

FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM PART 1
PROJECT DESCRIPTION
DOWNTOWN OVERLAY ZONE TEXT AND MAP AMENDMENTS AND THEORETICAL DEVELOPMENT
SCENARIO AMENDMENTS
SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

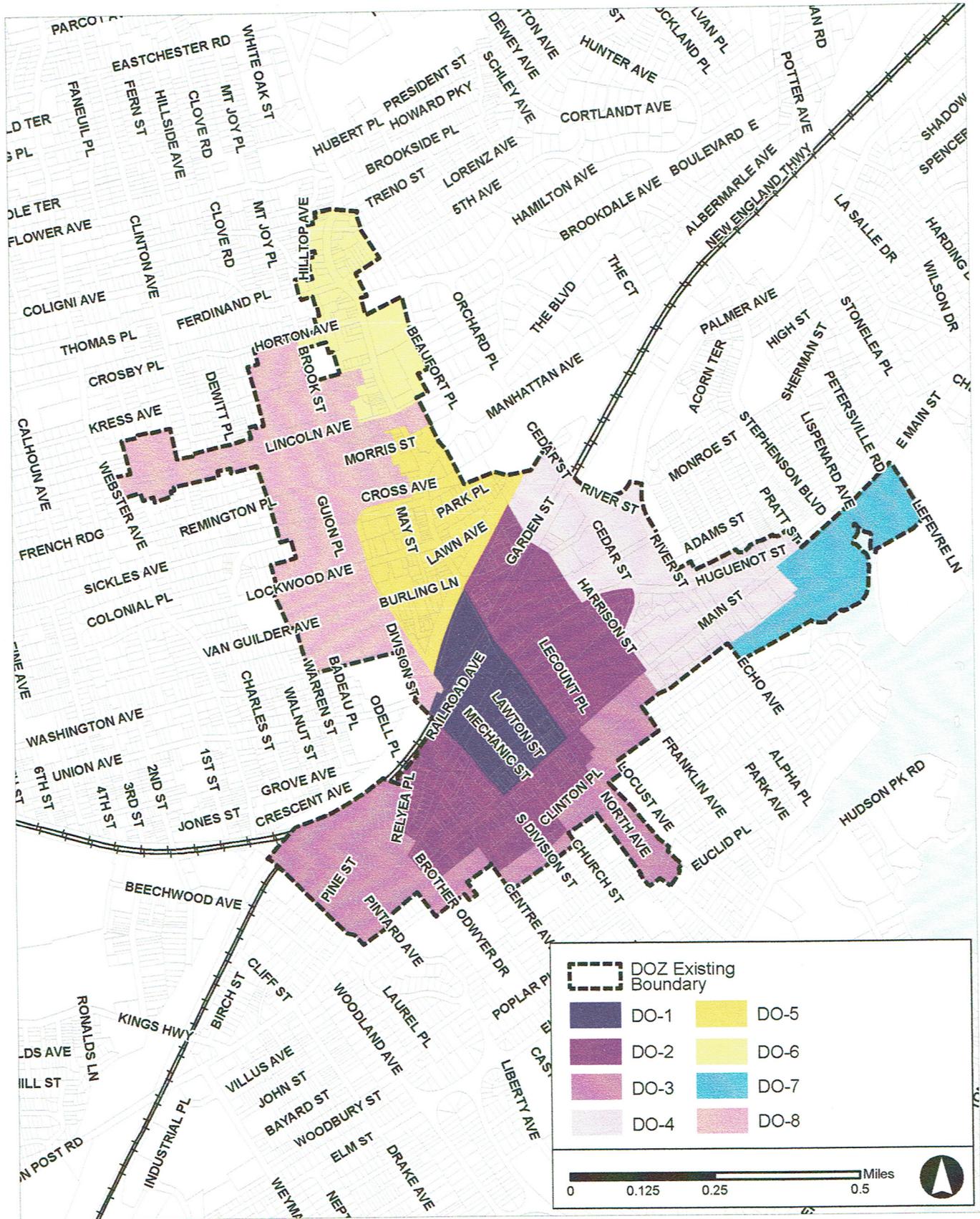
City of New Rochelle, New York

In 2015, the City of New Rochelle (“City”) adopted the Downtown Overlay Zone (“DOZ” or “DO Zones”) and corresponding Zoning Map amendments to support the long-term resiliency of the City through the redevelopment of its downtown. The DOZ was established as a flexible, form-based overlay district that permits a wide mix of uses, guided by design parameters and standards intended to respond to evolving economic and market conditions while advancing the City’s planning and economic development objectives.

As part of the 2015 legislative action, the City prepared a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with adoption of the DOZ. The DOZ applied to approximately 279 acres of the downtown, and because no site-specific projects were identified at that time, a Theoretical Development Scenario (TDS) was developed to represent a projected maximum potential buildout (magnitude and mix of uses) over an approximately 10-year period. This reasonable worst-case development scenario recognized that actual buildout would ultimately be determined by market conditions, property owner objectives, and other economic factors.

