**ARTICLE 5.6 nonconforming**

**Section 5.6.100 Nonconforming Uses:**

The lawful use of any building, structure or land at the time of the enactment or amendment of this zoning ordinance may be continued. Alteration of any such use may be permitted subject to Sections 5.6.120 and 5.6.125. Alteration of any such use shall be permitted when necessary to comply with any lawful requirement for alteration in the use. Except as provided in ORS [215.215 (Reestablishment of nonfarm use)](http://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/215.215), a county shall not place conditions upon the continuation or alteration of a use described under this Section when necessary to comply with state or local health or safety requirements, or to maintain in good repair the existing structures associated with the use. A change of ownership or occupancy shall be permitted.

As used in this Section, alteration of a nonconforming use includes:

1. A change in the use of no greater adverse impact to the neighborhood; and
2. A change in the structure or physical improvements of no greater adverse impact to the neighborhood.

**Section 5.6.110 Interruption or Abandonment of Nonconforming Uses:**

A non-conforming use or activity may not be resumed if it was subject to interruption or abandonment for more than one (1) year, unless the resumed use conforms to the requirements of zoning ordinances or regulations applicable at the time of the proposed resumption.

**RESPONSE:**

**Section 5.6.120 Alterations, repairs or verification:**

Alterations, repairs or verification of a nonconforming use requires filing an application for a conditional use (See CCZLDO Article 5.2). All such applications shall be subject to the provisions of Section 5.6.125 of this ordinance and consistent with the intent of ORS 215.130(5)-(8). Alteration of any nonconforming use shall be permitted when necessary to comply with any lawful requirement for alteration in the use. The County shall not condition an approval of a land use application when the alteration is necessary to comply with State or local health or safety requirements, or to maintain in good repair the existing structures associated with the use.

**Section 5.6.125 Criteria for Decision:**

When evaluating a conditional use application for alteration or repair of a nonconforming use, the following criteria shall apply:

1. The change in the use will be of no greater adverse impact to the neighborhood;

**RESPONSE:**

1. The change in a structure or physical improvements will cause no greater adverse impact to the neighborhood; and

**RESPONSE:**

1. Other provisions of this ordinance, such as property development standards, are met.

**RESPONSE:**

For the purpose of verifying a nonconforming use, an applicant shall provide evidence establishing the existence, continuity, nature and extent of the nonconforming use for the 10-year period immediately preceding the date of the application, and that the nonconforming use was lawful at the time the zoning ordinance or regulation went into effect. Such evidence shall create a rebuttable presumption that the nonconforming use lawfully existed at the time the applicable zoning ordinance or regulation was adopted and has continued uninterrupted until the date of the application.

**RESPONSE:**