ARTICLE 25
DEFINITIONS

Sec. 25.01 CONSTRUCTION OF LANGUAGE

The following rules of construction apply to the text of this Ordinance:

a. The particular shall control the general.

b. In the case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this ordinance and any caption or illustration, the text shall control.

c. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive, with the decision made by the Township Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, Township Board or Zoning Board of Appeals; as indicated.

d. Words used in the present tense shall include the future and words used in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary.

e. The word "building" includes the word "structure." The word "build" includes the words "erect" and "construct." A "building" or "structure" includes any part thereof.

f. The phrase "used for" includes "arranged for," "designed for," "intended for," "maintained for," or "occupied for."

g. The term "including" means "including, but not limited to" and the term "such as" means "such as, but not limited to" unless otherwise noted.

h. The word "person" includes an individual, a corporation, a partnership, an incorporated association, or any other similar entity recognizable as a "person" under the laws of Michigan.

i. Unless the context clearly indicates the contrary, where a regulation involves two or more items, conditions, provisions or events connected by the conjunction "and," "or," "either...or," the conjunction shall be interpreted as follows:

1) "And" indicates that all the connected items, conditions, provisions or events shall apply.

2) "Or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events may apply singly or in any combination (i.e. "or" also means "and/or").

3) "Either...or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions or events shall apply singly but not in combination.

j. The terms "abutting" or "adjacent to" include property along the lot lines of the subject site including those in another community, but do not include lands separated by a public street right-of-way.

k. The word “days” shall mean calendar days and include all weekend days and holidays.

l. Terms not herein defined shall have the meaning customarily assigned to them.
Sec. 25.02  DEFINITIONS

Access Management: A technique to improve traffic operations and safety along a major roadway through the control of driveway locations and design; consideration of the relationship of traffic activity for properties adjacent to, and across from, one another; and the promotion of alternatives to direct access.

Accessory Building Or Structure: A detached structure on the same lot with, and of a nature customarily incidental and subordinate to, a principal structure, and occupied or devoted exclusively to an accessory use.

Accessory Use: A use which is clearly incidental to, customarily found in connection with and located on the same zoning lot, unless otherwise specified, as the principal use to which it is related. When "accessory" is used in this Zoning Ordinance, it shall have the same meaning as accessory use. An accessory use includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. Domestic or agricultural storage in a barn, shed, stable, tool room, garage or similar accessory building or other structure.

b. Decks, whether attached or detached from a principal structure, porches, gazebos and playground equipment.

c. Residential accommodations for servants or caretakers, when exclusively permitted.

d. Swimming pools for the use by occupants of a residence, or their guests; and change rooms.

e. A newsstand primarily for the convenience of the occupants of a building, which is located wholly within such building and has no exterior signs or displays.

f. Storage of merchandise normally carried in stock in connection with a business or industrial use, and storage of goods used in or produced by commercial or industrial uses, unless such storage is excluded in the applicable district regulations. Outdoor display, sales and storage in a commercial or industrial district requires a Special Use Permit, as described in Article 12.

g. Accessory off-street parking spaces, open or enclosed, subject to the accessory off-street parking regulations for the district in which the zoning lot is located (Article 14).

h. Accessory off-street loading, subject to the off-street loading regulations for the district in which the zoning lot is located.

i. Signs, subject to the standards contained in Article 16.

j. Fences when constructed and located in accordance with the requirements of this Ordinance.

k. Uses customary and clearly incidental to a principal use such as, offices of a manufacturing or warehousing use contained in the same principal structure. Where two or more activities take place within a principal building, the accessory use shall generally be the use occupying the least square footage or generating the least amount of traffic or other external impacts. Interpretation of accessory v. principal use shall be made by the Zoning Administrator.

Adult Day Care: A facility which provides care for over twelve (12) adults for less than 24 hours.
**Adult Care Facilities:** A facility for the care of adults, over eighteen (18) years of age, as licensed and regulated by the State under Michigan Public Act 218 of 1979, and rules promulgated by the State Department of Social Services. Such organizations shall be defined as follows:

a. **Adult Foster Care Facility:** means a governmental or nongovernmental establishment that provides foster care to adults. It includes facilities and foster care homes for adults who are aged, mentally ill, developmentally disabled, or physically handicapped who require supervision on an ongoing basis but who do not require continuous nursing care. An adult foster care facility does not include nursing homes, homes for the aged, hospitals, alcohol or substance abuse rehabilitation center, or a residential center for persons released from or assigned to a correctional facility.

b. **Adult Foster Care Small Group Home:** means a private home with the approved capacity to receive 12 or fewer adults who are provided supervision, personal care, and protection in addition to room and board, for 24 hours a day, 5 or more days a week, and for 2 or more consecutive weeks for compensation.

c. **Adult Foster Care Large Group Home:** means a private home with approved capacity to receive at least 13 but not more than 20 adults to be provided supervision, personal care, and protection in addition to room and board, for 24 hours a day, 5 or more days a week, and for 2 or more consecutive weeks for compensation.

d. **Adult Foster Care Family Home:** means a private home with the approved capacity to receive 6 or fewer adults to be provided with foster care for 5 or more days a week and for 2 or more consecutive weeks. The adult foster care family home licensee must be a member of the household and an occupant of the residence.

e. **Congregate Facility:** Residence for more than twenty (20) adults.

**Adult Regulated Use:** for the purpose of this ordinance, the following definitions shall be classified as adult regulated uses (adult entertainment use or establishment):

a. **Adult Book Or Video Store:** An establishment that has a substantial portion of its stock in trade and offers for sale, for any form of consideration, any one or more of the following: a.) books, magazines, periodicals, or other printed matter, or photographs, films, movies, motion pictures, video cassettes, compact disks, slides, or other visual representations that are characterized by an emphasis on matter depicting, describing or related to specified sexual activities or specific anatomical areas, as hereinafter defined.

b. **Adult Smoking Or Sexual Paraphernalia Store:** An establishment having, as a substantial portion of its stock in trade and offers for sale, for any form of consideration, paraphernalia designed or usable for sexual stimulation or arousal or for smoking, ingesting or inhaling marijuana, narcotics or other stimulating or hallucinogenic drug-related substances.

c. **Adult Theater or Entertainment Center:** An establishment used for live performances or presenting material by means of motion pictures, films, video tapes or receivers, photographic slides or other similar means of projection or display, which performances or material is distinguished or characterized by an emphasis on matter depicting, describing or related to specified anatomical areas or specified sexual activities, as hereinafter defined for observation by patrons therein, including an establishment which features any of the following: topless dancers and/or bottomless dancers, strippers, waiters, waitresses or employees.
d. **Host or Hostess Establishment:** An establishment or club offering socialization with a host or hostess for a consideration to the host or hostess or for an admission or membership fee.

e. **Massage Parlor:** An establishment having a substantial portion of its space devoted to massages of the human body or parts thereof by means or pressure, imposed friction, stroking, kneading, rubbing, tapping, pounding, vibrating or otherwise stimulating the same with hands, other parts of the human body, mechanical devices, creams, ointments, oils, alcohol or any other means of preparations to provide relaxation or enjoyment to the recipient. The following uses shall not be included in the definition of a massage parlor:

   1. establishments which routinely provide such services by a licensed physician, a licensed chiropractor, a licensed osteopath, a licensed physical therapist, a licensed nurse practitioner, a therapeutic massage practitioner as defined in this Ordinance or any other similarly licensed medical professional;
   2. fitness center;
   3. electrolysis treatment by a licensed operator of electrolysis equipment; and.
   4. hospitals, nursing homes, medical clinics or medical offices.

f. **Sauna, Hot Tub or other Similar Health or Body Improvement or Enjoyment Enterprise:** An establishment having a substantial portion of its space devoted to saunas, hot tubs, whirlpools, sun lamps and similar body relaxing, soothing or improving facilities which are available for male and female customers with or without supervision or participation by employees or independent contractors of the business, excluding retail establishments which provide for the sale of new saunas, hot tubs or other similar health or body improvement or enjoyment items.

g. **Specified Anatomical Areas:** Specified anatomical areas means and includes any one or more of the following: a) less than completely covered human genitals, pubic region, buttocks, anus, or female breasts below a point immediately above the top of the areola; or b) human male genitals in a discernible turgid state, even if completely and opaquely covered.

h. **Specified Sexual Activities:** Specified sexual activities means and includes any one or more of the following: a) the fondling or erotic touching of human genitals, pubic region, buttocks, anus, or female breasts; b) human sex acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated, including but not limited to intercourse, oral copulation, or sodomy; c) human masturbation, actual or simulated; d) human excretory functions as part of, or as related to, any of the activities described above; and e) physical violence, bondage, mutilation, or rape, actual or simulated, as part of or as related to, any of the activities described above.

i. **Substantial Portion:** Substantial portion means a use or activity accounting for more than twenty (20%) percent of any one or more of the following: stock-in-trade, display space, floor space, or viewing time, movie display time, or entertainment time measured per month.

**Alteration:** Any change, addition or modification in construction or type of occupancy, or in the structural members of a building, such as walls or partitions, columns, beams or girders, the consummated act of which may be referred to herein as "altered" or "reconstructed".

