

# Sacramento County Code

## Sections Applicable to Visibility Obstructions at Public Streets and Private Driveways

### 12.12.010 Obstructions at Public Street Intersections.

It shall be unlawful to install, set out, or maintain or to allow the installation, setting out, or maintenance on property at any corner formed by intersecting streets within the unincorporated area of the County of Sacramento of any sign, hedge, shrubbery, natural growth, fence, or other obstruction to the view higher than 2 feet 6 inches above either the nearest pavement surface or the nearest traveled roadway (where there is no pavement) within that triangular area between the street right of way lines and a diagonal line joining points on the street right of way lines 20 feet from the point of their intersection, or in the case of rounded corners, the triangular area between the tangents to the curve and a diagonal line joining points on said tangent 20 feet from the point of their intersection. The tangents referred to are those at the beginning and at the end of the curve at the corner. (Ordinance 399, Section 1, 1979; Ordinance 785, Section 1, 1962.)

### 12.12.020 Obstructions at Private Driveways and Public Streets.

It shall be unlawful to set out, install, or maintain or to allow the setting out, installation, or maintenance of any sign, hedge, structure, natural growth, fence, or other obstruction to the view higher than 2 feet 6 inches above the nearest pavement surface (or traveled area where no pavement exists) on property adjacent to any private road or driveway intersecting a public street within a triangular area formed by the edge of the driveway, the street right-of-way line, and a line connecting two points, one of which is on the right-of-way line 10 feet from the edge of the driveway 10 feet back of the right-of-way line measured perpendicular to the right-of-way line in a direction away from the street. (Ordinance 399, Section 2, 1979; Ordinance 1045, Section 1, 1969; Ordinance 785, Section 2, 1972.)

### 12.12.030 Street Right-of-Way Line Defined.

Where the street right-of-way line is nearer to the center line of the street than any existing sidewalk, the street right-of-way line shall be assumed to be coincidental with the back edge of the sidewalk for determining the triangular area for which this chapter controls obstructions to visibility. Where there is no sidewalk but the street right-of-way line is nearer to the center line of the highway than any existing curb and gutter, the street right-of-way line shall be assumed to be coincidental with the back edge of the curb and gutter for determining the triangular area for which this chapter controls obstructions to visibility. (Ordinance 785, Section 3, 1962.)

### 12.12.040 Exceptions.

The foregoing provisions shall not apply to the following:

1. Permanent buildings.
2. Public utility poles.
3. Trees trimmed to the trunk so as to provide a clear, open space between pavement grade and a plane 6 feet higher, pavement grade being defined as either:
  - a. The nearest pavement surface, or
  - b. The nearest traveled roadway (where there is no pavement).
4. Saplings.
5. Fences of a type which in no way obstruct vision.
6. Supporting members of appurtenances to permanent buildings existing on October 31, 1962.

7. Official signs or signals.
8. Places where the contour of the ground is such that there can be no cross visibility at the intersection.
9. Signs mounted so as to provide a clear, open space (except for supporting members) of 10 feet or more above the ground and whose supports do not constitute an obstruction as defined in Section 12.12.030.
10. Fences as may be required by the Federal Housing Administration or other home mortgage lending agency within subdivision corner lots as defined in Title 22 that have rear yards contiguous to a highway designated by the Public Works Agency as a major highway with 100 feet of right-of-way or designated by the Agency as a major arterial with 80 feet of right-of-way or a frontage road.
11. Any passenger motor vehicle not to exceed 6 feet in height parked either temporarily or on display for sale on property zoned other than residential single family, residential multiple family, or on other residential property. (Ordinance 811, Section 1 (part), 1963; Ordinance 785, Section 4, 1962.)

