STANDARD RECREATIONAL SPACES SECURITY CODE PROVISIONS [VERSION 6.1]

[Applies to Applications Made on or After 01/01/2026]
This document shall be completed by the design professional of record. The completed document shall be incorporated, in its entirety, along with the **City of Irvine Standard Security Code Plan Requirements and Definitions** into the plans submitted for approval prior to permit issuance. This document is in 12 point font and may not be reduced in size prior to incorporation.

INSTRUCTIONS:
(1) Those provisions preceded by an asterisk **(*)** shall be completed if applicable and an "**A**" shall be inserted in the space preceding the provision; if not applicable, an "**N/A**" shall be inserted.

(2) Those provisions preceded by a **[P]** shall be depicted in the plans via notes, details, plan and/or elevation views in a manner that clearly demonstrates compliance to the requirement. Such depictions shall be crossed referenced within the brackets { } provided or note shall be completed as otherwise instructed.

STANDARDS

STANDARDS FOR RECREATIONAL SPACES [Ref. Irvine Municipal Code (IMC) Section 5-9-520]

The provisions of this section shall apply to all public and private community buildings, parks, open spaces, trails, community swimming pools, recreation centers, and associated sidewalks and parking lots.

A. Exterior lighting shall conform to the following standards:

1. All types of exterior doors shall be illuminated during the hours of darkness with a minimum maintained one foot-candle of light at ground level, measured within a five foot radius from the center of the door.

2. **[P]** For buildings required to have two or more exits, lighting for landings shall be on an emergency power system consisting of storage batteries or an onsite generator capable of providing power for 90 minutes, installed as required by Building Code Section 1008.3.2. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details or note: This provision is not applicable -*

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3. Recessed areas of buildings or fences, which have a minimum depth of two feet, a minimum height of five feet, and do not exceed six feet in width and are capable of human concealment, shall illuminated with a minimum maintained 0.25 foot candles of light at ground level during the hours of darkness. This requirement applies to defined recessed areas which are within six feet of the edge of a designated walking surface with an unobstructed pathway to it, not hindered by walls or hedge row landscaping a minimum of two feet in height.

4. Stairways shall be illuminated with a minimum two foot-candle of light on all landings and stair treads, during the hours of operation, including one hour thereafter.

5. Parking lots and walkways accessing buildings and parking areas shall be illuminated with a minimum maintained one foot-candle of light on the driving or walking surface during the hours of operation and one hour thereafter.
6. Bike trails not incorporated in the roadway shall be illuminated with a minimum maintained 0.25 foot-candles of light at ground level during the hours of darkness, except that any bike trail or recreational facility within the designated Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan, Central Coastal Subregion reserve area shall be exempt from the requirements of this subsection.
7. Paved walkways in open space areas, not directly serving buildings or parking areas, shall be illuminated with a minimum maintained 0.25 foot-candles of light on the walking surface during the hours of operation.
8. Swimming pool decks and other hard surface recreation activity areas shall be illuminated with a minimum maintained 0.5 foot-candle of light on the walking surface during the hours of operation and one hour thereafter.
9. The light source utilized to comply with this section to meet parking and drive surface lighting shall have a rated average bulb life of not less than 20,000 hours, not battery operated, and controlled by a photocell device or a time clock with an astronomic feature.
10. Luminaires utilized to meet the requirements of this section shall have fully enclosed vandal resistant light fixtures, if accessible, and be not less than eight feet in height from ground level. A luminaire not less than 42 inches may be utilized to illuminate a walkway if adjacent landscaping is of a variety which does not mature higher than two feet, and it does not interfere with the required light distribution for a distance of 16 feet along the walkway. Light fixtures shall be deemed accessible if mounted within 15 feet vertically or six feet horizontally from any accessible surface or any adjoining roof, balcony, landing, stair treads, platform or similar structure.
11. Lighting near basketball courts shall be designed so as to eliminate or greatly minimize illuminating the courts.
12. Activation of the required exterior lighting shall be either by a photocell device or a time clock with an astronomic clock feature.
13. **[P]** See plan sheet. {

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    showing buildings, parking area, walkways, detailed landscaping with tree legend (if pole lights are used) and shrub legend (if bollards are used), fixture schedule, mounting height, lighting ratio, and a point-by-point photometric calculation of the required light levels. Note: Foot-candles are measured on a horizontal plane and conform to a uniformity ratio of 6:1 average/minimum. Landscaping shall not be planted so as to obscure required light levels with light fixtures exceeding eight feet in height installed at least two feet from a tree's canopy at 70 percent maturity.
14. Public recreation facilities and spaces shall utilize light poles and fixtures listed on the Irvine Community Services Department approved products list.