**Animal, Domesticated (Pet):** An animal that is commonly considered capable of being trained or is capable of adapting to living in a human environment and being of use to human beings, and which is not likely to bite without provocation nor cause death, maiming or illness to human beings, including by way of example: bird (caged), fish, rodent (bred, such as a gerbil, rabbit, hamster or guinea pig), cat (domesticated), lizard (non-poisonous), and dog. Wild, vicious, or exotic animals shall not be considered domesticated. Animals bred, raised or boarded for commercial purposes are not considered pets.
Animal, Non-Domesticated, Vicious Or Exotic: Any animal that attacks, bites, or injures human beings or domesticated animals without adequate provocation, or which because of temperament, conditioning, or training, has a known propensity to attack, bite, or injure human beings or domesticated animals. Or, an animal from a species which is not commonly domesticated or kept as livestock, or which is not native to the State of Michigan, or a species which, irrespective of geographic origin, is of wild or predatory character, or which because of size, aggressive or vicious characteristics would constitute an unreasonable danger to human life or property if not kept, maintained or confined in a safe and secure manner, including any hybrid animal that is part exotic animal.

Animal Shelter: A facility operated by a licensed individual, humane society, a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals or any other similar institutions. A facility where animals are housed for an extended period of time and are available for adoption/placement.

Apartments: A suite of rooms or a room in a multiple-family building arranged and intended for a place of residence of a single-family or a group of individuals living together as a single housekeeping unit.

Arcade: The use of a building or a portion of a building for the location, operation, and placement of five (5) or more mechanical amusement devices. Mechanical amusement devices shall mean any device, apparatus, mechanical equipment or machine operated as amusement for required compensation. The term does not include vending machines used to dispense foodstuffs, toys, or other products for use and consumption.

As-built plans: Revised construction plans in accordance with all approved field changes.

Auto repair establishment, major: An automotive repair establishment which may conduct, in addition to activities defined below as "minor repairs," one or more of the following: general repair, engine rebuilding, rebuilding or reconditioning of motor vehicles, collision service, such as body, frame, or fender straightening and repair; overall painting and undercoating of automobiles, major overhauling of engine requiring removal of cylinder-head or crank casepan, recapping or retreading of tires, steam cleaning and similar activities.

Auto repair establishment, minor: An automotive repair establishment that conducts maintenance and minor repair, including one or more of the following: oil change, tire and brake service, exhaust system repair, glass repair and audio, and alarm installation.

Automobile Body Repair Station: includes buildings and premises where, along with the sale of engine fuels, the following services may be carried out: general repair, engine rebuilding, rebuilding or reconditioning of motor vehicles; collision service, such as body, frame or fender straightening and repair; overall painting and undercoating of automobiles.

Automobile (Gasoline) Service Station: includes buildings and premises for the primary purpose of the retail sales of gasoline (stored only in underground tanks), oil, grease, batteries, tires and other operational fluids and accessories for the automobile, and the installation of such commodities, and for other minor automobile repair not to include: auto refinishing, body work, dismantling of automobiles for the purpose of reuse or resale of parts, or storage of automobiles other than those in for immediate repair or service. Sales of convenience items shall be considered an accessory use when occupying no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the gross floor area.

Automobile Wash: includes any building or structure or portion thereof containing facilities for washing motor vehicles using production line methods with a conveyor, blower, steam cleaning device or other mechanical washing devices; and shall also include coin and attendant operated drive-through, automatic
self-serve, track mounted units and similar high volume washing establishments, but shall not include hand washing operations in an "Automobile service station."

**Bar/lounge/taVERN:** A bar or lounge is a type of restaurant which is operated primarily for the dispensing of alcoholic beverages, although the sale of prepared food or snacks may also be permitted. If a bar or lounge is part of a larger dining facility, it shall be defined as that part of the structure so designated or operated.

**Basement:** The portion of a building which is partially or wholly below grade but so located that the vertical distance from the mean grade to the floor is greater than the vertical distance from the mean grade to the ceiling (see Figure 25.1). A basement shall not be counted as a story.

**Bed and Breakfast Inn:** Shall mean any dwelling in which overnight accommodations are provided or offered for transient guest for compensation, including provision for a morning meal only for the overnight guest only. A bed and breakfast is distinguished from a motel in that a bed and breakfast establishment shall have only one set of kitchen facilities, employ only those living in the house or up to one (1) additional employee, and have facade style consistent with surrounding homes.

**Block:** The property abutting one side of a street and lying between the two nearest intersecting streets, crossing or terminating) or between the nearest such street and railroad right-of-way, unsubdivided acreage, lake, river or live stream; or between any of the foregoing and any other barrier to the continuity of development, or corporate boundary lines of the Municipality.

**Block Face:** Defined as and consists of those properties fronting along an existing right-of-way and located between the intersections of existing streets, or between intersections and dividers such as rivers, rail-roads, and other similar natural or man-made features.

**Board of Appeals:** (also referred to in this Zoning Ordinance as the Board of Zoning Appeals). The body established by the Township Board to exercise the authority granted by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (Public Act 110 of 2006). The jurisdiction of the Board of Appeals is described in Article 23. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Brewpub:** A manufacturer and brewer of not more than 18,000 barrels of beer per calendar year in Michigan including on premise sales of the beer produced for consumption on or off the brewpub premises with appropriate state licenses. (as amended 8/11/19)

**Buffer Zone:** A strip of land with landscaping, berms or walls singularly or in combination required between certain zoning districts based on the landscaping standards of this zoning ordinance. The intent of the required buffer zones is to lessen visual and noise impacts.

**Building:** Any structure (excluding fences) either temporary or permanent, having a roof supported by columns or walls, and intended for the shelter, or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or property of any kind. A building shall include mobile homes, manufactured housing, sheds, garages, greenhouses, pole barns and used for the purposes of a building and similar structures. A building shall not include such structures as signs, fences or smokestacks, but shall include structures such as storage tanks, produce silos, coal bunkers, oil cracking towers, or similar structures.
Building Envelope: The ground area of a lot which is defined by the minimum setback and spacing requirements within which construction of a principal building and any attached accessory structures (such as a garage) is permitted by this Ordinance. For condominium developments, the building envelope shall be illustrated on a site plan.

Building Height: The vertical distance from the grade at the center of the front of the building to the highest point of the roof surface in a flat roof, to the deck line for mansard roofs, and to the beam height level between eaves and ridge for gable, hip and gambrel roofs (see Figure 25.2).

Building Line: A horizontal line parallel to a front, side or rear lot line which is located at the point of principal exterior wall or structural feature nearest the front, side or rear lot line, not including permitted yard projections. (See Figure 25.3)

Building Permit: An authorization issued by the Livingston County Building Department to move, erect or alter a structure within the Township.

Business: A company, enterprise or similar organization designed to provide goods or services to consumers. A business may provide goods or services to the public or cliental on-site, such as with retail sales, or be involved in the administration, production, distribution or storage of goods to be provided at another location, such as with manufacturing. A business may include any commercial, office, institutional or industrial use (see “Use”). (as amended 3/5/10)

Caliper: The diameter of a deciduous (canopy) tree trunk measured as follows:

a. Existing trees are measured at four and one-half (4.5) feet above the average surrounding grade; and,

b. Trees which are to be planted shall be measured twelve (12) inches above the average surrounding grade if the tree caliper is more than four (4) inches, or if the tree caliper is less than four (4) inches, it shall be measured at six (6) inches above the average surrounding grade.

Caretaker (living quarters): An independent residential dwelling unit or living area within a principal building designed for and occupied by no more than two (2) persons, where at least one (1) is employed to provide services or to look after goods, buildings, or property on the parcel on which the living quarters are located.

Cemetery: Land used or intended to be used for burial of the human dead and dedicated for such purposes. Cemeteries include accessory columbaria and mausoleums, but exclude crematories.
**GENOA TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE**

**Definitions**

**Child Care Facility**: A facility for the care of children under eighteen (18) years of age, as licensed and regulated by the State under Michigan Public Act 116 of 1973 and the associated rules promulgated by the State Department of Social Services. Such organizations shall be further defined as follows:

a. **Child Care or Day Care Center**: A facility, other than a private residence, receiving more than six pre-school or school age children for group care for periods of less than 24 hours a day, and where the parents or guardians are not immediately available to the child. It includes a facility which provides care for not less than two consecutive weeks, regardless of the number of hours of care per day.

The facility is generally described as a child care center, day care center, day nursery, nursery school, parent cooperative preschool, play group, or drop-in center. "Child care center" or "day care center" does not include a Sunday school conducted by a religious organization where children are cared for during short periods of time while persons responsible for such children are attending religious services.

b. **Child Caring Institution**: A child care facility which is organized for the purpose of receiving minor children for care, maintenance, and supervision, usually on a 24 hour basis, in a building maintained for that propose, and operates throughout the year. It includes a maternity home for the care of unmarried mothers who are minors, an agency group home, and institutions for mentally retarded or emotionally disturbed minor children. It does not include hospitals, nursing homes, boarding schools, or an adult foster care facility in which a child has been placed.

c. **Foster Family Home**: A private home in which one but not more than four minor children, who are not related to an adult member of the household by blood, marriage, or adoption, are given care and supervision for 24 hours a day, for four or more days a week, for two or more consecutive weeks, unattended by a parent or legal guardian.

d. **Foster Family Group Home**: A private home in which more than four but less than seven children, including children related to the caregiver by blood, marriage, or adoption, are provided care for 24 hours a day, for four or more days a week, for two or more consecutive weeks, unattended by a parent or legal guardian.

e. **Family Day Care Home**: A private home in which up to six (6) minor children are received for care and supervision for periods of less than 24 hours a day, including children related to the caregiver by blood, marriage, or adoption. It includes a home that gives care to an unrelated child for more than four weeks during a calendar year.

f. **Group Day Care Home**: A private home in which more than six but not more than 12 children are given care and supervision for periods of less than 24 hours a day unattended by a parent or legal guardian, including children related to the caregiver. It includes a home that gives care to an unrelated child for more than four weeks during a calendar year.