### 12.12.050 Enforcement.

#### a. Enforcers.

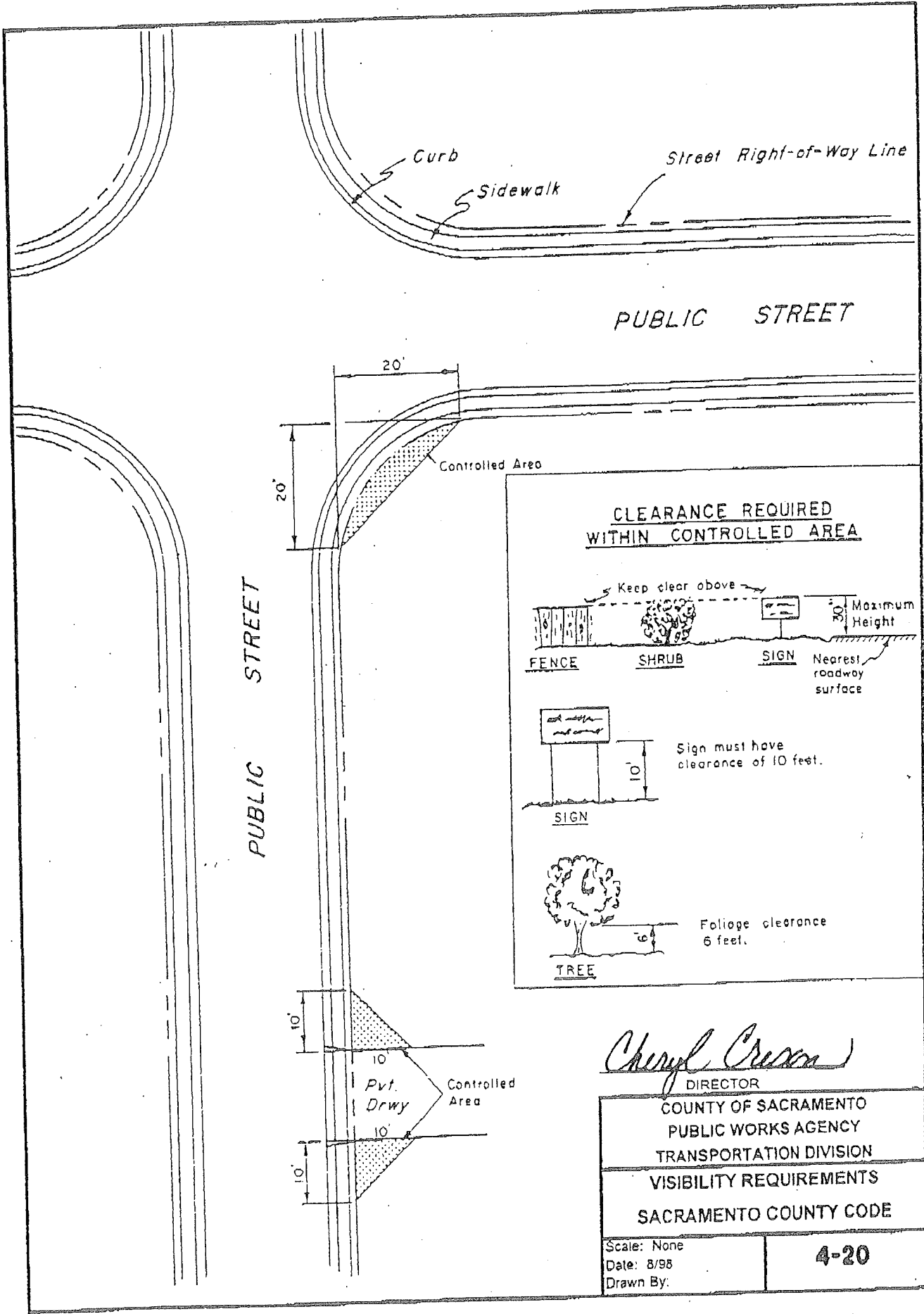
This chapter shall be enforced by the Public Works Agency of the County. The Administrator of the Public Works Agency, or his authorized representative, shall investigate violations of this chapter, give such notices as may be required to carry out this chapter, and perform such other duties in connection with the enforcement of this chapter as may be required.

#### b. Remedies.

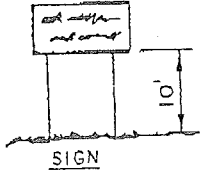
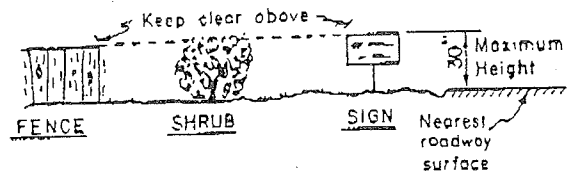
Any obstruction maintained in violation of this chapter shall be deemed a public nuisance, whether erected before or after October 31, 1962; and, upon failure to abate the same within 15 days after posting upon the premises of a notice to abate the nuisance signed by the Administrator of the Public Works Agency, or his authorized representative, ; and, after sending a copy of the notice to abate by registered mail addressed to the owner of record, as shown on the most recent assessment roll of the County, to the address as shown on the assessment roll, the Administrator or his authorized representative may enter upon the premises and remove or eliminate the obstruction. In such event, the cost to the County of the abatement of the nuisance shall be a lien upon the premises, provided a claim therefor be filed within the time and in the manner as prescribed in Section 1193.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The cost of such abatement shall, in addition, be a personal obligation against the owner of the premises upon which the nuisance was maintained, recoverable by the County in an action before any court of competent jurisdiction. (Ordinance 785, Section 5, 1962.)

### 12.12.060 Scope.

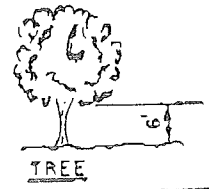
No obstruction to cross visibility shall be deemed to be excepted from the application of this chapter because of its being in existence at the time of the adoption hereof, unless expressly exempted by the terms of Section 12.12.040. (Ordinance 785, Section 7, 1962.)



**CLEARANCE REQUIRED WITHIN CONTROLLED AREA**



Sign must have clearance of 10 feet.



Foliage clearance 6 feet.

*Cheryl Cresson*  
DIRECTOR

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION  
VISIBILITY REQUIREMENTS  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY CODE

Scale: None  
Date: 8/98  
Drawn By:

**4-20**