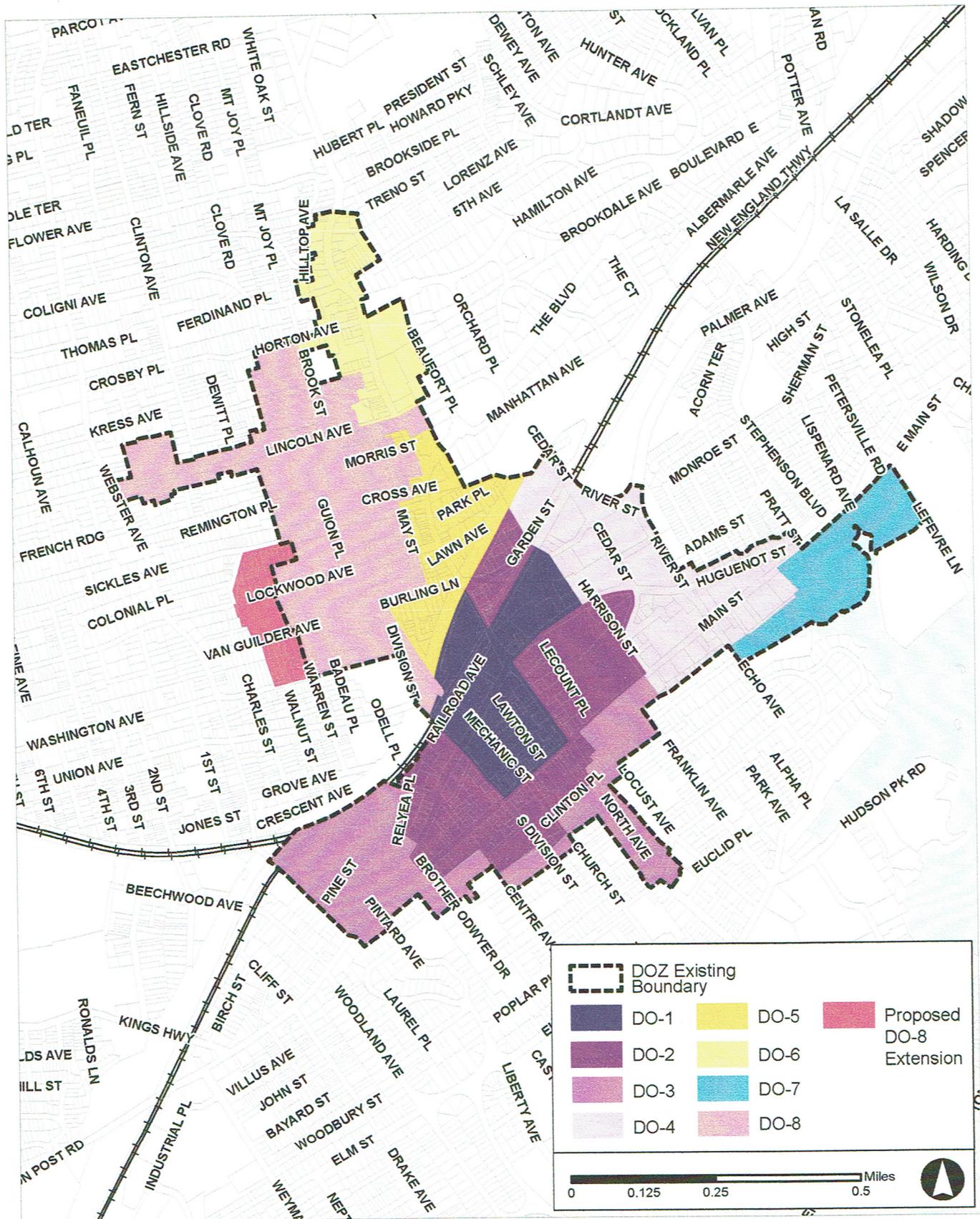
Since adoption of the DOZ in 2015, the City has received a wide variety of site-specific development applications and has periodically refined the 2015 TDS to address changing market demands, including adjustments made between 2016 and 2019, the 2021 DOZ amendments updating the TDS for DO Zones 1 through 6 and creating the 30-acre Waterfront District (DO-7) with an accompanying Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS), and the 2024 amendments establishing the 79-acre Lincoln Neighborhood District (DO-8), also supported by an SGEIS (see Figure 1: Existing Downtown Overlay Boundaries). As the City reaches the end of the original 10-year buildout horizon evaluated in the 2015 GEIS, as updated in 2021 and 2024, it is appropriate to reexamine and update the DOZ. Accordingly, the proposed action includes refinements to the zoning text and map and an updated TDS for the DOZ to establish a revised buildout program and associated environmental analysis for the next decade (see Figure 2: Proposed Downtown Overlay Boundaries). The proposed DOZ zoning text and map amendments and the revised TDS (the “Proposed Action”) will be subject to a SGEIS, which will provide additional detail and analysis of potential impacts and required mitigation measures.

December 3, 2025



Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BFJ Planning

Figure 1: Existing Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries



Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BfJ Planning

Figure 2: Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries

The following presents an overview of the proposed DOZ zoning text and map amendments and the revised TDS:

DOZ Zoning Text and Map Amendments:

1. **DO-2 Map and Text Changes:** Extend the DO-1 boundary across North Avenue along the transit line connection (see Figure 3: Proposed Zoning Map Detail). This extension reduces the overall size of the DO-2 district in order to encourage development designed to support the expansion and redevelopment of the Transit Center and enhance New Rochelle's market presence in Transit forward retail and entertainment leadership. The DO-1 extension in this area shall still be limited to a maximum height of 28 stories, consistent with the current DO-2 district, and will have additional requirements of prospective developers to avail themselves of the DO-1 TDS availability. The area will stretch from the Transit Center adjacent North Avenue bridge, easterly between the rail right-of-way and Huguenot Street. Its eastern boundary shall end at approximately Bally Place. Lot Size requirements for Development Standard 3 are proposed to be increased to 60,000 square feet and form-based designs will require parking to be provided for retail stores directly adjacent to and level with those stores. There will be a new mapped and required public civic space connection to the North Avenue Bridge and Transit Center connection as well as a significant commitment to larger format retail spaces. As part of the Site Plan review process in the modified DO-2, applicant's will be required to include analysis by a retail design firm stating that the design of the retail space and parking configuration is conducive to retail tenanting.
2. **Waterfront Fee:** Remove waterfront fee for DO-1-6 and DO-8 from Zoning Code §331-27.1. The waterfront fee is already located in City Code Chapter 133 Fees.
3. **Sustainable Development Standards:** Amend Zoning Code §331-175.11J Sustainable Development Standards as follows:
 - a. Zoning Code §331- 175.11J (1) shall read "(1) All Sites shall further the goals of the City of New Rochelle GreenNR plan and its updates and shall comply with Sustainable Development Standards."
 - b. Zoning Code §331-175.11J(4) LEED-ND EQUIVALENCY Shall be added.
 - i. It will explicitly require project-level LEED-ND v4 Silver equivalency: "The minimum required sustainable development requirements shall be achieved through demonstrating equivalency of a LEED-ND v4 Silver (50-59 points) of the U.S. Green Building Council's rating system."
4. **Add Definition:** Amend Zoning Code §331-175.04 to add a new definition for Contiguous Public Frontage, as follows: "A continuous, uninterrupted length of Public Frontage that directly abuts a civic space, plaza, or pedestrian way, providing at-grade physical and visual access between the public realm and the civic space. Non-emergency/temporary vehicular access shall be discouraged, and ground-floor uses shall complement adjacency to civic space."