**Church or temple**: Any structure wherein persons regularly assemble for religious activity.

**Clear Vision Area**: An area of each lot near any street intersection or commercial driveway which shall remain clear of obstructions between a height of two (2) feet and six (6) feet to ensure safe sight distance for motorists (see figure 25.4).
**Climate-controlled indoor commercial storage:** A fully enclosed multi-story temperature and humidity controlled commercial building with limited exterior access points and controlled indoor only access to individual and compartmentalized stalls or lockers for storage of customer’s goods or wares. (as amended 8/11/19)

**Clinic, medical:** An establishment where human patients who are not lodged overnight are admitted for examination and treatment by a group of physicians, dentists, or similar professionals. A medical clinic may incorporate customary laboratories and pharmacies incidental to or necessary for its operation or to the service of its patients, but may not include facilities for overnight patient care or major surgery.

**Club or fraternal organization:** An organization of persons for special purposes or for the promulgation of sports, arts, sciences, literature, politics, or the like, but not operated for profit or to espouse beliefs or further activity that is not in conformance with the constitution of the United States or any laws or ordinances. The facilities owned or used by such organization may be referred to as a "club" in this ordinance.

**Coffee Shop:** An establishment serving coffee beverages as its primary product to a customer in a ready-to-consume state. The preparation and sale of food or snacks to customers may also be permitted. The method of operation may include indoor and/or outdoor seating and may be characteristic of a carryout or drive-through restaurant or combination thereof. (as amended 3/5/10)

**Commercial vehicle:** Any vehicle bearing or required to bear commercial license plates and which falls into one or more of the categories listed below:

a. truck tractor;

b. semi-trailer, which shall include flat beds, stake beds, roll-off containers, tanker bodies, dump bodies and full or partial box-type enclosures;

c. vehicles of a type that are commonly used for the delivery of ice cream, milk, bread, fruit or similar vending supply or delivery trucks. This category shall include vehicles of a similar nature which are also of a type commonly used by electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling, and other construction oriented contractors;

d. tow trucks;

e. commercial hauling trucks;

f. vehicle repair service trucks;

g. snow plowing trucks;

h. any other vehicle with a commercial license plate having a gross vehicle weight in excess of ten thousand (10,000) pounds or a total length in excess of 22 feet.

**Condominium Act:** Michigan Act 59 of 1978, as amended.

**Condominium, Contractible:** A condominium project from which any portion of the submitted land or building may be withdrawn in pursuant to express provisions in the condominium documents and in
accordance with the Genoa Township Code of Ordinances and the Condominium Act, Act 59 of the

**Condominium, Detached:** A residential condominium project designed to be similar in appearance to a
conventional single-family subdivision.

**Condominium, General Common Element:** The common elements other than the limited common
elements.

**Condominium, Limited Common Element:** A portion of the common elements reserved in the master
deed for the exclusive use of less than all of the co-owners.

**Condominium, Master Deed:** The condominium document recording the condominium project as
approved by the Township Board to which is attached as exhibits and incorporated by reference the
approved bylaws for the project and the approved condominium subdivision plan for the project.

**Condominium Setbacks:** Shall be measured as follows:

- **Front Yard Setback** - the minimum distance required between the public street right-of-
  way or private road easement line and the foundation of the unit site. Where there is not
  public right-of-way or access easement, the front yard setback shall be measured from the
  nearest pavement edge to the foundation of the unit site.

- **Side Yard Setback** - the minimum distance required between the limits of the development
  and the side of a unit or the distance between the side boundary of a site condominium and
  the side of a unit or half the distance between the sides of any adjacent units where there are
  no condominium sites.

- **Rear Yard Setback** - the minimum distance required between the limit of the development
  and the rear of the unit or the distance between the rear boundary of a site condominium
  and the rear of a unit or half the distance between the rear of any two adjacent units. Note:
  where the rear of a detached condominium faces the side of an adjacent condominium unit,
  the units shall be spaced a distance equal to the combined rear and side setbacks.

**Condominium, Site:** A condominium project containing or designed to contain structures or other
improvements for residential commercial, office, industrial or other uses permitted in the zoning district
in which it is located and in which each co-owner owns exclusive rights to a volume of space within
which a structure or structure may be constructed as a condominium unit as described in a master deed.

**Condominium Unit:** The portion of the condominium project designed and intended for separate
ownership as described in the Master Deed, regardless of whether it is intended for residential, office,
industrial, business, recreational, use as a time-share unit, or any other type of use.

**Condominium Unit Site:** The area designating the perimeter within which the condominium unit must
be built. After construction of the condominium unit, the balance of the condominium unit site shall
become a limited common element. The term "condominium unit site" shall be equivalent to the term
"lot," for purposes of determining compliance of a site condominium subdivision with provisions of this
Ordinance pertaining to minimum lot size, minimum lot width, maximum lot coverage and maximum
floor area ratio.

**Conference Center:** A multi-purpose facility whose primary purpose is to accommodate meetings,
seminars, social and civic events, and conferences. Such a facility offers a total meeting environment
which typically consists of meeting rooms, conference rooms, and catering uses that comprise continuous space. A conference center may include lodging facilities. A hotel/motel with at least 10,000 sq. ft of conference room facilities shall also be considered a conference center. Accessory uses may include dining areas, recreational facilities, specialty shops, that cater to conference center guests.

**Convalescent or Nursing Home:** A structure with sleeping rooms, where persons are housed or lodged and are furnished with meals, nursing and limited medical care.

**Day:** A calendar day unless otherwise stated.

**Day Care Center, Commercial:** see "Child Care Facility"

**Day Care Home:** see "Child Care Facility"

**Density:** The number of dwelling units situated on or to be developed per net acre of land. The following calculation shall be utilized in determining maximum density:

a. The acreage exclusive of paragraphs (b) and (c) below shall be calculated at one-hundred percent (100%) toward the total site acreage.

b. The acreage comprised of land within the 100-year floodplain elevation, or wetlands protected by the Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act, PA 203 of 1979, shall be calculated at twenty five percent (25%) toward the total site acreage.

c. All open bodies of water and public rights-of-way are excluded from density calculation.

**Development:** The proposed construction of a new building or other structure on a zoning lot, the relocation of an existing building on another zoning lot, or the use of open land for a new use. A development may include a site plan, a plot (building) plan, a condominium plan, a plat or a mobile home park.

**Dog Run:** A fenced in area designed specifically to enclose pets. (as amended 3/5/10)

**Drive-In Business:** A business establishment so developed that its retail or service character is dependent on providing a driveway approach or parking spaces for motor vehicles so as to serve patrons while in the motor vehicle rather than within a building or structure, including customer communication facilities for banks or other uses. A drive-in restaurant is distinct from a drive-through restaurant in that the majority of drive-in patrons consume food and beverages while in the vehicle and parked on the premises.

**Drive-in Restaurant:** See “Restaurant, Drive-in.”

**Drive-through Business:** A business establishment so developed that its retail or service character is wholly or partly dependent on providing a driveway approach and service windows or facilities for vehicles in order to serve patrons food and beverages in a ready-to-consume state from a drive-through window to patrons in motor vehicles. A drive-through restaurant may or may not also have indoor seating.

**Dwelling:** Any building, or part thereof, containing sleeping, kitchen, and bathroom facilities designed for and occupied by one family. In no case shall a travel trailer, motor home, automobile, tent or other portable building not defined as a recreational vehicle be considered a dwelling. In the case of mixed occupancy where a building is occupied in part as a dwelling unit, the part so occupied shall be deemed a dwelling unit for the purposes of the Zoning Ordinance.
a. **Manufacture Dwelling Unit:** A dwelling unit which is substantially built, constructed, assembled, and finished off the premises upon which it is intended to be located.

b. **Site Built Dwelling:** A dwelling unit which is substantially built, constructed, assembled, and finished on the premises upon which it is intended to serve as its final location. Site built dwelling units shall include dwelling units constructed of precut materials, and panelized wall roof and floor sections when such sections require substantial assembly and finishing on the premises upon which it is intended to serve as its final location.

c. **One-Family or Single-Family Detached Dwelling:** An independent, detached residential dwelling designed for and used or held ready for use by one family only.

d. **Two-Family or Duplex Dwelling:** A detached building, designed exclusively for and occupied by two families living independently of each other, with separate housekeeping, cooking, and bathroom facilities for each.

e. **Townhouse:** A self-contained single dwelling unit attached to a similar single dwelling unit with party or common walls, designed as part of a series of three (3) or more dwelling units, each with:

   1. a separate entryway with direct access to the outdoors at ground level,
   2. a separate basement, if applicable,
   3. a separate garage,
   4. separate utility connections, and,
   5. defined front and rear yards.

