

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_

ABINGTON TOWNSHIP  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

AN ORDINANCE OF ABINGTON TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE ABINGTON TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE OF 2017, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING ARTICLE VII AO APARTMENT-OFFICE DISTRICT, ADDING H-12 SENIOR APARTMENT UNITS AS A USE PERMITTED BY CONDITIONAL USE IN AO APARTMENT-OFFICE DISTRICT; BY AMENDING ARTICLE XXI USE REGULATIONS, ADDING H-12 SENIOR APARTMENT UNITS AS A USE; AND BY AMENDING ARTICLE XXIII PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE USE H-12 SENIOR APARTMENT UNITS

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township, Montgomery County, as follows:

**SECTION I. ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT.** The Abington Township Zoning Ordinance, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended to add the following to the AO Apartment-Office District (Article VII):

Use H-12 Senior Apartment Units

A. Section 700. Intent: E. –To provide a wider range of housing options for senior citizens at locations in the Township where medical facilities, access to arterial highways and public transportation options are readily available.

B. Section 703. Other District Regulations: H. – Special Regulations for **H-12 Senior Apartment Units**.

1. A hospital shall be located within 2,000 feet.
2. The tract shall have frontage on two public roads, at least one of which must be a primary road as defined in the township Subdivision and Land Development ordinance.
3. Access to public transportation, rail station or bus stop, shall be within 400 feet.

C. Figure 7.5. AO Apartment-Office District: Dimensional Requirements

Type	Density	Tract	Lot
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		Minimum Area	Minimum Area	Minimum Width	Minimum Depth
H-12 Senior Apartment Units	24 DU/Ac. Density Bonuses permitted per Use Regulations	5 Ac.	5 Ac.	100 ft.	100ft.

Setbacks				Lot Coverage		
Front Yard Minimum	Side Yard Minimum	Rear Yard Minimum	Parking	Building Coverage Maximum	Impervious Coverage Maximum	Green Area Minimum
15 ft.	25 ft.  From a Residential Zoned Property: 45 ft.	25 ft.  From a Residential Zoned Property: 45 ft.	Front yard: 25 ft.  Side yard: 15 ft.	50%	70%	30%

Building			Other
Maximum Height	Minimum Separation	Maximum Length	Maximum Building Length Adjustment
50 ft., 40 ft for portions of buildings within 100 ft. of residential district boundary	50 ft.	160 ft. (400 ft. w/required offsets*)	*Building facades between 160 ft. and 400 ft. long shall use at least one offset of 5 ft. depth for every 100 ft. of building length.

**SECTION II. ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT.** The Abington Township Zoning Ordinance, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended to add the following to the Use Regulations (Article XXI):

**Use H-12: Senior Apartment Units:** A senior apartment/condominium development is a residential building or buildings, each containing at least three, separate dwelling units, with units arranged in a variety of combinations, including side-by-side, over and under, or back-to-back with another dwelling unit. The regulations for this use category do not apply to townhouses or duplexes with a condominium form of ownership. The units shall be age restricted in compliance with the Federal Fair Housing Act. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the use of each unit of condominium real estate shall require a use permit and is subject to other regulations of the Township.

1. The base density for a Senior Apartment Unit development shall be 24 units per developable acre. To encourage higher quality environments, green technology and sustainable design features, increases in the base density are permitted in accordance with the following table. These increases are cumulative and may be combined up to a maximum density of 36 units per developable acre.

Bonus Feature	Bonus Feature Standard	Density Bonus
Structured Parking	A minimum of 60% of the required total parking is located in structured parking.	5 DU/AC
Improved Public Space	The creation and maintenance of an improved public space. The minimum size of the improved space shall be no less than 2,000 sf.	3 DU/AC
Enhanced Building Materials	The use of decorative masonry for more than 40% of non-glazed sections of all proposed building facades. The use of concrete cinder blocks does not qualify.	3 DU/AC
Decorative Streetscape	The installation of enhanced paving and street furniture such as decorative lighting, benches, trash containers and other items.	2 DU/AC
Alternative Energy Sources	Install a solar, wind or other renewable power-generation facility that is designed to provide at least 10% of the expected annual energy use for the building. The facility shall be designed and installed under the direction of a professional with demonstrated expertise in the design and construction of such facilities.	1 DU/AC
Energy Efficient Buildings	Building designs, materials, systems and construction techniques that produce an Energy Star score of <span style="background-color: yellow;">75</span>	1 DU/AC
Educational Resource	Creation and funding for a multi-year educational program that teaches local history and cultural heritage. The minimum length of the program shall be 5 years.	1 DU/AC
Community Heritage Preservation	Funding and implementation of a preservation of an off-site community historic or cultural asset.	1 DU/AC
Off-site Traffic Improvements	The provision of one off-site traffic improvement identified in the Abington Township Comprehensive Plan.	1 DU/AC

2. The dwelling units may share outside access and internal hallways, lobbies and similar facilities.
3. Each dwelling unit shall be contained on one floor of the building.
4. Except as permitted under condominium law, the dwelling units cannot be individually lotted, but must share a lot or parcel on which the building is located
5. The building and grounds shall be under one operating unit, such as a rental or condominium management service.
6. Parking spaces shall be located as conveniently as possible to the dwelling units and may be common or shared areas.
7. Dimensional requirements unless otherwise specified in the zoning district containing the use, shall be as follows:
  - a. The minimum lot area per Senior Apartment Unit development shall be 4 acres.
  - b. The maximum lot area per Senior Apartment Unit development shall be 8 acres.
  - c. The minimum floor area per dwelling unit shall be calculated according to the following ratios:

Figure 21.11

Minimum Floor Area/Dwelling Unit

Unit Size	Minimum Floor Area/DU
Efficiency	400 s.f.
1 Bedroom	500 s.f.
2 Bedroom	650 s.f.
3 Bedroom	800 s.f.

8. Use of an apartment/condominium unit for any business activity is not permitted, except as expressly permitted by Use A-15: No-Impact Home-Based Business.
9. On a parcel(s) proposed to be re-developed which contains man-made steep slopes, up to 50% of precautionary slopes may be disturbed and up to 50% of prohibitive slopes may be disturbed provided that the Applicant demonstrates that such disturbance does not create an increased erosion risk on said slopes.
10. Accessory Uses:
  - a. A-6 Clubhouse
  - b. A-13 Fences and Walls
  - c. A-15 No-Impact Home-Based Business
  - d. A-24 Swimming Pool
  - e. A-25 Tennis and Sports Courts
11. Landscape and buffering shall be provided in accordance with Article 24, except as specified herein.
  - a. In lieu of Section 2403.B.3.a, a buffer area of varying width may be utilized provided that the average buffer width over the length of the property line is in excess of 15 feet.
  - b. The requirement of Section 2403.B.3.f shall not apply if a fence or wall is constructed in accordance with section 2500.A.1.
  - c. The landscape requirements of Section 2402.A related to parking lot landscaping shall not apply to structured parking.

**SECTION III. ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT.** The Abington Township Zoning Ordinance, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended to add the following to the Parking and Transportation (Article XXIII):

Use H-12 Senior Apartment Units

Section 2304. Parking Use Requirements: H. 12. – Use H-12: Senior Apartment Units: 1.5 Spaces per dwelling unit.

- a. Up to 10 percent of required parking for Senior Apartment Units may be held in reserve, provided the reserve parking complies with all other provisions of this ordinance.
- b. Parking spaces may be reduced to 9 feet x 18 feet.
- c. Tandem parking, consisting of two parking spaces end to end, may be used for occupants of the same residential unit. Such spaces shall measure 9 feet x 36 feet.

