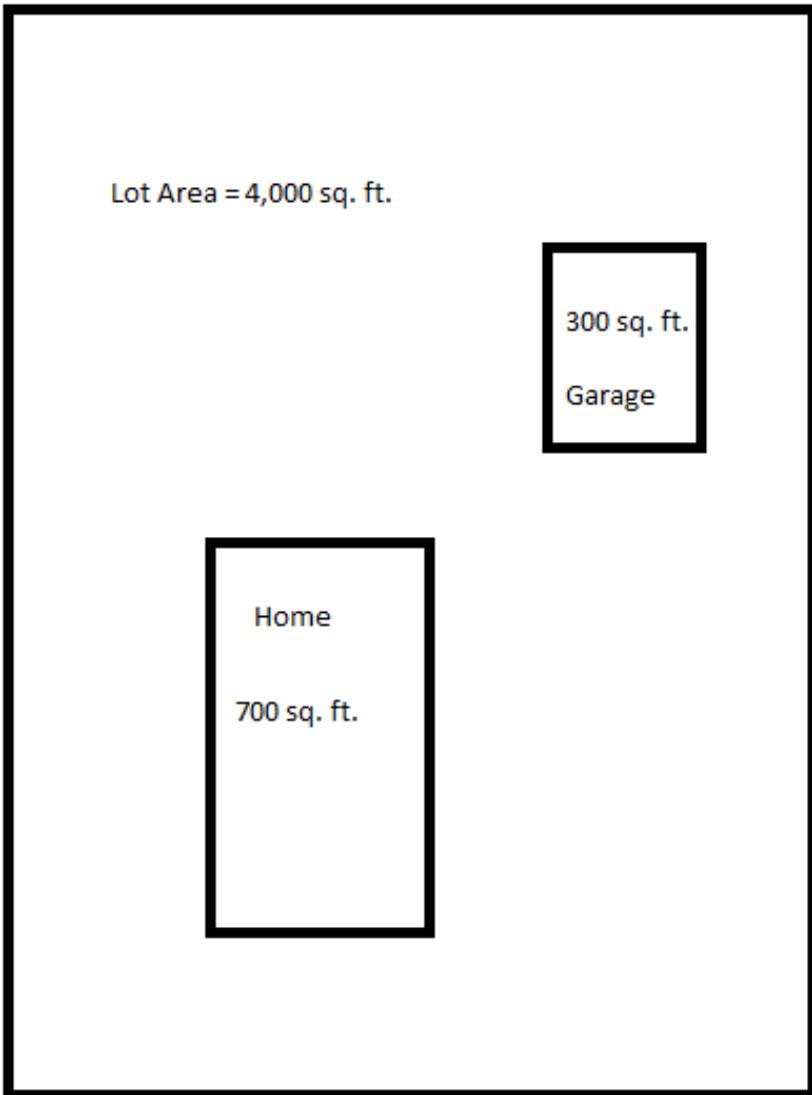


# R1 Building Area Ratio

Zoning Text Amendment  
City Council  
January 17, 2017

# Text Amendment

- The City Council is requested to consider a proposal to raise the Building Area Ratio (BAR) for R1 properties from 25% to 30%.
- BAR is the area of the lot covered by the footprint of a principal building, detached garage, and covered porches, expressed as a percentage of the total lot area.



Building Area =  
 $300 + 700 = 1000$  sq. ft.

Building Area Ratio =  
Building Area / Lot  
Area =  $1,000 / 4,000 =$   
25%

**BAR is not an impervious surface calculation and does not address stormwater.**

## Issue

- BAR standard put in place to try and limit large homes being constructed out of character with a neighborhood.
- The standard has affected existing homes more than proposed homes.
- While only a handful of preliminary home designs have had to be slightly reduced to meet the standard, six variances have been issued to owners of small lots wishing to add a garage.

## Issue

- Analysis of parcel data revealed:
  - 20% of R1 parcels currently exceed the BAR limit
  - 27% of existing parcels would need a variance to add a one car garage
  - 37% of existing parcels would need a variance to add a two car garage

# Impact

- Typical R1 lot is 10,890 sq. ft.
- 25% BAR allows for 2,723 sq. ft. of building footprint
- 30% BAR would allow for 3,267 sq. ft. of building footprint
- Net increase of 544 sq. ft. of building footprint