   Townhouses may also be known as attached single family dwelling units, row houses, clustered single family dwellings or stack ranches. Any three or more attached dwellings not meeting the above criteria shall be considered an apartment or multiple family dwelling. (as amended 12/31/06)

f. **Multiple-Family Dwelling:** A building designed for and occupied by three (3) or more families living independently, with separate housekeeping, cooking, and bathroom facilities for each. Multiple-family dwelling units may also be known as apartments, which have common entrances.

g. **Apartment Dwelling:** An apartment is an attached dwelling unit with party or common walls, contained in a building with other dwelling units or sharing the occupancy of a building with other than a residential use. Apartments are commonly accessed by a common stair landing or walkway. Apartments are typically rented by the occupants, but may be condominiums. Apartment buildings often may have a central heating system and other central utility connections. Apartments typically do not have their own yard space. Apartments are also commonly known as garden apartments or flats. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Easement:** A right-of-way granted, but not dedicated, for limited use of private land for private, public or quasi-public purpose, such as for franchised utilities, a conservation easement or an access easement for a private road or service drive, and within which the owner of the property shall not erect any permanent structures.

**Engineering Standards:** Engineering Design Standards regulating storm water management systems site grading and soil erosion control, sanitary sewer, municipal water, parking lot design, private road
design, and construction processes. The design standards are adopted by the Township Board and may be amended from time to time. (as amended 3/5/10)

**Essential Public Service:** The erection, construction, alteration, or maintenance by public utilities or any governmental department or commission of underground or overhead gas, electrical, steam, or water transmission or communication, supply or disposal systems, including poles, wires, drains, sewers, pipes, conduits, cables, fire alarm boxes, police call boxes, railroad rights-of-way, traffic signals, hydrants, and other similar equipment and accessories in connection with, but not including, buildings. Non-governmental towers, radio and television towers, and cellular phone antennas are not considered to be essential public services.

**Essential Public Service Building:** A building or structure principal to an essential public service, such as a drop-off stations for residential recyclables, vehicle garages, telephone exchange buildings, electricity transformer stations or substations, and gas regulator stations.

**Excavation:** Any breaking of ground, except farming or common household gardening and ground care.

**Family:** means either of the following:

a. A domestic family which is one or more persons living together and related by the bonds of blood, marriage or adoption, together with servants of the principal occupants and not more than one additional unrelated person, with all of such individuals being domiciled together as a single, domestic, housekeeping unit in a dwelling.

b. The functional equivalent of the domestic family which is persons living together in a dwelling unit whose relationship is of a permanent and distinct character and is the functional equivalent of a domestic family with a demonstrable and recognizable bond which constitutes the functional equivalent of the bonds which render the domestic family a cohesive unit. All persons of the functional equivalent of the domestic family must be cooking and otherwise operating as a single housekeeping unit. This definition shall not include any society, club, fraternity, sorority, association, lodge, coterie, organization or group where the common living arrangement and/or the basis for the establishment of the functional equivalency of the domestic family is likely or contemplated to exist for a limited or temporary duration.

**Farm:** All of the contiguous neighboring or associated land, buildings, and machinery operated as a single unit on which the production of farm products is carried on directly by the owner-operator, manager or tenant farmer, by his own labor or with the assistance of members of his household or hired employees; provided, however, that a farm operation shall follow generally accepted agricultural and management practices as defined by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture for farming activities which include: 1) tree fruit production, 2) small fruit production, 3) field crop production, 4) forage and sod production, 5) livestock and poultry production, 6) fiber crop production, 7) apiary production, 8) maple syrup production, 9) mushroom production and 10) greenhouse production; but unless otherwise permitted, the following shall not be considered a farm: establishments involved in industrial like processing of agricultural products, keeping fur-bearing animals or game or operating as fish hatcheries, dog kennels, stockyards, slaughterhouses, stone quarries, gravel or sand pits or the removal and sale of topsoil, fertilizer works, boneyards or the reduction of animal matter, or for the disposal of garbage, sewage, rubbish, junk or offal.

**Farm Labor Housing:** A dwelling or lodging unit that is used exclusively by agricultural employees employed full-time or seasonally in the agricultural use of the property.
Fence: A structure of definite height and location constructed of wood, masonry, stone, wire, metal, or any other material or combination of materials serving as a physical barrier, marker, or enclosure, (see also "Wall").

Fence, privacy: A fence which is over ninety (90%) percent solid or impervious and serves as an opaque screen. (as amended 3/5/10)

Floodplain. That area which would be inundated by storm runoff or flood water equivalent to that which would occur with a rainfall or flood of one hundred (100) year recurrence frequency after total development of the watershed.

Floor Area, Gross. The sum of all gross horizontal areas of all floors of a building or buildings, measured from the outside dimensions of the outside face of the outside wall. Unenclosed courtyards or patios shall not be considered as part of the gross floor area except where they are utilized for commercial purposes, such as the outdoor sale of merchandise. (see Figure 25.5)

Floor Area, Residential: For the purpose of computing the minimum allowable floor area in a residential dwelling unit, the sum of the horizontal areas of each story of the building shall be measured from the exterior faces of the exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating two dwellings. The floor area measurement is exclusive of areas of basements, unfinished attics, attached garages, breezeways, and enclosed and unenclosed porches.

Floor Area, Usable: That area used for or intended to be used for the sale of merchandise or services' or for use to serve patrons, clients or customers. Such floor area which is used or intended to be used principally for the storage or processing of merchandise, hallways, or for utilities or sanitary facilities, shall be excluded from this computation of "Usable Floor Area." Measurement of usable floor area shall be the sum of the horizontal areas of the several floors of the building, measured from the interior faces of the exterior walls. (see Figure 25.5)

Freeboard: for storm water retention or detention ponds it is the vertical distance between the design high water elevation and the top of the pond elevation. (as amended 3/5/10)

Frontage. The linear dimension of a lot measured along the public road right-of-way line, private road access easement, or shared driveway.

Funeral Home or Mortuary Establishment: An establishment where the dead are prepared for burial or cremation and where wakes or funerals may be held. A funeral home or mortuary establishment shall not include crematoria.

Garage: Part of a principal building or an accessory building or structure used primarily for the parking or storage of vehicles in connection with a permitted use of the principal building, where there is no vehicle servicing or storage for compensation.
**Garden Center:** An establishment with retail sales of trees, fruits, vegetables, shrubbery, plants, landscaping supplies, lawn furniture, playground equipment and other home garden supplies and equipment.

**Gazebo:** A freestanding, roofed, usually open-sided structure offering a place for shade or rest. (as amended 12/17/10)

**Grade, Mean:** The arithmetic average of the lowest and highest grade elevations in an area within five (5) feet of the foundation line of a building or structure, or in the area between the foundation line and the lot line, where the foundation line is less than five (5) feet from the lot line. (see Figure 25.6).

**Greenbelt:** See “Landscaping, Greenbelt”

**Hazardous uses and materials:** Any use which involves the storage, sale, manufacture, or processing of materials which are dangerous, combustible and/or produce either poisonous fumes or explosions in the event of fire. These uses include all high hazard uses listed in the State Building Code.

**Hazardous or toxic waste:** Waste or a combination of waste and other discarded material (including but not limited to solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material) which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to the following if improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed: an increase in mortality, or an increase in serious irreversible illness, or serious incapacitating but reversible illness, or substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment.

**Home Occupation:** An occupation or profession conducted entirely within a dwelling by the inhabitants thereof, such use being clearly incidental to the principal use of the dwelling as a residence.

**Hospital:** A facility offering primarily inpatient care, and services for observation, diagnosis, and active treatment of patients with a medical, surgical, obstetric, chronic, or rehabilitative condition requiring the daily care and supervision of a physician(s) and medical support staff. A hospital may or may not also have a clinic offering outpatient services.

**Hotel:** A building or part of a building, with a common entrance or entrances, in which the dwelling units or rooming units are used primarily for transient occupancy, and/or in which one or more of the following services are offered: maid service, furnishing of linen, telephone, secretarial or desk service, and bellboy service. A hotel may include a restaurant or cocktail lounge, public banquet halls, or meeting rooms.

**Housing For The Elderly:** Housing constructed for the exclusive use of an individual fifty five (55) years of age or older, or for a couple where at least one (1) of the individuals is over the age of fifty five (55). Housing for the elderly may include the types of facilities listed below.

a. **Senior Apartments:** multiple-family dwelling units where occupancy is restricted to persons fifty five (55) years of age or older.

b. **Congregate Or Interim Care Housing:** A semi-independent or assisted care housing facility containing congregate kitchen, dining, and living areas, but with separate sleeping
rooms. Such facilities typically provide special support services, such as transportation and limited medical care.

c. **Dependent Housing Facilities:** Extended care facilities such as convalescent homes and nursing homes which are designed for older persons who need a wide range of health and support services, including personal nursing care.

