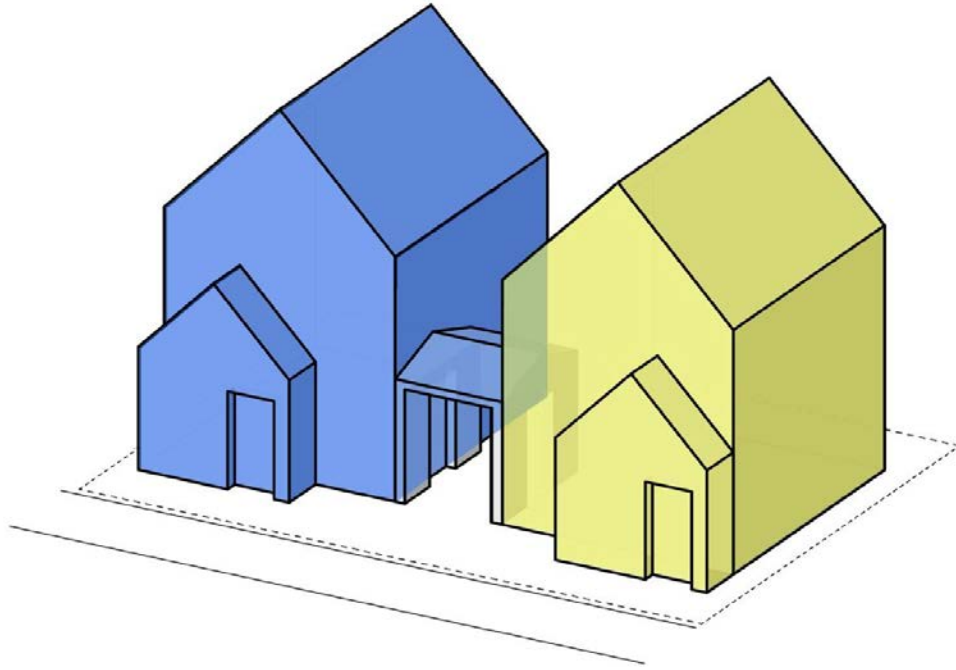


Figure 5. Detached Duplex Units Side-by-Side

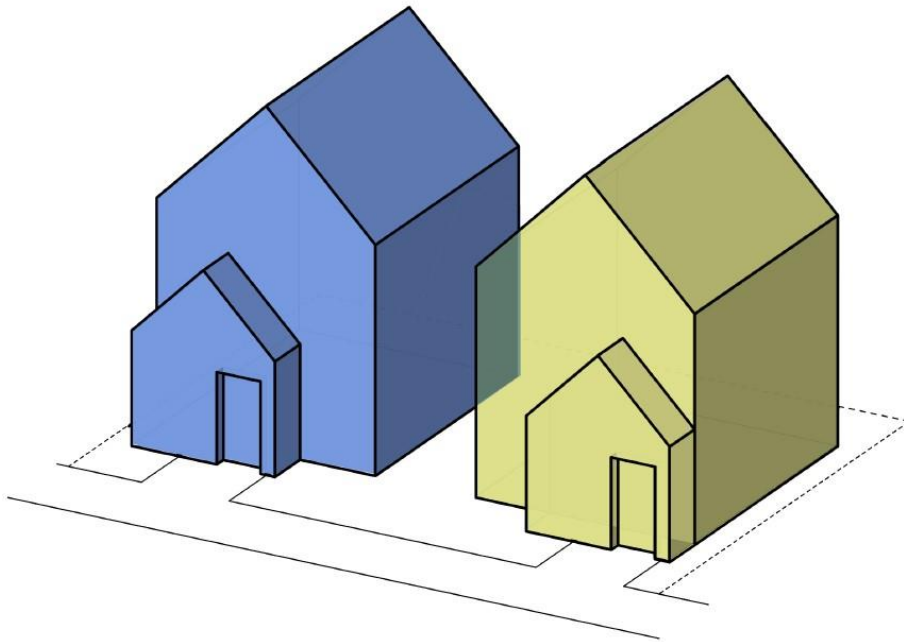


Figure 6. Detached Duplex Units Front and Back