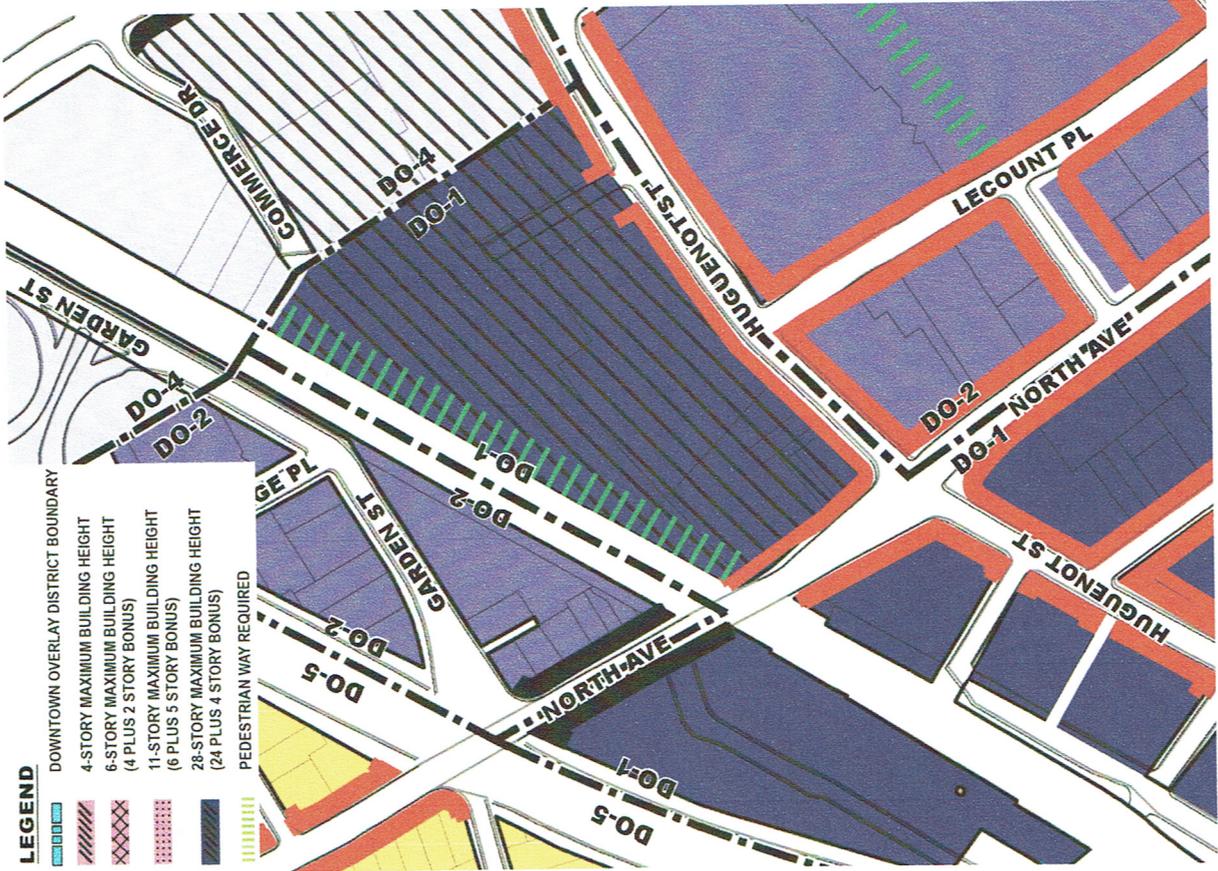
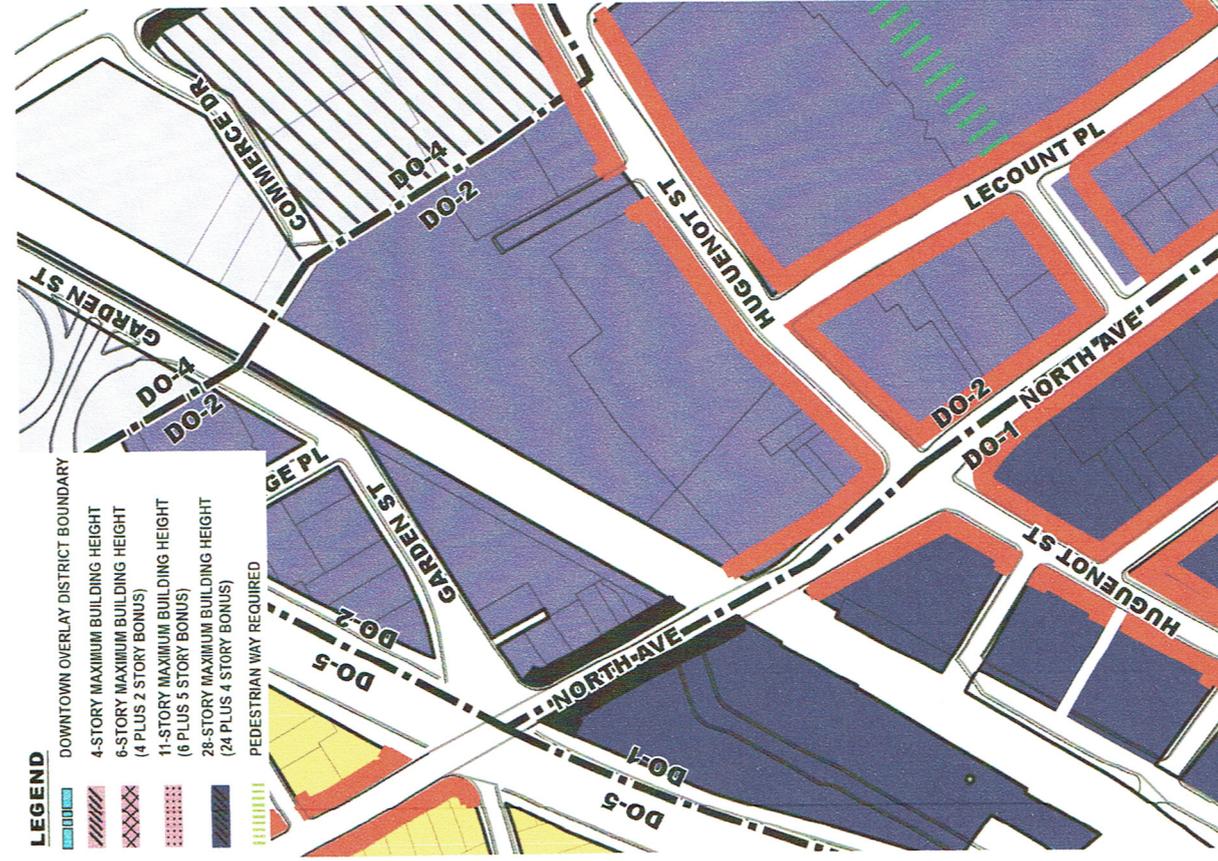