B. Swimming pools shall be secured as follows:
   1. Restroom doors and pool gates shall be equipped with automatic closure devices, dead latches, and a latch protector consisting of minimum 0.125 inch-thick steel, two inches wide and six inches long.

2. The pool equipment room shall be secured as follows:
   a. A dead latch bolt lockset, with a minimum bolt throw of 0.75 inches, operated either mechanically or electrically with a protective plate constructed of steel 0.125 inch thick, which shall be attached with non-removable bolts to the outside of the door. The plate shall extend a minimum of six inches vertically above and below the latch of the panic hardware. The plate shall be a minimum of two inches wide and extend a minimum of one inch beyond the edge of the door to which it is attached; or
   b. A deadbolt lockset, as specified in Section 5-9-517.B. which can either be operated mechanically or electrically.
3. The on and off switch for the spa is to be keyed or access controlled.
4. **[P]** Perimeter fencing, using either tubular steel or aluminum, is to be installed at a minimum height of **six feet**. Vertical fence pickets are to be spaced not more than four inches on-center and be designed to discourage climbing. { *Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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5. **[P]** Emergency access to locked gates is to be provided through installation of a Knox box key vault which shall contain a mechanical key for the gate. The vault shall be sub-mastered to Orange County Fire Authority for access by the police department. The mounting location shall be five feet above finish grade and within two feet of the locking device. Pools with double gates shall have the key vault installed as close as possible to the hinge side of one gate. Gates shall utilize a mechanical lock with the gate key placed inside the key vault.

   Exception: If it is not practical to install a key vault within two feet of the locking device due to structural issues, then it may be mounted within four feet of the locking device.

   {*Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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6. Selection of landscaping is to consider height of plants providing needed visibility into the pool area from adjacent uses, buildings, and streets.
7. Lighting shall conform to Section 5-9-517L.8 regarding lighting fixtures.
8. **[P]** Private park pools/spas, with direct public access which may be accessed reached by the general public, shall have signage indicating it is private property and no trespassing allowed, citing the current Penal Code section for trespassing.
9. **[P]** Address numbers, when assigned, shall be visible from inside and outside the pool, and the numerals and street name shall be at least four inches in height using Sans Serif font with a stroke weight of regular to medium, or an approved equivalent font which is clearly legible. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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10. **[P]** Showers shall be located in highly visible areas outside and not inside a building and not be obscured by wing walls greater than 42 inches in length. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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C. Landscaping guidelines are as follows:

1. Plant materials and walls shall take into consideration the need for users of the space to easily view their surroundings as well as police patrols to monitor the area from adjacent streets. Plants should be selected which do not grow beyond a height of 42 inches.
2. Trees shall be positioned to avoid interfering with required lighting levels and take into consideration the height of canopies from ground level regarding surveillance opportunities by users of the space and police patrols.
3. Planting of wide hedge rows and narrow vertical plants adjacent to solid fences is encouraged.
4. _____ (*)**[P]** In public parks, planters at least two feet in length and under 42 inches in height, which are directly adjacent to a cement or asphalt walking or driving surface, shall have devices attached to the outer edges which are designed to discourage skateboard grinding (vandalism) or the edges designed in such a manner as to deter such grinding. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details-*

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5. Park benches are to be designed to deter laying upon them which may include a center arm rest or similar design feature.

D. _____ (*) Trail and park connections to neighborhoods shall be identified as follows:

1. **[P]** Pedestrian connections from trails, parks, and open space areas into adjacent neighborhood public or private sidewalks and streets, shall have a city street sign or other approved sign identifying the street where the connection occurs. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details or note: This provision is not applicable -*

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2. **[P]** Trails crossing public or private streets shall have a city street sign at the intersection of the trail and street identifying the street and trail names. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details or note: This provision is not applicable -*

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3. **[P]** Named City trails shall have markers placed on concrete or asphalt surfaces every 0.10 of a mile and shall meet the design and application criteria as established by the Irvine Community Services Department. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details or note: This provision is not applicable-*

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E. **[P]** Park identification signs shall be provided at all public and private parks as follows:

1. Parks and private recreation facilities shall have a park identification sign, with address number, street name, park name, and the word "Private" if it is a private park. The sign copy size shall be a minimum height of six inches for the park name, a minimum of four inches for the address number and street name, and minimum three inches for "Private". The sign copy shall be of a

color contrasting to the background to which they are affixed. Signs shall be highly visible and placed within 100 feet of the centerline of the addressed street. Bottom line of the sign copy shall be no less than two feet from ground level and not obstructed by landscape maturity or by parked cars. Public Park identification signs also must meet the design criteria adopted in the City's Park/Public Facility Design Standards. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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2. Landscaping in front of the park signage shall be of the variety which grows no more than two feet in height at full maturity.
3. Park names shall not be duplicated or have sound-alike names.

