

Automotive-Related Uses

Self-Service Auto Washing Facilities

This use is defined as either automatic with a single vehicle capacity or hand operated with a maximum of four (4) washing stalls. There are additional requirements for on-site parking, lot size, hours of operation, and the installation of doors, curtains or screens to prevent water spray from blowing onto adjacent properties. A Plan of Development is required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-2, B-3, M-1 and M-2

Tire Recapping & Vulcanizing Shops

This use may not be located on a transitional site. There are additional requirements for on-site parking, and lot size. A Plan of Development may be required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-3, M-1, M-2

City of Richmond

Department of Community Development

Zoning Administration

900 East Broad Street
City Hall - Room 110
Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: 804.646.6340
Fax: 804.646.6948
www.richmondgov.com



City of Richmond

Department of
Community Development

Zoning Administration
Division

A Guide to Automotive- Related Uses



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Phone: 804.646.6340

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Purpose of Brochure

The City of Richmond Zoning Administration Office enforces the Zoning Ordinance that applies to all commercial and residential properties within the City of Richmond. This brochure is intended to describe the City of Richmond zoning laws as they pertain to Auto Service Centers, Service Stations, Auto and Truck Sales and Service and Body Repair and Painting.

It also reviews Certification of Zoning Compliance requests required by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for Motor Vehicle and Salvage Dealers, Demolishers, Rebuilders, Salvage Pools and Vehicle Removal Operators.

Additional review and approvals may be necessary from the Bureau of Permits & Inspections (Building Inspection), Health Department and Fire Marshal.

Vehicle, Boat, Trailer & Equipment Sales, Repair or Storage and Body Repair & Painting

General repair, body repair and painting shall be within completely enclosed building; no junked or dismantled vehicles unfit for operation on the streets may be stored outside of enclosed building. There are additional requirements for on-site parking, minimum lot size and landscaping. Plan of Development (POD) approval is also required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-3, M-1 and M-2

Auto Rental Establishments

There are additional requirements for on-site parking. A Plan of Development may be required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-3, B-4, M-1 and M-2

Auto Service Centers

Auto service centers are defined as establishments for the servicing and minor repairs of motor vehicles within enclosed service bays or stalls. Such auto service center may include dispensing of motor fuels and related products at retail and the sale of minor automobile parts and accessories (tires, batteries, sparkplugs, fan belts, shock absorbers, mirrors, floor mats, cleaning and polishing materials, and similar items).

This use **does not** include general auto or truck repair; body repair or painting; welding; frame straightening; tire recapping or vulcanizing; storage of wrecked vehicles; or any operation involving the installation or removal of engines, cylinder heads, crankcases, radiators, transmissions, differentials, fenders, doors, bumpers or other major body or mechanical parts. There are additional requirements for on-site parking, lot size, and pump and canopy location. Plan of Development (POD) approval is also required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-2, B-3, M-1 and M-2.

Service Station

Service stations are defined as establishments for dispensing of motor fuels and related projects at retail and having pumps, underground storage tanks and other facilities for such activities and which may include the retail sale of minor automobile parts and accessories (tires, batteries, sparkplugs, fan belts, shock absorbers, mirrors, floor mats, cleaning and polishing materials and similar items. Such use may include the inspection, servicing or minor repair of motor vehicles in not more than three enclosed service bays or stalls. Such use **does not** include engaging in general auto or truck repair; body repair or painting; welding; frame straightening, tire recapping or vulcanizing; storage of wrecked vehicles; or any operation involving the installation or removal of engines, cylinder heads, crankcases, radiators, transmissions, differentials, fenders, doors, bumpers or other major body or mechanical parts. There are additional requirements for on-site parking, minimum lot size and pump island and canopy locations. Plan of Development (POD) approval is also required.

Permitted Zoning Districts: B-2, B-3, M-1 and M-2