Figure 3: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries

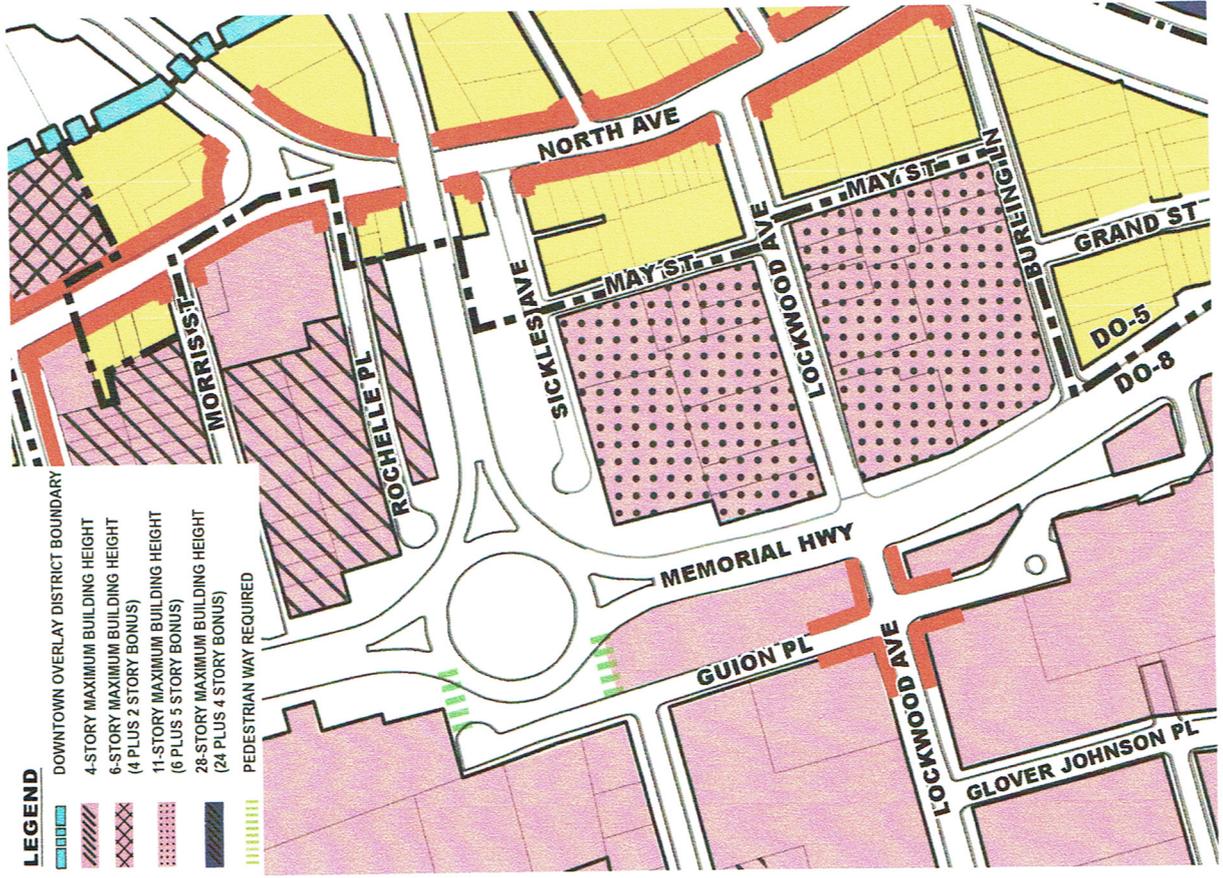
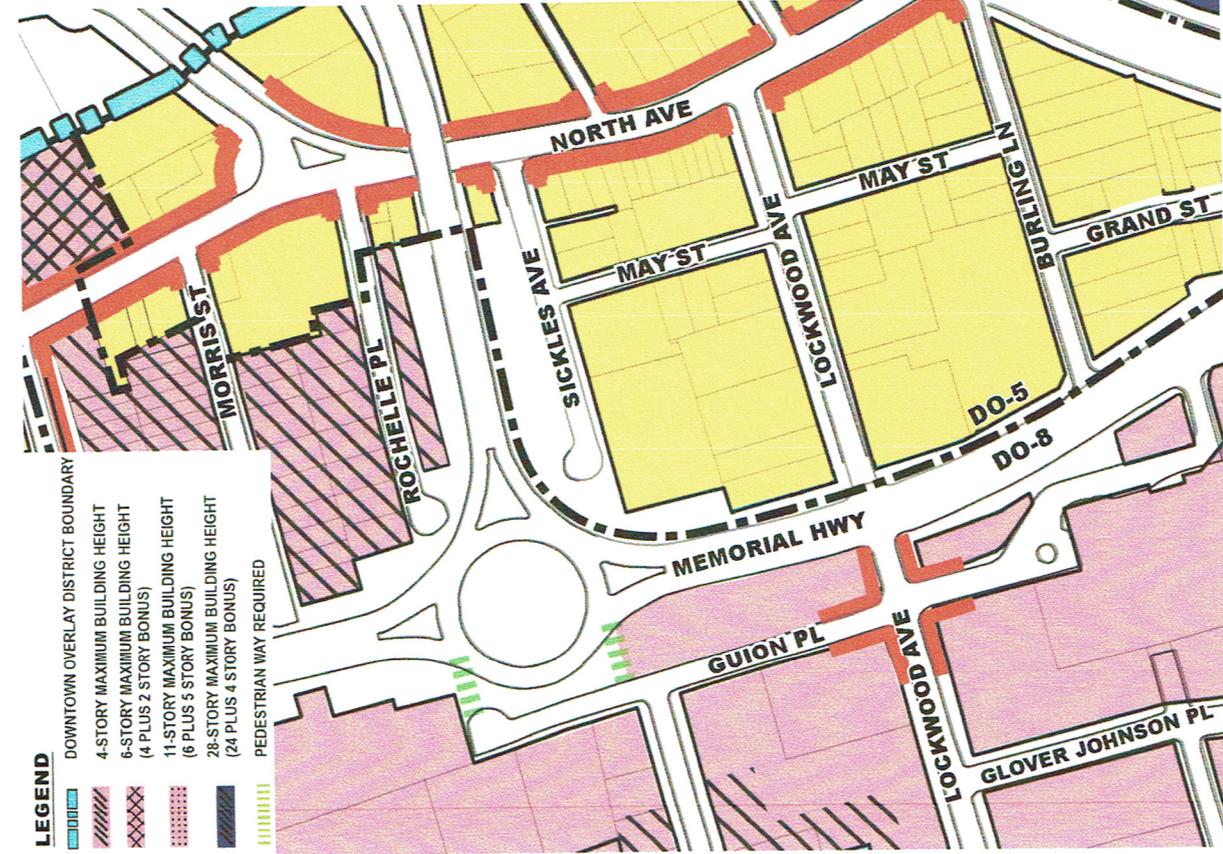


