Context organizes the Zoning Code by creating sets of Form Districts, Frontages, and development standards appropriate for the range of areas across the City of Los Angeles. Context can serve as a general description of the current built environment or a community’s aspirations for the future.

Form Districts foster environments aligned with the vision of the General Plan designations. Form Districts encourage appropriate building orientation, intensity, and scale. They do so by establishing set parameters for lot criteria, building placement, bulk and mass, and activation.

Frontages are a zoning tool that influences the articulation of building facades. Frontages allow for the calibration of transparency requirements, story height, and pedestrian access. They also set which building elements are allowed such as awnings, canopies, porches, or stoops.

Use Districts establish categories, groups, and occasionally specific uses that are permitted, limited, conditionally allowed, or not allowed within an area. These permissions are communicated in a visual table format along with definitions and provisions explaining the regulations.