**Impact Assessment:** An assessment of the ecological, social, economic, and physical impacts of a project on and surrounding the development site.

**Improvements:** Any additions to the natural state of land which increases its value, utility or habitability. Improvements include but are not limited to street pavements, with or without curbs and gutters, sidewalks, water mains, storm and sanitary sewers, trees and other appropriate and similar items.

**Industrial:** Land uses which primarily accommodate research, wholesale and warehouse activities, manufacturing, compounding, processing, packaging, fabrication, assembly and/or treatment of finished or semi-finished products from previously prepared material and the extraction (mining) or processing of raw material for shipment in bulk form, to be used in an industrial operation at another location. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Industrial, light:** Any operation which assembles, improves, treats, compounds, or packages previously prepared or processed goods or materials in a manner which does not create a noticeable amount of noise, dust, odor, smoke, glare or vibration outside of the building in which the activity takes place, which does not require outside storage or goods or materials, and which does not generate objectionable amounts of truck traffic. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Intensive Livestock Operation:** An agricultural operation in which many livestock are bred and/or raised within a confined area, either inside or outside an enclosed building. While the density of confined livestock varies, it significantly exceeds that of traditional farming operations and includes both the number of confined livestock in the confined area and the amount of land which serves as the waste disposal receiving area.

**Junk Yard:** (see Salvage Yard).

**Kennel, Commercial:** Any premise on which more than the below specified number cats or dogs, (but not including wild, vicious or exotic animals) of more than six (6) months of age are either permanently or temporarily kept for the purposes of breeding, boarding, training, sale, protection, hobby, pets or transfer. Lots less than ten (10) acres with more than three (3) cats or three (3) dogs or more than a total of five (5) in combination (e.g. 3 dogs and 2 cats) shall be considered a kennel. Lots of ten (10) acres or more with more than five (5) cats or five (5) dogs or more than a total of seven (7) in combination (e.g. 5 dogs and 2 cats) shall be considered a kennel. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Laboratory, research:** A facility for scientific laboratory research in technology-intensive fields. Examples include but are not limited to biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, genetics, plastics, polymers, resins, coatings, fibers, fabrics, films, heat transfer, and radiation research facilities. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Laboratory, support:** A facility for scientific laboratory analysis of natural resources, medical resources, and manufactured materials. The scientific analysis is generally performed for an outside customer, to support the work of that customer. This category includes but is not limited to environmental laboratories for the analysis of air, water, and soil; medical or veterinary laboratories for the analysis of
blood, tissue, or other human medical or animal products. Forensic laboratories for analysis of evidence in support of law enforcement agencies would also be included in this category. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Land Use Permit:** An authorization issued by the Township Zoning Administrator to erect, move or alter a structure within the Township or to approve a change in use of land or structure. For certain uses, the land use permit is issued following site plan approval by the Planning Commission or special land use approval by the Township Board.

**Lake.** A permanent water body that has definite banks, a bed, visible evidence of a continued occurrence of water, and a surface area of water that is ten (10) acres or more in size.

**Landscaping:** The treatment of the ground surface with live plant materials normally grown in Livingston County such as, but not limited to, grass, ground cover, trees, shrubs, vines, and other live plant material. In addition, a landscape design may include other decorative natural or processed materials, such as wood chips, crushed stone, boulders or mulch. Structural features such as fountains, pools, statues, and benches shall also be considered a part of landscaping if provided in combination with live plant material. Various landscaping related terms are defined below.

a. **Berm:** A continuous, raised earthen mound comprised of non-toxic materials with a flattened top and sloped sides, capable of supporting live landscaping materials.

b. **Buffer Zone:** (see "Buffer Zone").

c. **Grass:** Any of a family of plants with narrow leaves normally grown as permanent lawns.

d. **Greenbelt:** A strip of land of definite width and location reserved for the planting of a combination of shrubs, trees, and ground cover to serve as an obscuring screen or buffer for noise or visual enhancement.

e. **Ground Cover:** Low-growing plants that form a dense, extensive growth after one complete growing season, and tend to prevent weeds and soil erosion.

f. **Hedge:** A two (2) to three (3) foot tall row of evergreen or deciduous shrubs that are planted close enough together to form a solid barrier.

g. **Parking lot landscaping:** Landscaped areas located in and around a parking lot in specified quantities to improve the safety of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, guide traffic movement, improve the environment and improve the appearance of the parking area and site.

h. **Planting:** A young tree, vine or shrub that would be placed on or in the ground.

i. **Screen or screening:** A wall, wood fencing or combination of plantings of sufficient height, length, and opacity to form a visual barrier. If the screen is composed of non-living material, such material shall be compatible with materials used in construction of the main building, but in no case shall include wire fencing.

j. **Shrub:** A self-supporting, deciduous or evergreen woody plant, normally branched near the base, bushy, and less than fifteen (15) feet in height.

k. **Tree:** A self-supporting woody, deciduous or evergreen plant with a well-defined central trunk or stem which normally grows to a mature height of at least fifteen (15) feet.
1. **Ornamental tree**: A deciduous tree which is typically grown because of its shape, flowering characteristics, or other attractive features, and which grows to a mature height of twenty five (25) feet or less.

**Level of service**: A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream; generally described in terms of such factors as speed and travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience, and safety.

**Livestock**: Any of various bird or animal breeds, long ago domesticated by man so as to live and breed in a tame, docile, tractable condition useful to man, including horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, cattle, sheep, goats, buffaloes, llama, ostriches, chickens, ducks, geese turkeys and swine.

**Loading Space, Off-Street**: Space logically and conveniently located for bulk pick-ups and deliveries, designed to accommodate the maneuvering area needed by expected sizes of delivery vehicles when all off-street parking spaces are filled.

**Lot**: An undivided portion of land of at least sufficient size to meet minimum zoning requirements for use, buildings, structures, lot coverage, yards, and other open spaces as may be present or required under provisions of this Ordinance and having frontage on an improved public street, or on an approved private road, or shared driveway. A lot may consist of either: a single lot of record, a portion of a lot of record, a combination of contiguous lots of record that have been combined into one tax ID number, or a parcel of land described by metes and bounds. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Lot Area**: The total horizontal area within the lot lines of a lot, exclusive of any submerged area of any lake, stream or canal (below the shoreline or ordinary high water mark).

**Lot, Corner**: A lot where the interior angle of two adjacent sides at the intersection of two streets is less than one hundred and thirty-five (135) degrees. A lot abutting upon a curved street or streets shall be considered a corner lot for the purposes of this Ordinance if the arc is of less radius than one hundred fifty (150) feet and the tangents to the curve, at the two points where the lot lines meet the curve or the straight street line extended, form an interior angle of less than one hundred and thirty-five (135) degrees. (See Figure 25.7)

**Lot Coverage**: The part or percent of a lot occupied by buildings, structures and accessory buildings.

**Lot Coverage, Impervious Surface**: The part or percent of a lot occupied by building, structures, uses, accessory buildings, accessory structures and paved areas.

Figure 25.7 Lot, Corner Measurements
**Lot Depth:** The arithmetic mean of the shortest and longest distances from the front lot line to the rear lot line (see figure 25.8).

**Lot, Flag:** A lot that has access to a public right-of-way or private road access easement by means of a narrow strip of land (see figure 25.9).

**Lot, Interior:** Any lot other than a corner lot.

**Lot Line:** The lines bounding a lot or parcel and listed below and illustrated on Figure 25.10.

a. **Front Lot Line:** The lot line(s) abutting a public street or private road easement that separates the lot from such right-of-way or easement; typically measured along the right-of-way line. Corner lots or through lots are considered to have two front lot lines and shall provide the minimum required front yard setback at both front lot lines. In the case of a flag lot, the front lot line shall be that lot line that abuts the public street right-of-way or private road easement and the lot line that is roughly parallel to the street right-of-way (See figure 25.10). (as amended 12/31/06)

b. **Rear Lot Line:** The lot line opposite and most distant from the front lot line. For an irregular or triangular shaped lot, a line at least ten (10) feet in length, entirely within the lot, parallel to and most distant from the front lot line (See figure 25.11). (as amended 12/31/06)

c. **Side Lot Line:** Any lot line not a front or rear lot line.

d. **Waterfront Lot Line:** The boundary of a lot that follows the shoreline of a lake or stream. (Also see “shoreline.”)

e. In the case where the above definitions are not sufficient to designate lot lines, the Zoning Administrator shall designate the front, rear and side lot lines in consideration of the orientation of the building(s) on the lot, the address of the lot, the orientation of other buildings along the block, and natural
features affecting site design.

**Lot of Record**: A parcel of land, the dimensions of which are shown or, a document or map on file with the County Register of Deeds or in common use by Municipal or County Officials, and which actually exists as so shown, or any part of such parcel held in a record ownership separate from that of the remainder thereof.

**Lot, Through**: Any interior lot having frontage on two more or less parallel streets as distinguished from a corner lot. In the case of a row of double frontage lots, all yards of said lots adjacent to streets shall be considered frontage, and front yard setbacks shall be provided as required.