Figure 4: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries

Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BFI Planning.

5. **Permitted Civic Space Types:** Amend Zoning Code §331-175.10E. PERMITTED CIVIC SPACE TYPES to add: "(2) All Civic Spaces shall provide Contiguous Public Frontage."
6. **DO-5 to DO-8 Remapping:** Remap a portion of the DO-5 district bounded by Memorial Highway to the west, Sickles Avenue to the north, May Street to the east, and Burling Lane to the south to DO-8 (see Figure 4: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone Boundaries). This area will have a new cross hatch with a note that says: 11-STORY MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT (6 PLUS 5 STORY BONUS).
 - a. Within this area, Development Standard 2 will be changed to 5 stories as-of-right with up to an additional 4 stories under the Community Benefits Bonus (CBB) (maximum height 105 feet).
 - b. Within this area, Development Standard 3 will be allowed up to 6 stories as-of-right with up to an additional 5 stories under the CBB (maximum height 120').
 - c. The CBB Fee shall be increased to \$50/sf ft of bonus-able space for both Development Standards 2 and 3.
7. **DO-5 to DO-8 Remapping:** Remap a portion of the DO-5 district to the DO-8 district bounded by Morris Street to the north, North Avenue to the east, and Rochelle Place to the south (see Figure 4: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone Boundaries).
8. **DO-8 Boundary Extension:** Extend the western boundary of the DO-8 district east along Washington Street to the mid-block between Webster Avenue and Warren Street and north to Sickles Place to Sickles Avenue (see Figure 5: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone Boundaries). Proposed Zoning Map Detail). The four-story maximum height area hatch will extend along the Washington Street frontage and along the edge of the extended DO-8 boundary to mitigate impacts to lower density development along western edge of the expanded district. The hatches from the area previously representing the western boundary of the district will be removed.
9. **Large Retail Occupancy Standard:** Replace Zoning Code §331-175.11E(5)(e) with: "Large Retail Occupancy Standard: Where a site requires either Frequent Entryways or Storefronts and where a single retail occupancy is provided for 20,000 SF or greater the architectural design for the ground floor street level shall provide frequent entryways no further than 150 feet from the end of the building at the Street Wall and the edge of each entryway shall be no greater than 150 feet from a consecutive entryway as measured along the Build-To-Line."
10. **Other DOZ Changes:** Other minor updates to the DOZ code are proposed to support missing middle housing and to better support a focused retail core. Active storefront requirements may be removed in non-core areas in favor of allowing ground floor residential townhome formats.
11. **Parking:** Adjustments to the parking credit for valet parking are proposed to decrease the incentive for providing valet parking in buildings.

