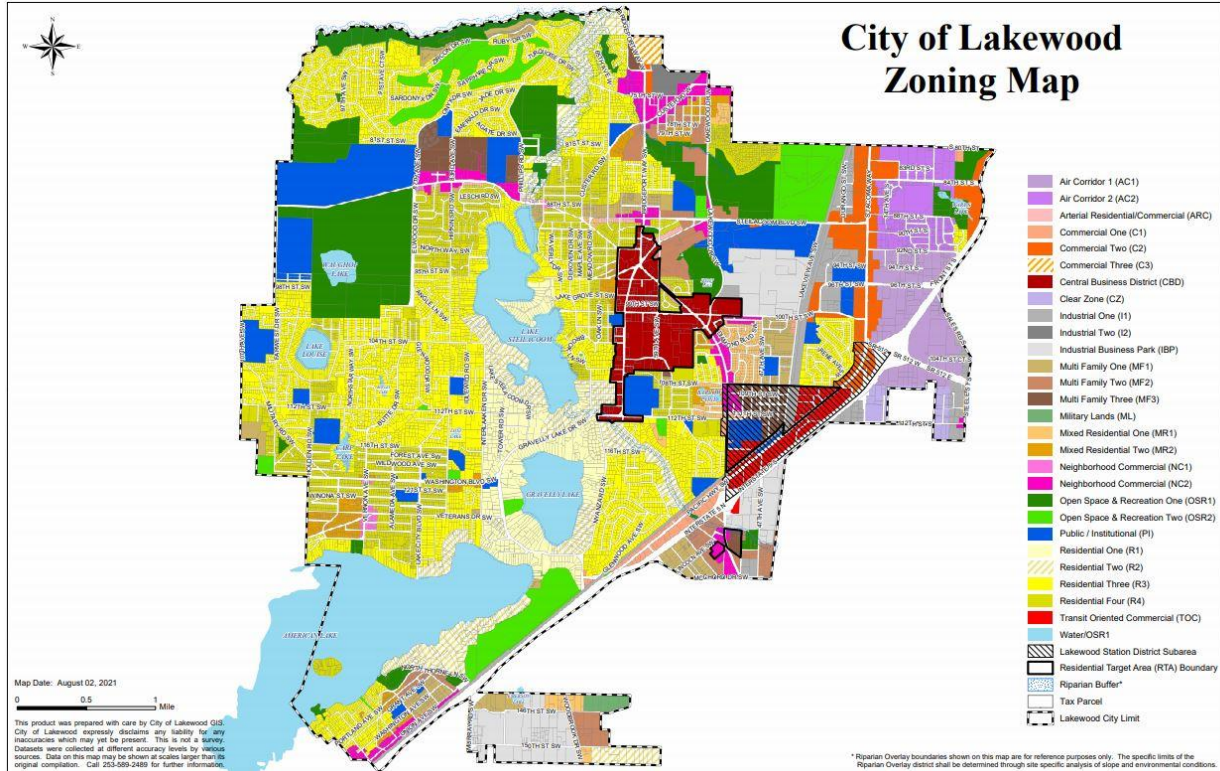


How do I find out what I can do with my property?

Buying property in Lakewood or want to make some changes to your existing property? Land use can be pretty confusing, unless you are a Planner or someone who is familiar with the language, like a property Developer or Architect. Even at that, each city has its own municipal code and comprehensive plan. And, you need a professional that is licensed to work in your city.

Here are some tips to help determine what you can and cannot do, and what to do next.

1. Check the [Zoning Map](#) to see how your property fits within the City



2. Review the [Municipal Code](#) for allowed uses and other resources on the City website.

The City has three distinct land use codes. The general code, [18A](#) is for all areas except for the Downtown (Central Business District or CBD), and Lakewood Station District. [18B](#) is for the Downtown, and [18C](#) is for the Lakewood Station District.

Check the tables within the code for a list of allowed uses.

You can also get access to online permitting, obtain permit applications, and find out about ordinances, plans, and policies in our [Permit Center](#).

Planning packets and forms may be [found here](#).

Consider [environmental protection](#) as aspects such as shoreline regulations, [trees](#), and other wetlands and potential flood areas.

3. Ask a Planner. For additional questions, reach out to one of our Planners, Andrea Bell, abell@cityoflakewood.us , Josh Kubitza, jkubitza@cityoflakewood.us, or Ramon Rodriguez, rrodriguez@cityoflakewood.us
4. If it's not clear that your desired use is what is intended in the code, and you need further clarification, you may apply for a [Zoning Certification/Directors Determination](#).
5. Hire a professional to perform the work. Ensure that they are licensed to operate in the City of Lakewood, and familiar with the code. You can find licensed contractors on the [MRSC Rosters](#) site.
6. Make sure that you have the appropriate permits prior to starting work. Stop work orders and doing work that is not according to your plans will be costly and get you into trouble.

You can dive into the Comprehensive Plan [here](#). Amendments to the plan are general reviewed mid-Summer to early Fall. We are going through a periodic update of the Comprehensive plan to be complete in 2024. Contact the [Long-Range Planning & Special Projects](#) office for more information.

Have more questions or just want to see what other resources are available? Contact Becky Newton in the Economic Development office at 253-983-7738.