



City of Evanston

EXCEPTIONS TO FENCE REGULATIONS

ZONING DIVISION
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The City provides two methods by which a property owner may request exceptions to the fence regulations located in the Zoning Ordinance at section 6-4-6-7. Generally, the Zoning Ordinance prohibits fences along street frontages on residential property.

1. A property owner may apply for a fence variance. Contact the Zoning Division if you wish to apply for a fence variance. The regulations concerning fence variances are located in the Zoning Ordinance at section 6-3-8.
2. A group of neighbors may petition the City to designate a stretch of street running through certain blocks as a "type 1 street." The "type 1 street" designation allows property owners to erect fences along their street frontages. These fences would be subject to limitations stated in the ordinance designating the "type 1 street." The regulations concerning "type 1 streets" are located in the City Code at Title 4, Chapter 19.

In summary, the procedure for have a street section designated a "type 1 street" is as follows.

(A) An applicant shall submit an application to the zoning division requesting designation of a street or segment thereof as a type 1 street. The application shall contain:

1. The names and addresses of all owners of property along both sides of the street for which the "type 1 street" designation is requested.
2. A petition containing the signatures, printed names, and printed addresses of 2/3^{rds} of these owners. Each page of the petition shall contain the following petition statement:

"Petition Statement: Signing this petition indicates your support for permitting fences within the front yards and street side yards along (street name) from (end point) to (end point). Such fences shall be no higher than 4 feet; shall be constructed of wood, wood-polymer lumber, wrought iron, masonry, stucco, chain link, or PVC, each in accordance with the provisions of Section 6-4-6-7(F)1 of the Zoning Ordinance; and shall have an opacity that does not exceed 70%."

The applicant may request that the permitted fences be limited to a height less than 4 feet, to a specific fence material, or to an opacity of less than 70%.

(B) The City Council through its Planning and Development Committee will review and answer the request.