**Lot, Width**: The horizontal distance between side lot lines measured parallel to the front lot line at the minimum required front setback excluding private road access easement. For irregularly shaped lots with access easements or "flag lots" connecting to a public street, the minimum lot width shall be measured at the point where the narrow access connects to the main section of the parcel. This determination shall be made by the Zoning Administrator. Figure 25.12 illustrates calculation of minimum lot width for lots along curvilinear streets.

**Major Thoroughfare**: An arterial street, state trunkline, or roadway classified as a Primary Road by the Livingston County Road Commission, which is intended to service as a large volume of traffic, generally within a right-of-way at least eighty six (86) feet wide.

**Manufactured Home**: A dwelling unit which is designed for long-term residential use and is wholly or substantially constructed at an off-site location.

**Master Plan**: The Comprehensive Community Plan, sub area plans or corridor plans including graphic and written proposals for future land use, zoning, site design, physical development and or capital improvements.

**Mezzanine**: An intermediate floor in any story occupying a maximum one-third (1/3) of the story's floor area.

**Microbrewer**: A brewer that produces in total less than 60,000 barrels of beer per year and that may sell the beer produced to consumers at the licensed brewery premises for consumption on or off the licensed brewery premises and to retailers as provided by State Law. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Mini or Self Storage Warehouse**: A single-story building or group of single-story buildings in a fenced compound that provides direct outdoor controlled access to individual and compartmentalized stalls or lockers for the storage of customer's goods or wares. (as amended 8/11/19)
Manufactured Housing Park: A parcel or tract of land under the control of a person, group or firm upon which two (2) or more mobile homes are located on a continual non-recreational basis and which is offered to the public for that purpose regardless of compensation, including any building, structure, enclosure, street, drive, equipment or facility used or intended for use incidental to the occupancy. Mobile home parks are licensed and regulated by the Michigan Mobile Home Commission.

Mobile Home or Manufactured Home Subdivision: Individually owned lots subdivided according to the provisions of Act 288 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1967 intended as a site for the placement for dwelling purposes of mobile or modular homes.

Motel: A series of attached, semidetached or detached rental units containing a bedroom, and sanitary facilities. Units shall provide for overnight lodging and are offered to the public for compensation, and shall cater primarily to the public traveling by motor vehicle.

Multimedia production facility: Land, buildings, or structures used as a media production facility. Typically, structures involved in or with the production of (but not limited to): motion pictures; radio and television shows or movies; recording or broadcasting facilities; and other motion picture production and distribution service offices. (as amended 09/04/18)

Non-Conforming Building or Structure: A building or structure portion thereof lawfully existing at the effective date of this Ordinance, or amendments thereto, and that does not conform to the provisions of the Ordinance in the district in which it is located.

Non-Conforming Lot: A lot of record, lawfully in existence on the effective date of this Ordinance and any amendments thereto, which no longer meets the dimensional requirements of this Ordinance for the district in which it is located.

Non-Conforming Site: A development on a site which met Ordinance requirements for site design elements at the time the site was developed, such as the amount of parking, parking lot pavement or landscaping; but which does not meet the current site standards of the Township.

Non-Conforming Use: A use which lawfully occupied a building or land at the effective date of this Ordinance, or amendments thereto, and that does not conform to the use regulations of the district in which it is located.

Nursery, Plant Materials: A space, building or structure, or combination thereof, for the storage of live trees, shrubs or plants offered for retail sale on the premises including products used for gardening or landscaping. The definition of nursery within the meaning of this Ordinance does not include any space, building or structure used for the sale of fruit, vegetables or Christmas trees.

Nuisance Factors: An offensive, annoying, unpleasant or obnoxious thing or practice, a cause or source of annoyance, especially a continuing or repeating invasion of any physical characteristics of activity or use across a property line which can be perceived by or affects a human being, or the generation, of an excessive or concentrated movement of people or things, such as, but not limited to: (a) noise, (b) dust, (c) smoke, (d) odor, (e) glare, (f) fumes, (g) flashes, (h) vibration, (i) shock waves, (j) heat, (k) electronic or atomic radiation, (l) objectionable effluent, (m) noise of congregation of people, particularly at night, (n) passenger traffic, (o) invasion of non-abutting street frontage by traffic.

Office: A building or portion of a building wherein services are performed involving predominantly administrative, professional, or clerical operations. (as amended 09/04/18)

Offset: The distance between the centerlines of driveways or streets across the street from one another.
Off-Street Parking Lot: See “Parking Lot.”

Open Air Business: Business and commercial uses conducted solely outside of any building unless otherwise specified herein. Examples of open air businesses include:

a. Retail sales of garden supplies and equipment, including but not limited to, trees, shrubbery, plants, flowers, seed, topsoil, trellises, and lawn furniture;

b. Roadside stands for the sale of agricultural products, including fruits, vegetables and Christmas trees.

c. Various outdoor recreation uses, including but not limited to: tennis courts, archery courts, shuffleboard, horseshoe courts, miniature golf, golf driving ranges, and amusement parks.

d. Outdoor display and sale of automobiles, recreational vehicles, garages, swimming pools, playground equipment, and similar goods.

Open Space. That part of a lot, which is open and unobstructed by any built features from its lowest level to the sky, and is accessible to all residents upon the site. This area is intended to provide light and air or is designed for environmentally, scenic, or recreational purposes. Open space may include, but is not limited to lawns, decorative plantings, walkways, active and passive recreation areas, playgrounds, fountains, swimming pools, living plant materials, wetlands and water courses. Open space shall not be deemed to include driveways, parking lots or other surfaces designed or intended for vehicular travel.

Open Front Store: A business establishment so developed that service to the patron may be extended beyond the walls of the structure, not requiring the patron to enter the structure. The term "Open Front Store" shall not include automobile repair or gasoline service stations.

Outdoor storage: The keeping, in an unroofed area, of any goods, junk, material, merchandise or vehicles in the same place for more than twenty four hours.

Outside Vendor: Any person firm or corporation, whether as owner, agent, consignee or employee selling or offering to sell, displaying for sale, demonstrating, distributing samples of or soliciting or taking orders for any goods or services or offering merchandise or services from a place at which they do not formally own, lease or occupy space in a principal building on the same property. (added 6/2/14)

Parking Lot: A facility providing vehicular parking spaces along with driveways, aisles and other paved areas for vehicular maneuvering. For the purpose of determining setbacks, parking lots shall not include driveways providing access to a roadway or dedicated service drives providing cross-access to adjacent lots. (as amended 12/31/06)

Parking Space: An area of definite length and width, said area shall be exclusive of drives, aisles or entrances giving access thereto, and shall be fully accessible for the parking of permitted vehicles.

Peak Hour: A one hour period representing the highest hourly volume of traffic flow on the adjacent street system during the morning (a.m. peak hour), during the afternoon or evening (p.m. peak hour), or representing the hour of highest volume of traffic entering or exiting a site (peak hour of generator).

Performance guarantee: A financial guarantee to ensure that all improvements, facilities, or work required by this Ordinance will be completed in compliance with the ordinance, regulations and the approved plans and specifications of a development.
Pergola: A horizontal trellis or framework, supported on posts, that carries climbing plants and may form a covered walk. (as amended 12/17/10)

Planned Unit Development: An integrated and coordinated development of various residential land uses, and in some cases non-residential uses, comprehensively planned and approved as an entity via a unitary site plan which permits additional flexibility in building sitting, usable open spaces and preservation of natural features meeting the intent of the Planned Unit Development section of this Ordinance.

Planning Commission: The Genoa Township Planning Commission as established by the Genoa Township Board of Trustees under provisions of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (Public Act 110 of 2006).

Pond. A permanent water body that has definite banks, a bed, visible evidence of a continued occurrence of water, and a surface area of water that is less than ten (10) acres in size.

Principal Building, Structure or Use: The main building, structure or use to which the premises are devoted and the principal purpose for which the premises exist. In cases where there is more than one use, the use comprising the greatest floor area shall generally be considered the Principal Use, except in cases where a use comprising a secondary amount of floor area is considered to have greater impact in terms of traffic generated, noise levels, disruption of views and similar impacts.

Prototype manufacturing: Research and development land uses that require manufacturing and production activities that lead to the development of a new product or a new manufacturing and assembly process. The products developed, manufactured or assembled are not intended to be mass-produced. (as amended 09/04/18)

Public Utility: A person, firm or corporation, municipal department, board or commission duly authorized to furnish and furnishing under federal, state or township regulations to the public through transmission lines: gas, steam, electricity, sewage disposal, communication, telegraph, transportation or water. Cellular communication facilities are not considered a public utility.

Reception Antenna: An exterior apparatus capable of receiving communications for radio or television purposes including satellite dishes and other satellite reception antennae but excluding facilities considered to be essential public services or those preempted from township regulation by applicable state, Federal Communication Commission (FCC), or federal laws or regulations.

Recognizable and substantial benefit: A clear benefit, both to the ultimate users of the property in question and to the community, which would reasonably be expected to accrue, taking into consideration the reasonably foreseeable detriments of the proposed development and uses(s). Such benefits may include: long-term protection or preservation of natural resources and natural features, historical features, or architectural features; and elimination of or reduction in the degree of nonconformity of a nonconforming use or structure.