F. **[P]** Private and public space delineation shall be provided as when private and public spaces are shared. Clear delineation shall be provided between the two entities. Signage and physical markers shall make it clear where the property line extends between the City owned property and private property. {*Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details-*

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G. **[P]** Dog Parks - Enclosed spaces designed for dogs to be off-leash shall conform to the following standards:
1. The dog park shall be located in a highly visible area.
2. Perimeter of the dog park shall have a fence, at least five feet in height, with no more than 40 percent of it being of solid construction. Fencing shall be tubular steel with openings between pickets not more than three inches in width, and designed to prevent dogs from crawling under it.
3. Gates shall be a double gated entry system where one gate must be closed before the other can be opened.
4. Access to the dog park is to be controlled by an access control system if park is part of a residential complex. Emergency access is to be provided for police and fire departments per Section 5-9-519.B.
5. Provide waste bag station and trash container.
6. All surfaces of the enclosed fenced portion of the dog park shall be illuminated with a minimum maintained 0.5 foot-candles of light at ground level, during the hours of operation, including one hour thereafter. Parking lots and walkways shall be illuminated per Section 5-9-520.B and a photometric plan provided prior to the issuance of building permits.
   a. The light source utilized to comply with this section shall have a rated average bulb life of not less than 12,000 hours.
   b. A site plan shall be provided showing the park, buildings, parking area, walkways, detailed landscaping with tree legend (if pole lights are used) and shrub legend (if bollards are used), fixture schedule, mounting height, lighting ratio, and a point-by-point photometric calculation of the required light levels. If the park is equipped with an occupancy sensor, then a point-by-point photometric calculation is required to show it meets the required minimum level of light. Note: Foot-candles are measured on a horizontal plane and conform to a uniformity ratio of 6:1 average/minimum. Landscaping shall not be planted so as to obscure required light levels with light fixtures exceeding eight feet in height installed at least two feet from a tree's canopy at 70 percent maturity.

{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details-

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H. **[P]** Privately Owned Parks Publicly Accessible

1. Privately owned parks, open to the public as deemed by the City, shall develop a security operations plan to monitor and control the park. Plan shall include addressing the following issues: noise, loitering, hours of operation, violation of owner's rules and regulations, high-definition camera for recording activity and the on-site title(s) of persons responsible for enforcement of the security operations plan.
2. Park identification signs shall conform to Section 5-9-520.E, with the following change in type of park identified:
   "Private - Open to Public"
3. Signs shall be installed at all pedestrian walkway entrances to the park which state:
   "Park is privately owned, open for public use, controlled and maintained by the property owner."

{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details-

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I. **[P]** Recreation spaces located on top of parking structures or residential units shall have a camera surveillance system complying with the following standards:

1. High-Definition color cameras shall be installed to view the entire recreational space and shall clearly capture the entire person and a recognizable face image.

2. Camera images shall be digitally stored for at least 30 days.

3. A camera surveillance plan noting the type and mounting height of cameras, demonstrating compliance with this section, shall be developed as part of the construction plans.
   {Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details-

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STANDARDS FOR EXTERIOR DOOR & OPENINGS [Ref. IMC Section 5-9-517]

A. Swinging exterior glass doors, wood or metal doors with glass panels, solid wood or metal doors shall be constructed or protected as follows:

1. **[P]** Wood doors shall be of solid core construction with a minimum thickness of 1.75 inches. Wood panel doors with panels less than one inch thick shall be covered on the inside with a minimum 16 U.S. gauge sheet steel or its equivalent, which is to be attached with screws on minimum six inch centers. Hollow steel doors shall be of a minimum 16 U.S. gauge and have sufficient reinforcement to maintain the designated thickness of the door when any locking device is installed; such reinforcement being able to restrict collapsing of the door around any locking device. *{Ref. plans and/or door and window schedules -*

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2. **[P]** Except when double cylinder deadbolts are utilized, any glazing utilized within 40 inches of any door locking mechanism shall be constructed or protected as follows:

   a. Fully tempered glass or rated burglary resistant glazing; or

b. Iron or steel grills of at least 0.125 inch material with a minimum two inch mesh secured on the inside of the glazing may be utilized; or

c. The glazing shall be covered with iron bars of at least 0.5 inch round or one inch by 0.25 inch flat steel material, spaced not more than five inches apart, secured on the inside of the glazing.

d. Items b. and c., above, shall not interfere with the operation of opening windows if such windows are required to be openable by the Uniform Building Code.

