

**TIPS FOR RESEARCHING ZONING CODE**

1. Creating a basic matrix or chart gives you a good basis of comparison to evaluate Los Angeles’ planning proposals. It doesn’t have to be complicated: make a column for each city to be compared and list the key attributes on one side.

For example, you might compose something along the following lines for over in height fences:

<b>OVER IN HEIGHT FENCES</b>	<b>Burbank</b>	<b>Culver City</b>	<b>Santa Monica</b>	<b>Los Angeles [Proposed]</b>
Code Requirements				
Permitted By Right Height				
Special Conditions, if any				
Permits Required				
Notification Radius				
Cost of Process				

2. Surf to the municipality’s website and look for their planning department, or sometimes the development department. There will typically be a link on the home page someplace. Find the zoning and planning codes. These are almost always in PDF format.
3. Search the zoning PDF using key words to bring up the topic you are interested in.
4. Follow the code references within your topic: sometimes important details may be in another code section
5. Copy and paste what you need out of the ordinance to complete your matrix, or just type your text in.
6. You may find you need to add additional attributes once you really get going OR you may want to create some new ones
7. When all else fails, use Google’s [advanced search function](#) for the specific city and code topic you are researching—very good tool