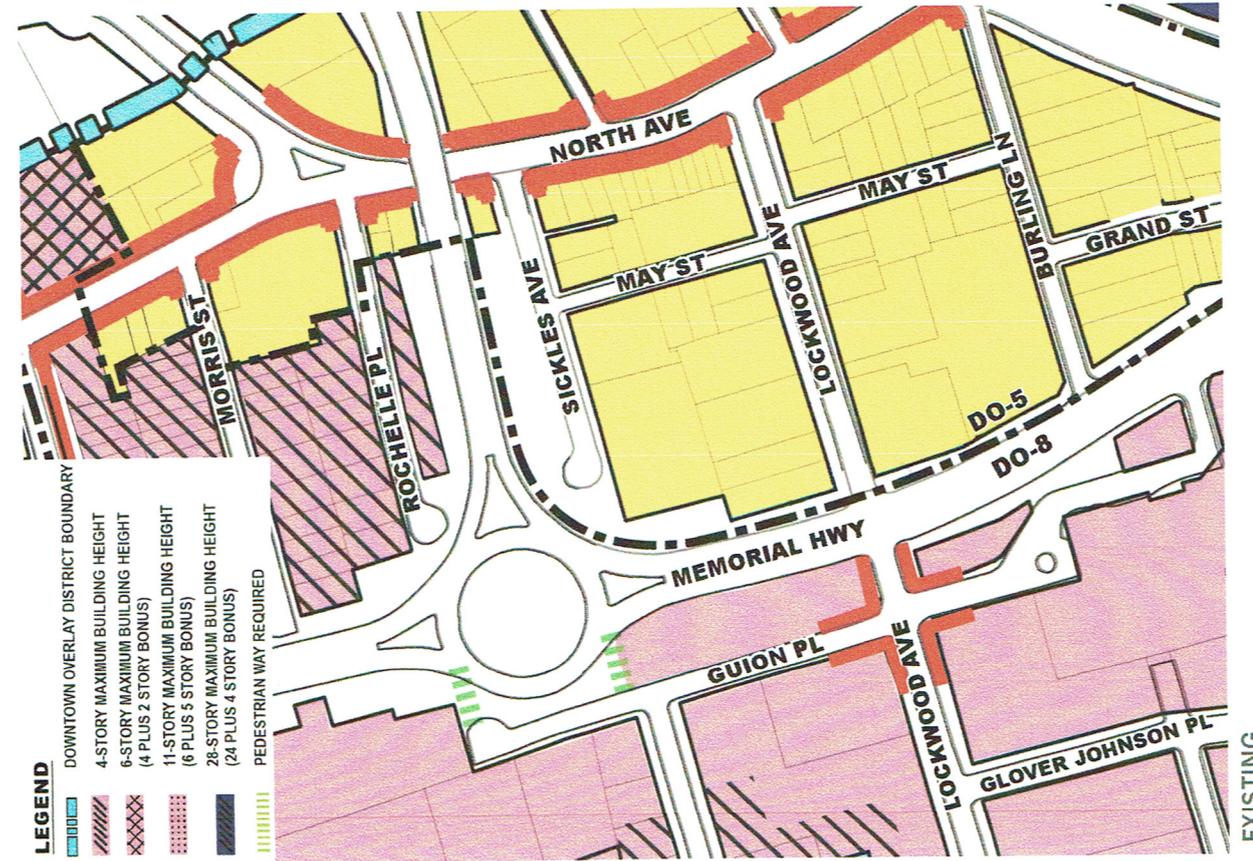
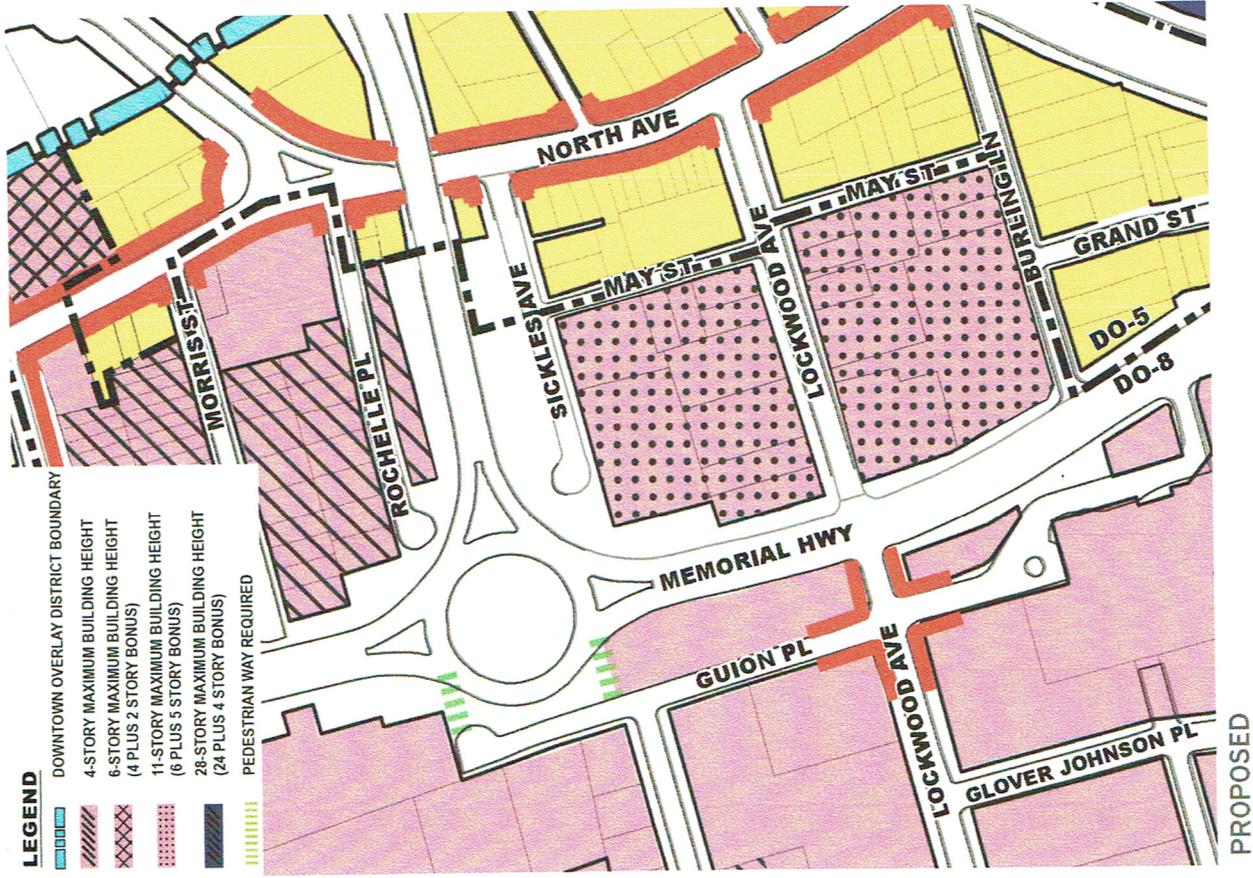


Figure 4: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries
2026 DOZ Update EAF

Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BEJ Planning.