Recreational Vehicle or Unit: Includes a tent or vehicular-type structure designed primarily as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel use, which either has its own motive power or is mounted on or drawn by another vehicle which is self-powered. Recreational units of this type shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following: travel trailers, camping trailers, tent trailers, motor homes and truck campers. Recreational units shall also include, but shall not be limited to, the following: boats, boat trailers, snowmobiles, snowmobile trailers, all terrain vehicles, dune buggies, horse trailers and similar equipment.
**Recycling Center:** A facility in which used material, such as paper, glass, plastic or motor oil, is separated and processed prior to shipment to other locations for processing or manufacturing into new products. A recycling center is distinct from a junkyard or salvage yard.

**Research and development:** A land use that engages in research and development of high-technology products or commodities. Examples include computer hardware and software, electronics and instrumentation, communications and information technology, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, agricultural technology, medical instrumentation or supplies, transportation, geographic information systems, defense and aerospace technology, multimedia and video technology and other emerging high technology industries. Activities associated with these uses may include development, testing, assembly, repair, and office. Limited accessory warehousing, and distribution of the finished products produced at the site may also be provided. Such uses do not involve the mass manufacture, fabrication, processing or sale of products. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Residential Zoning District.** RR, LDR, SR, UR, LRR, MDR, HDR, AND MHP Districts.

**Restaurants:** An establishment serving foods and/or beverages to a customer in a ready-to-consume state. The method of operation may be characteristic of a carry-out, drive-in, drive-through, fast food, standard restaurant, or lounge/tavern, or combination thereof, as defined below:

a. **Restaurants with Outdoor Seating.** A use that involves the sale or delivery of any prepared food or beverage for consumption in a defined area on premises but outside of the building in which it is prepared. Examples of defined areas include an external deck, patio, mall, garden, balcony or sidewalk. (as amended 12/31/06)

b. **Carry-Out Restaurant.** A use that involves the sale of food, beverages, and/or desserts in disposable or edible containers or wrappers in a ready-to-consume state for consumption mainly off the premises. A carry out restaurant differs from a drive through restaurant in that a customer must park and walk up to the restaurant or an employee must exit the restaurant and deliver the food to a customer in a parked car.

c. **Drive-In Restaurant.** A use that involves delivery of prepared food so as to allow its consumption within a motor vehicle while parked on the premise.

d. **Drive-Through Restaurant.** A use that involves the delivery of prepared food to the customer within a vehicle, typically passing through a pass-through window, for consumption off of the premises.

e. **Standard Restaurant.** A standard restaurant is a use that involves either of the following:

   1. The delivery of prepared food by waiters and waitresses to customers seated at tables within a completely enclosed building.
   2. The prepared food is acquired by customers at a cafeteria line and is subsequently consumed by the customers within a completely enclosed building.

f. **Bar/Lounge/Tavern.** A bar, lounge or tavern is a type of restaurant that is operated primarily for the dispensing of alcoholic beverages. The preparation and sale of food or snacks to customers may be permitted.

**Road-Private:** (See Article 15.)
**Roof:** The impervious cover of a building or a portion of a building, permanently attached, but excluding chimneys, antennas, vents, mechanical equipment and other rooftop structures permitted as exceptions to building height. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Salvage Yard:** An area where waste, used or secondhand materials are bought and sold, exchanged, stored, baled, packed, disassembled, or handled including but not limited to: scrap iron and other metals, paper, rags, rubber tires and bottles. A "Salvage Yard" includes junk yards and similar facilities including automobile wrecking yards and any open area of more than two hundred (200) square feet for storage, keeping or abandonment of junk.

**Service drive:** An access drive which parallels the public right-of-way in front of or behind a building or buildings, or may be aligned perpendicular to the street between buildings, which provides shared access between two or more lots or uses.

**Setback, Required:** The minimum horizontal distance between the building line and a front, rear, or side lot line, a natural feature or a shoreline. Procedures for measuring setbacks for site condominium projects are listed under the definition of condominium setback. (required setbacks are distinct from actual yard, see definitions for yards, setbacks measurements are illustrated on Figure 25.13).

**Sanitary sewer, public:** A sanitary sewer system owned and operated by a municipal government or a utility authority consisting of multiple municipal governments used for the collection and transportation of sanitary sewage for treatment or disposal.

**Shelters and rehabilitation centers:** Centers operated by philanthropic or non-profit institutions that assist individuals with social needs. These centers may provide temporary housing, meals, counseling, health services, education, job placement assistance and leisure-time activities. Adult care facilities, community centers, hospitals, medical centers, medical/psychiatric offices, shelters for abused women, and children and county/state health/social services facilities are not regulated as “shelters and rehabilitation centers.” Churches or other places of worship that provide community outreach services are also not regulated under this definition, unless they also operated an onsite homeless shelter. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Shopping Center:** A grouping of two (2) or more business establishments developed in accordance to an overall plan and designed and built as an interrelated project. Buildings constructed on outlots shall not be considered part of the shopping center unless access and parking easements are provided.

**Shoreline:** The ordinary high water mark which is the line between upland and bottomland which persists through successive changes in water levels, below which the presence and action of the water is so common or recurrent that the character of the land is marked distinctly from the upland and is apparent in the soil, the configuration of the soil surface and the vegetation.

**Sign:** Definitions for signs are listed separately in Article 16, Sign Standards.
**Site plan:** A plan, prepared to scale, showing accurately and with complete dimensions, the boundaries of a site and the location of all buildings, structures, uses, and principal site development features proposed for a specific parcel of land, and conforming to the standards of this Ordinance.

**Small distiller:** A manufacturer of spirits annually manufacturing in Michigan not exceeding 60,000 gallons of spirits, of all brands combined. (as amended 09/04/18)

**Small Winery:** A wine manufacturer of no more than 50,000 gallons per year which involves sales to licensed wholesalers or self-distribute to retailer licensees, wine produced at the licensed winery facility, and to customers for consumption on premises at a tasting room. A Small Winery may also sell wine it manufactures at an approved tasting room off the manufacturing premises with appropriate state licenses. (as amended 8/11/19)

**Special land use:** A use of land for an activity which, under usual circumstances, could be detrimental to other land uses permitted within the same district but which may be permitted because of circumstances unique to the location of the particular use and which use can be conditionally permitted without jeopardy to uses permitted within such district. Such uses are defined as "Special Land Uses" in the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (Public Act 110 of 2006).

**Stable, Commercial:** A facility for the rearing and housing of horses, mules and ponies or for riding and training academies.

**Stable, Private:** A facility for the rearing and training of horses, ponies and mules which are owned by the occupant of the dwelling unit.

**Story:** That part of a building included between the surface of any floor and the surface of the floor, or roof, next above. When the distance from the average established grade to the ceiling of a story partly below such grade exceeds five (5) feet, then the basement or cellar constituting the story partially below grade shall be counted as a story (refer to Figure 25.14).

**Story, Half:** An uppermost story lying under a sloping roof having an area of at least two hundred (200) square feet with a clear height of seven feet six inches (7'-6"). For the Purposes of this Ordinance, the usable floor area is only that area having at least four (4) feet clear height between floor and ceiling.

**Street:** A dedicated public right-of-way, other than an alley which affords the principal means of access to abutting property. Various types of streets are defined below.

a. **Arterial Street or Roadway:** A street or roadway which carries high volumes of traffic at relatively high speeds, and serves as an avenue for circulation of traffic onto, out of, or around the Genoa Township area. An arterial roadway may also be defined as a major thoroughfare, major arterial or minor arterial roadway. Since the primary function of the regional arterial roadway is to provide mobility, access to adjacent land uses may be controlled to optimize capacity along the roadway. Arterial roadways are listed in the Township Master Plan.
b. **Collector Street**: A street or road whose principal function is to carry traffic between minor and local roads and arterial roadways but may also provide direct access to abutting properties. Collector streets are classified in the Township Master Plan.

c. **Cul-de-Sac**: A street or road that terminates in a vehicular turnaround.

d. **Expressway**: Limited access interregional arterial routes, including I-96, designed exclusively for unrestricted movement, have not private access, and intersect only with selected arterial roadways or major streets by means of interchanges engineered for free-flowing movement.

e. **Highways**: Streets and roadways which are under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation. Highways may also be classified as expressways or arterial roadways.

f. **Local or Minor Street**: A street or road whose principal function is to provide access to abutting properties and is designed to be used or is used to connect minor and local roads with collector or arterial roadways. Local streets are designed for low volumes and speeds of twenty-five (25) mph or less, with numerous curb cuts and on-street parking permitted.

g. **Private Road**: Any road or thoroughfare for vehicular traffic which is to be privately owned and maintained and has not been accepted for maintenance by the City, Livingston County, the State of Michigan or the federal government, but which meets the requirements of this Ordinance or has been approved as a private road by the Township under any prior ordinance.

h. **Public Street**: Any road or portion of a road which has been dedicated to and accepted for maintenance by a municipality, Livingston County, State of Michigan, or the federal government.

**Structure**: Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires location on ground or attachment to something having location on the ground. Structures include, but are not limited to, principal and accessory buildings, radio, television and cellular phone towers, decks, fences, privacy screens, walls, antennae, swimming pools, signs, gas or liquid storage facility, mobile homes, street directional or street name sign and billboards.

