Article 7: Gaslamp Quarter Planned District
(“Gaslamp Quarter Planned District” added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.)

Division 1: General Rules
(“General Rules” added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.)

§157.0101 Purpose and Intent

The downtown area of the City of San Diego began within the area currently known as the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District and contains the highest concentration of historically significant commercial structures in the City of San Diego. In 1980, the entire Gaslamp Quarter Planned District was listed as a historical district on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register designation includes, but it not limited to, architecturally significant structures built between 1873 and 1930. The purpose of the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Ordinance is to establish design and development criteria to ensure that the development and redevelopment of the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District (District) and Gaslamp Quarter Historical District implement the goals of the Downtown Community Plan.

The distinctive historical character of the District will be retained and enhanced by established procedures and regulations that are deemed necessary to:

(a) protect improvements which represent elements of the District’s cultural, social, economic, and architectural history;

(b) safeguard the District’s historic, aesthetic, and cultural heritage as embodied and reflected in such improvements;

(c) foster civic pride in the beauty and character of the District and in the accomplishments of the District’s past;

(d) enhance the visual character of the District by encouraging new design and construction that complement the existing historical resources; and

(e) protect and enhance the District’s aesthetic and historical attractions to residents, tourists, visitors and others, thereby serving as a stimulus and a support to business and industry.

(“Purpose and Intent” added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.; effective 4-26-2007.)
(Amended 8-12-2010 by O-19984 N.S.; effective 9-11-2010.)
§157.0102  Boundaries

(a) General Boundaries

The regulations of this Article shall apply in the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District which is within the boundaries of the Downtown Community Plan area in the City of San Diego, California, as shown in Figure A.

(b) Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District Overlay

Several blocks in the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District fall within the boundaries of the Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District, established by the City Council on October 13, 1987, by Resolution No. R-269475, and shown in Figure A. The Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District Master Plan, approved on August 15, 1995, by the Redevelopment Agency by Resolution No. 2544, and on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Agency as Document No. 02238, establishes design guidelines for the Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District. All new construction modifications to contributing resources within the boundaries of the Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District shall be reviewed for consistency with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and the Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District Master Plan in conjunction with the provisions of this Article and the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines. A copy of the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines is on file in the office of the City Clerk as Document No. RR-306002. A list of contributing resources to the Asian Pacific Thematic Historic District can be found in Appendix A of the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines.

("Boundaries" added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.; effective 4-26-2007.)

(Amended 8-12-2010 by O-19984 N.S.; effective 9-11-2010.)
§157.0103  Administration

The City Manager is responsible for the planning and zoning functions of the City of San Diego within the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District. The City Manager, or his or her designee, shall administer the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Ordinance as set forth in this Article and ensure compliance with the regulations and procedures of this Article, the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines, the Downtown Community Plan, the Centre City Streetscape Manual, the Centre City Redevelopment Plan, and any other policies or guidelines adopted by the City of San Diego to implement the Downtown Community Plan.

(“Administration” added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.; effective 4-26-2007.)
(Amended 8-12-2010 by O-19984 N.S.; effective 9-11-2010.)
(Amended 5-15-2014 by O-20366 N.S.; effective 6-14-2014.)
(Amended 6-21-2019 by O-21085 N.S.; effective 7-21-2019.)

§157.0104  Applicable Regulations

Where not otherwise specified in this Article, the following regulations of the Land Development Code, including all Articles and Divisions within each Chapter unless otherwise stated, shall apply.

Chapter 11  Land Development Procedures
Chapter 12  Land Development Reviews
Chapter 13  Zones
Chapter 14  General Regulations
Chapter 15  Planned Districts, Article 1, Division 1

Where there is a conflict between the applicable regulations of the Land Development Code and this Article, the regulations of this Article shall govern.

(a)  Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines

(1)  The Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines supplement the regulations set forth in this Article and include review procedures, standards, and guidelines for development within the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District. Where there is a conflict between regulations of the Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines and this Article, the regulations of this Article shall govern.
The Gaslamp Quarter Planned District Design Guidelines may be amended as needed to comply with revisions to local, state or federal law. The document may be amended in either of the following ways:

(A) Minor amendments shall be approved by the City Manager and shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk as errata sheets to Document No. RR-306002. Minor amendments shall include changes to clarify language or concepts, to reformat or reorganize language, or to reflect new or outdated technology or techniques; or

(B) Major amendments shall be approved by the City Council. Major amendments shall include any changes that do not qualify as a minor amendment. Major amendments shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and the Historical Resources Board prior to approval by the City Council.

(“Applicable Regulations” added 3-27-2007 by O-19588 N.S.; effective 4-26-2007.)
(Amended 8-12-2010 by O-19984 N.S.; effective 9-11-2010.)
(Amended 5-15-2014 by O-20366 N.S.; effective 6-14-2014.)
(Amended 6-21-2019 by O-21085 N.S.; effective 7-21-2019.)