

ARTICLE XV

SIGN AND BILLBOARD REGULATIONS

SECTION 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT. The purpose of these regulations are: to encourage the effective use of signs and billboards, to protect and enhance the aesthetic environment; to create an environment that promotes economic development; and to protect and improve pedestrian and traffic safety.

SECTION 2. APPLICABILITY. A sign may be maintained, created, painted or erected in the county only in conformance with the standards, procedures, exemptions and other requirements of these regulations.

Subsection A. These regulations are specifically set forth to:

- (1) Establish a permit and record-keeping system and an enforcement tool.
- (2) To permit a variety of sign types in Commercial and Industrial Districts, and a limited amount and variety of signs in other Districts. These signs are subject to the proper permit procedures and standards set forth by these regulations.
- (3) Allow certain small identification signs on the particular lot without requiring a permit, but subject to the requirements of these regulations.
- (4) Prohibit any signs not in conformance with these regulations and provide enforcement of these regulations.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.

Subsection A. For the purpose of these regulations the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- (1) **Animated Sign.** Any sign that uses movement or change of lighting to depict action or create a special effect.
- (2) **Billboard.** Off-premises sign owned by an entity intent on selling advertising space on that sign.
- (3) **Building Sign.** Any sign supported by or attached to any building.
- (4) **Freestanding Sign.** Any sign that has a support structure that is independent from any building, placed in, or anchored on the ground.
- (5) **Identification Sign.** Any sign located in a District with only the name and/or address of the occupant on the sign.
- (6) **Marquee.** Any permanent roof-like structure projecting over an entrance containing changeable copy.
- (7) **Non-Conforming Sign.** Any sign or signs that do not conform with the stipulations put forth by these regulations.
- (8) **Off-Premises Sign.** Any sign which advertises services or products located on the premises at another site or delivers a message.
- (9) **On-Premises Sign.** Any sign which is located on the premises of the service or products advertised.
- (10) **Pennant Sign.** Any lightweight material suspended from a rope, wire or string and displayed in a series with or without a message, designed to move in the wind.

(11) Portable Sign. Any sign not permanently attached to a structure or the ground, or a sign designed to be transported by wheels. Also, signs painted on vehicles unless the vehicle is used for everyday business.

(12) Projecting Signs. Any sign affixed to a building or wall and exceeding six inches beyond the surface of the building or wall.

(13) Residential Sign. Any sign located in a District zoned for residential or agricultural uses that contains no commercial message except advertising for

services or products legally conducted or produced on the premises.

(14) Sign. Any device which uses illustrations, graphics, words or illumination to advertise, announce the purpose of, or identify a person or entity, or to communicate any type of information to the public.

(15) Suspended Signs. Any sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal surface and is supported by that surface.

(16) Temporary Sign. Any sign which is not permanently mounted and is used only temporarily.

(17) Wall Sign. Any sign attached parallel to, but within six inches of a wall that displays only with one sign face or is painted directly on the wall surface.

SECTION 4. SIGN DIMENSIONS AND CLEARANCE.

Subsection A. Computation of area of individual signs shall include the combination of the writing, emblem, illustrations or other display, together with any background material or color forming an integral part of the display, but not including the supporting framework. On a multi-faced sign the area is computed from only one face so long as the distance between the two sign faces does not exceed three (3) feet. The total combined area of all building signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the wall area to which the signs are attached. (Refer to table XV-2)

Subsection B. Computation of height shall be measured from average ground level, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign, to the highest point of the sign or support structure, whichever is tallest. (Refer to table XV-2)

Subsection C. The following signs may be located in these Districts:

<i>Table XV-1</i>	ZONING DISTRICT								
SIGN TYPE	A-1	R-1	R-2	R-3	C-1	C-2	U-1	F-P	AZ-1
FREESTANDING									
Billboard	N	N	N	N	P	P	P	P	N
Portable	N	N	N	N	P	P	P	N	N
Residential	A	A	A	A	N	N	N	N	N
Temporary	N	N	N	N	P	N	P	N	N
Other	P	N	N	N	P	P	P	N	N
BUILDING									
Marquee	N	N	N	N	P	P	N	N	N
Identification	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	N