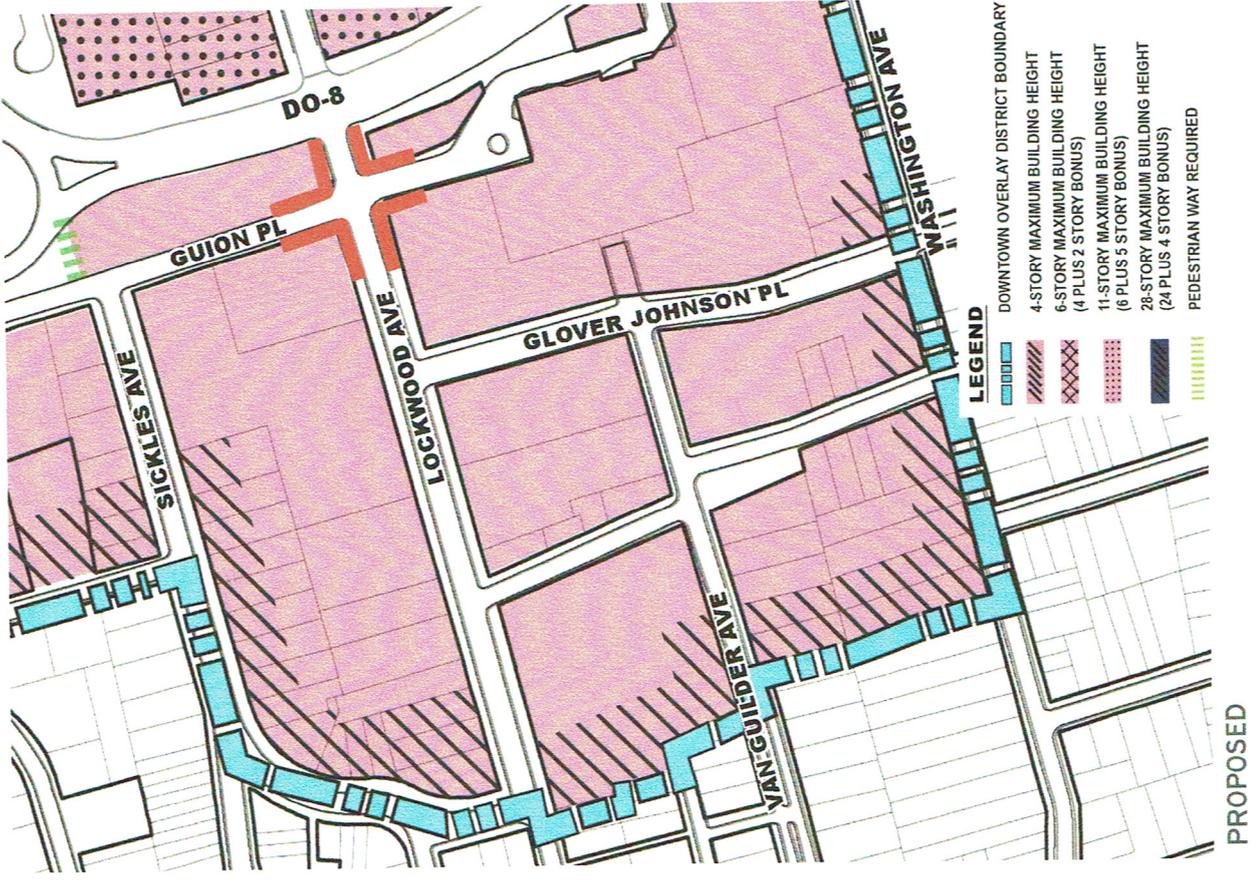
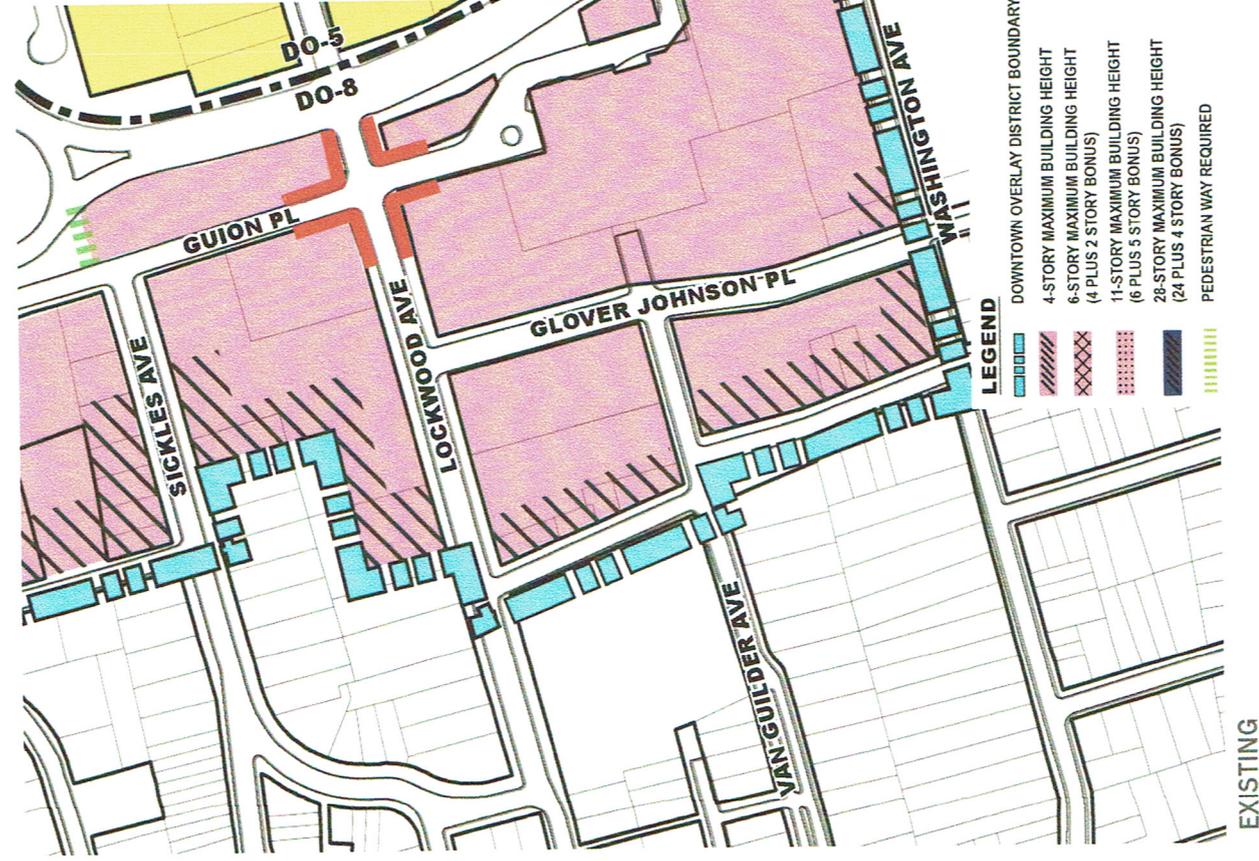


Figure 5: Existing and Proposed Downtown Overlay Zone (DOZ) Boundaries

Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BFI Planning.

Proposed Amendments to the Adopted Theoretical Development Scenario

The proposed update to the DOZ TDS reflects the City's experience implementing the 2015 framework and the outcomes documented to date. Since adoption of the DOZ, New Rochelle has facilitated construction of more than 4,500 new housing units, with approximately 6,500 additional units in the pipeline, resulting in a substantial increase in the City's multifamily inventory while helping to moderate rent growth relative to the broader region and attracting significant private investment to the downtown.