**Substance abuse center or treatment facility**: A facility offering counseling, care and treatment for individuals addicted to drugs and alcohol licensed by the Michigan Department of Mental Health, Office of Substance Abuse Services. Such a facility may include or detoxification services. A generally recognized pharmacy or licensed hospital dispensing prescription medicines shall not be considered a substance abuse treatment facility.

**Swimming Pool**: Any artificially constructed portable or non-portable pool; capable of being used for swimming or bathing, having a depth of two (2) feet or more at any point and having a surface area of two hundred fifty (250) square feet or more.

**Tattoo Parlor**: An establishment whose principal business activity is the practice placing designs, letters, figures, symbols, or other marks upon or under the skin of any person, using ink or other substances that result in the permanent coloration of the skin by means of the use of needles or other instruments designed to contact or puncture the skin.
Temporary Building or Structure. A building or structure which is not permanently affixed to the property, and is permitted to exist for a specific reason for a specific period of time. An example of a temporary building is a trailer used on a construction site or a tent.

Temporary outdoor sales and Temporary outdoor events: Those accessory outdoor business activities which are intended to occur outside the primary structure on a developed lot and are established for a fixed period of time with the intent to discontinue such use upon the expiration of such time and which does not involve the construction or alteration of any permanent structure.

a. **Temporary outdoor sales:** Those outdoor business activities which sell or offer for sale, barter or exchange any goods, wares, service, merchandise or food stuff of any kind on private and public property and include but are not limited to seasonal sale of merchandise related to holidays, sidewalk sales, or promotional events. Any merchandise sold or service provided shall be that of the regular use in the principal building of the site for which proof of tenant occupancy has been provided.

b. **Temporary outdoor events:** Non-commercial, non-profit events which do not involve sales and can include but are not limited to motor vehicle shows, animal shows and other activities open to the general public. (added 6/2/14)

Temporary Use. A use which is not permanent to the property and is permitted to exist for a specific reason for a specific period of time.

Therapeutic Massage: The application of various techniques to the muscular structure and soft tissues of the human body performed by a massage practitioner. A massage practitioner must satisfy two (2) or more of the following requirements:

a. The person is a member of the current Professional Level in the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA), Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP), International Myomassethics Federation (IMF) or other recognized massage association with equivalent professional membership standards consisting of at least five-hundred (500) hours of training including: theory, practice and techniques of massage (minimum three-hundred (300) hours); human anatomy and physiology (minimum one-hundred (100) hours); and professionalism (minimum one-hundred (100) hours). Instruction in this area shall include training in contraindications, benefits, ethics and legalities of massage, building and marketing a practice and other electives as appropriate.

b. The person is a graduate of a school of massage licensed by the State of Michigan or holder of a current license from another state which requires, at a minimum, the training set forth in paragraph a. above.

c. The person has completed a massage training program at a community college, college, university or technical school located in the United States, where such program requires at a minimum, the training set forth in a. above.

d. The person has passed the National Certification Exam for Massage and Bodywork Practitioners.

Townhouse: See “Dwelling, Townhouse.”
Traffic Impact Study: The analysis of the potential traffic impacts generated by a proposed project. This type of study and level of analysis will vary dependent upon the type and size of the project.

a. **Rezoning Traffic Impact Study:** a traffic impact study which contrasts typical uses permitted under the current and requested zoning or land use classification. This study usually includes a trip generation analysis and a summary of potential impacts on the street system.

b. **Traffic Impact Assessment:** a traffic impact study for smaller projects which are not expected to have a significant impact on the overall transportation system but will have traffic impacts near the site. This type of study focuses on the expected impacts of a development at site access points and adjacent driveways.

c. **Traffic Impact Statement:** a traffic impact study which evaluates the expected impacts at site access points and intersections in the vicinity.

Trip (i.e., directional trip): A single or one-direction vehicle movement with either the origin or the destination (exiting or entering) inside a study site.

Tree, Measurement of Height: Where a minimum height is specified for a deciduous or evergreen tree, the height shall be measured from the top of the tree to the surrounding ground elevation or top of the ball (location where fabric containing root system meets the exposed trunk).

Use: The principal purpose for which land or a building is arranged, designed or intended, or for which land or a building is or may be occupied. Uses are classified under the following categories

a. Residential, which includes single family, two family, multiple family, manufactured homes.

b. Agriculture, which includes all farming and forestry.

c. Commercial, which includes all retail trade uses, motor vehicle service, lodging accommodation, food services, other services, arts, and entertainment and recreational businesses.

d. Office, which includes administrative offices and buildings, used for finance, insurance, legal, real estate, professional, scientific, technical, health care, and social assistance uses.

e. Institutional, which includes all religious, civic, social, and similar organizations, educational services and public uses.

f. Industrial, which includes all manufacturing, transportation, warehousing, utilities, waste disposal, construction and mining/mineral extraction uses. (as amended 3/5/10)

Variance: An authorization by the Board of Appeals permitting modification to the regulations and standards of this Ordinance in situations where the literal enforcement would result in a practical difficulty not present on other properties typical of the zoning district.

Veterinary Clinic: A facility providing diagnosis, treatment, surgery and similar veterinary care for small domestic animals.
Veterinary Hospital: A facility which provides diagnosis, treatment, surgery and other veterinary care for domestic animals, horses and livestock. A veterinary hospital may include outdoor boarding incidental to treatment.

Wall: A structure of definite height and location to serve as an opaque screen in carrying out the requirements of this Ordinance.

Waste Receptacle (i.e. dumpster): Any accessory exterior container used for the temporary storage of rubbish, pending collection, having a capacity of at least one (1) cubic yard. Recycling stations and exterior compactors shall be considered to be waste receptacles.

Watercourse: Any natural or manmade body of water including but not limited to a lake, pond, river, canal, channel, swamp, creek, marsh, or outcropping of water.

Wetland: Land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh, and which is any of the following:

a. contiguous to an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream;

b. not contiguous to an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and more than 5 acres in size;

c. not contiguous to an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and five (5) acres or less in size if the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) determines that the protection of the area is essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, or destruction and the MDNR has so notified the owner. (definition taken directly from the Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act, P.A. 203, 1979).

Wetland, Contiguous: Contiguous wetlands are wetlands connected to other wetlands or waterways as follows:

a. A permanent surface water connection or other direct physical contact with any lake, pond, river or stream, including surface or ground water connections.

b. A seasonal or intermittent direct surface water connection with any lake, pond, river or stream.

c. Located within 500 feet of the ordinary high water mark of any lake, pond, river or stream.

d. Separated only by man made barriers, such as dikes, roads, berms, or other similar features.

Wireless Communication Facilities. All structures and accessory facilities relating to the use of the radio frequency spectrum for the purpose of transmitting or receiving radio signals. This may include, but shall not be limited to, radio towers, television towers, telephone devices, personal communication transmission equipment and exchanges, microwave relay towers, telephone transmission equipment building and commercial mobile radio service facilities. This definition does not include “reception antenna” for an individual lot as otherwise defined and regulated in this Ordinance.
a. **Attached Wireless Communication Facilities.** Wireless communication facilities affixed to existing structures, including but not limited to existing buildings, towers, water tanks, or utility poles.

b. **Wireless Communication Support Structures.** Structures erected or modified to support wireless communication antennas. Support structures within this definition include, but shall not be limited to, monopoles, lattice towers, light poles, wood poles and guyed towers, or other structures which appear to be something other than a mere support structure.

**Yard:** The open spaces on the same lot with a main building unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance. A yard may be equal to the setback, but may also be larger, such as where a building is farther from the street than the required setback. Yards are defined below and illustrated in Figure 25.15:

a. **Front Yard:** An open space extending the full width of the lot, the depth being the minimum horizontal distance between the front lot line or public street right-of-way line/private road easement and the nearest point of building line. A front yard shall be maintained on each side of a corner lot or through lot. For lots along a shoreline of a lake, river, stream or channel the yard facing a public street or private road shall be considered the front yard for zoning purposes and the yard adjoining the shoreline shall be considered the waterfront yard, as defined below. (as amended 12/31/06)

b. **Rear Yard:** An open space extending the full width of the lot, the depth being minimum horizontal distance between the rear lot line and the nearest point of the principal building line. In the case of a corner lot the rear yard may be opposite either street frontage and there shall only be one (1) rear yard.

c. **Side Yard:** A yard between the building line of the principal building or structure and the side lot line extending from front yard to the rear yard. or, in the absence of any clearly defined rear lot line, to the point on the lot farthest from the intersection of the lot line involved with the public street.

d. **Waterfront Yard:** An open space extending the length of the shoreline of a lake, pond or stream, the depth being the minimum horizontal distance between the shoreline and the nearest point of the principal building line.

e. **Required Yard:** The open space between the lot line and the minimum setback line. The required yard corresponds to the minimum setback requirement for the district. (as amended 12/31/06)
f. **Non-required Yard:** The open space between the minimum setback line and the main building. The non-required yard is the additional yard area that the building is setback beyond the minimum setback requirement for the district. (as amended 12/31/06)

**Zero Lot Line:** The location of a building on a lot in such a manner that one or more of the buildings sides rests directly on a lot line, separated only by fire walls.

**Zoning Act:** The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (Public Act 110 of 2006). (as amended 12/31/06)