3. Doors without mechanical locks may be secured with a magnetic locking device which shall have a minimum holding force of 1600 lbs. and minimum twelve hour backup battery source.

{Ref. plans and/or door and window schedules-

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B. All swinging exterior wood and steel doors shall be equipped as follows:

1. A single or double door shall be equipped with a double or single cylinder deadbolt. The bolt shall have a minimum projection of one inch and be constructed so as to repel a cutting tool attack. The deadbolt shall have an embedment of at least 0.75 inch into the strike receiving the projected bolt. The cylinder shall have a cylinder guard, a minimum of 5-pin tumblers, and shall be connected to the inner portion of the lock by connecting screws of at least 0.25 inch in diameter. The provisions of the preceding paragraph do not apply where (1) panic hardware is required, or (2) an equivalent device is approved by the enforcing authority.

2. Double doors shall be equipped as follows:

a. The inactive leaf of double door(s) shall be equipped with metal flush bolts having a minimum embedment of 0.625 inch into the head and threshold of the doorframe.

b. Double doors shall have an astragal constructed of steel a minimum of 0.125 inch thick, which will cover the opening between the doors. The astragal shall be a minimum of two inches wide, and extend a minimum of one inch beyond the edge of the door to which it is attached. The astragal shall be attached to the outside of the active door by means of welding or with nonremovable bolts spaced apart on not more than 10 inches centers. (The door to which such an astragal is attached must be determined by the fire safety codes adopted by the enforcing authority.)

C. Aluminum frame swinging doors shall be equipped as follows:

1. The jamb on all aluminum frame swinging doors shall be so constructed or protected to withstand 1,600 pounds of pressure in both a vertical distance of three inches and a horizontal distance of one inch each side of the strike, so as to prevent violation of the strike.

2. A single or double door shall be equipped with a double cylinder deadbolt with a bolt projection exceeding one inch or a hook-shaped or expanding deadbolt that engages the strike sufficiently to prevent spreading. The deadbolt lock shall have a minimum of 5-pin tumblers and a cylinder guard.

D. Panic hardware, whenever required by the Building Code shall be installed as follows:

1. Panic hardware shall contain a minimum of two locking points on each door; or

2. On single doors, panic hardware may have one locking point, which is not to be located at either the top or bottom rails of the doorframe. The door shall have an astragal constructed of steel 0.125 inch thick, which shall be attached with nonremovable bolts to the outside of the door. The astragal shall extend a minimum of six inches vertically above and below the latch of the panic hardware. The astragal shall be a minimum of two inches wide and extend a minimum of one inch beyond the edge of the door to which it is attached.

3. Double doors containing panic hardware shall have an astragal attached to the doors at their meeting point, which will close the opening between them, but not interfere with the operation of either door.

E. Horizontal sliding doors shall be equipped with a metal guide track at top and bottom, and a cylinder lock and/or padlock with a hardened steel shackle which locks at both heel and toe, and a minimum 5-pin tumbler operation with nonremovable key when in an unlocked position. The bottom track shall be so designed that the door cannot be lifted from the track when the door is in a locked position.

☐ **(*) STANDARDS FOR LOUVERED WINDOWS [Ref. IMC Section 5-9-514]**

[P] Louvered windows shall not be utilized if any portion of it is within eight feet vertically or six feet horizontally from any exterior accessible surface or any adjoining roof, balcony, landing, stair tread, platform or similar structure. {*Ref. elevation views, window schedule-*

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☐ **(*) STANDARDS FOR EXTERIOR LADDERS [Ref. IMC Section 5-9-517]**

[P] Exterior mounted ladders are prohibited except:

A. Ladders with a minimum 0.125 inch thick steel plate, securely attached to the ladder edge on each side and extending to within two inches of the wall for a height of 10 feet above ground level. A door or cover shall be securely attached to the front of the ladder and be constructed of a minimum 0.125 inch steel, extending from ground level to at least ten feet high. The ladder door shall have nonremovable hinge pins and be locked tight against the side wall by a locking mechanism with a minimum 5-pin tumbler operation, and attached with nonremovable bolts from the exterior; or

B. Ladders beginning a height of ten feet above ground. *{Ref. plans, elevations and applicable notes and/or details -*

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