Building Height Calculations

Maximum building height for principal and accessory structures is measured from grade to the highest point on the roof surface. When submitting a permit, all applications must be accompanied by the following:

- A site plan with 1-foot contours showing existing and proposed grade; the elevations of the highest and lowest exterior corners of a structure; and an average grade calculation.
- Elevation drawings indicating the maximum and proposed height based on the grade calculation above.

**Definitions:**

*Grade:* the average of the finished grade surface elevation measured at the highest and lowest exterior corners of a structure. If fill is added to raise the surface elevation at the structure by more than one foot, then grade is determined from the finished site grade level a distance of ten feet from the structure wall, or from the property line if the property line is closer than ten feet to the structure wall.

*Building Height:* the vertical distance measured from grade to the highest point on the roof surface.

**Louisville Municipal Code, Sec. 17.08 - Definitions**

For additional questions on building height requirements, please contact the City of Louisville Department of Planning and Building Safety at 303-335-4592.