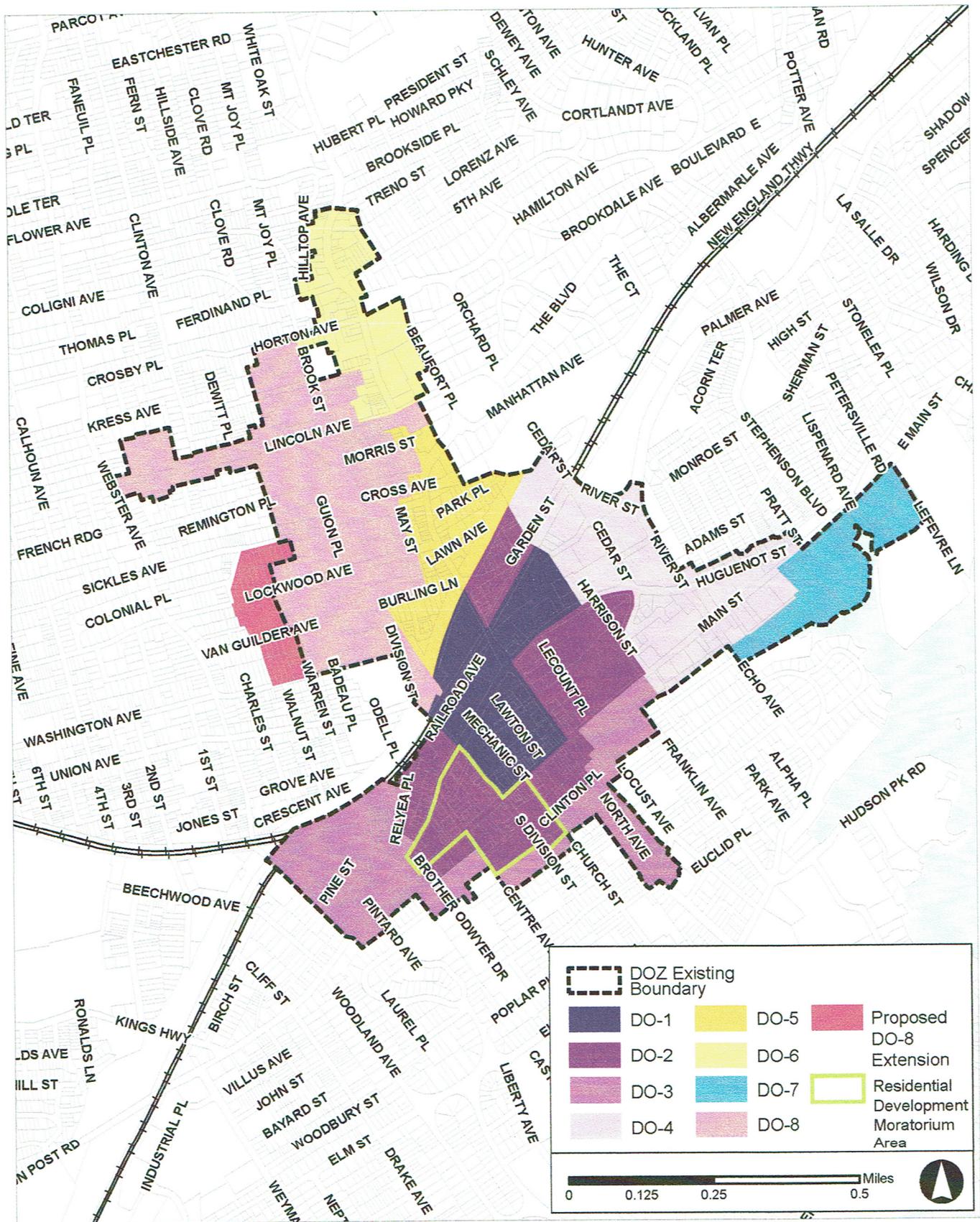
These results, together with associated community benefits such as infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, and enhanced public amenities funded in part through development activity and fair share mitigation funds, demonstrate that the DOZ's residential program is functioning as intended and remains strongly aligned with regional housing needs. At the same time, market conditions for non-residential uses—particularly office and certain types of retail—have shifted materially due to long-term changes in work patterns, consumer behavior, existing stock, and real estate demand. Accordingly, the City is proposing to rebalance the DOZ program by increasing the residential development potential (+2,800 units) and reducing the theoretical buildout for other uses, to better reflect current and reasonably foreseeable market conditions, maintain the economic feasibility of development within the DOZ, and continue advancing the City's land use, housing, and economic development objectives.

Table 1: Proposed 2026 Theoretical Development Scenario

Overlay District	Retail (SF)	Restaurant (SF)	Office Non-medical (SF)	Medical Office (SF)	Hotel (rooms)	Residential Units (DU)	Residential Condominium Units (DU)	Student Housing/ Supportive Housing	Adult Care (SF)	Independent Units (DU)	Institutional (SF)
DO-1	75,000 (-25,000)	40,000 (-14,000)	100,000 (-200,000)	55,000	300	3,130 ¹ (+1,500)		-	-	-	35,000 (-15,000)
DO-2	100,000 (-100,000)	22,000 (-10,400)	100,000	65,000 (-217,500)	-	6,464 ^{1,2} (200)		-	-	-	40,000 (-20,000)
DO-3	30,000 (-9,000)	5,400	25,000 (-25,000)	-	-	776 (+200)	300	100 (-100)	100,000	200	40,000 (-65,000)
DO-4	150,000 (+50,000)	21,400	50,000 (-50,000)	26,000	-	772 (+400)		-	-	-	-
DO-5	21,500	5,400	50,000 (-50,000)	50,000 (-55,000)	100	332 (+100)		200 (-100)	100,000 (-72,000)	-	60,000 (-80,000)
DO-6	25,000 (+3,500)	5,400	31,000	21,000	-	326 (+200)		-	50,000 (-28,000)	-	35,000
DO-7	60,000	40,000 (-20,000)	25,000	25,000	200	700	100	-	-	-	23,000
DO-8	16,000	27,000 (+12,000)	-	30,000	-	847 (+300)	100	200	20,000	-	30,000
TOTAL	477,500	166,600	381,000	272,000	600	13,347	500	500	270,000	200	263,000
Proposed Change	(-80,500)	(-29,400)	(-325,000)	(-272,500)	(0)	(+2,800)	(0)	(-200)	(-100,000)	(0)	(-180,000)

Notes:

1. The City intends to reserve for a period of time, 800 Units in DO-1 and 700 Units in DO-2 for the future development of City-owned properties (see 2021 RAP Addendum).
2. Moratorium on Residential Development: No new residential units are allowed in DO-2 within the area bounded by Division Street to the east, Huguenot Street to the north, Main Street to the west and south, and Centre Street to the west – see Figure 6: DO-2 Residential Development Moratorium Area.



Source: City of New Rochelle, Westchester County GIS, BFJ Planning

Figure 6: DO-2 Residential Development Moratorium Area