Projecting	N	N	N	N	P	P	N	N	N
Suspended	N	N	N	N	P	N	P	P	N
Wall	N	N	N	N	P	P	P	P	N

A = Allowed Without Permit P = Allowed With Permit N = Not Allowed

Table XV-2	Number, Area, Clearance and Height Criteria			
SIGN TYPE	NUMBER	MAXIMUM AREA	MINIMUM CLEARANCE	MAXIMUM HEIGHT
FREESTANDING				
Billboard	1/LOT	300 SQ. FT.	NA	35 FT.
Portable	1/LOT	20 SQ. FT.	NA	4.5 FT.
Residential	1/LOT	4 SQ. FT.	NA	NA
Temporary	1/LOT	3 SQ. FT.	NA	4.5 FT.
Other	1/LOT	16 SQ. FT.	NA	20 FT.
BUILDING				
Marquee	1/BUILDING	25 % OF TOTAL SURFACE OF BUILDING FACE WHICH ATTACHED TO	12 FT.	BELOW ROOF-LINE
Identification	1/BUILDING	2 SQ. FT.	NA	NA
Projecting	1/BUILDING	25 % OF TOTAL SURFACE OF BUILDING FACE WHICH ATTACHED TO	12 FT.	BELOW ROOF-LINE
Suspended	1/ENTRANCE	2 FT. BY 1 FT.	9 FT.	NA
Wall	1/BUILDING	25 % OF TOTAL SURFACE OF BUILDING FACE WHICH ATTACHED TO	NA	BELOW ROOF-LINE

SECTION 5. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.

Subsection A. Any sign that is to be erected, modified or placed on a lot or building that does not meet the criteria in Article XV, Section 6 of this Ordinance must obtain a permit. The owner of such sign shall secure a sign permit prior to the sign being erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, enlarged, altered or illuminated. The sign permit application fee shall be \$200.00.

Subsection B. No sign shall be erected in the public right-of-way unless done so by a licensed government agency.

Subsection C. No permit of any kind shall be issued for an existing or proposed sign unless such sign is in conformity with these regulations and an approved signage plan if required.

SECTION 6. PERMIT EXCEPTIONS.

Subsection A. No sign may be erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved, enlarged, altered or illuminated without obtaining a permit with the exception of :

(1) Works of art not containing a commercial message.

(2) Memorials and plaques in cemeteries.

- (3) All signs designated in Table XV-1 as "Allowed without permit" (A).
- (4) Holiday lights with no commercial message between November 15 and January 15.
- (5) Signs located inside a building which cannot be read 3 feet from the outside edge of the lot.
- (6) Temporary signs with political advertising not to exceed a total surface area of thirty-two (32) square feet. Signs may be erected not more than forty-five (45) days before the election and must be removed within seven (7) days following the election.
- (7) Any sign erected by an official government agency.

Subsection B. For any lot or building which the owner proposes one or more signs to be erected that requires a permit the following plans drawn to scale must be submitted:

- (1) Dimensions of the sign and, if applicable, the dimensions of the wall surface to which the sign will be attached.
- (2) Dimensions of the sign support structure.
- (3) The maximum and minimum height of the sign.
- (4) Location of the sign in relation to the face of the building.
- (5) Location of the sign in relation to the boundaries of the lot.
- (6) Optional: Design guidelines including color scheme, lettering, lighting and material.

SECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS RESTRICTIONS.

Subsection A. No animated signs or ones that use movement to attract the attention of the public are permitted with the exception of time and temperature signs.

Subsection B. No sign that may be confused with an official traffic sign shall be erected.

Subsection C. Inflatable signs, tethered balloons, pennants and strings of lights not permanently attached to a rigid background are all prohibited.

Subsection D. Illuminated signs shall be shielded so that no direct light or significant glare shall be cast into a residential use or District. All lighting fixtures used to illuminate an outdoor sign shall be mounted on the sign structure to minimize light pollution. No flashing beacons are permitted. Illuminated signs are permitted in commercial and industrial Districts only.

Subsection E. Billboards shall be limited to one (1) structure per lot and must be a minimum of three hundred (300) feet from any other billboard sign, regardless which side of the road way the sign is located.

SECTION 8. MAINTENANCE.

Subsection A. All signs shall be properly maintained in good structural condition at all times.

SECTION 9. NON-CONFORMING SIGNS.

Subsection A. Signs that do not conform to these regulations shall not be altered or enlarged in any way to aggravate the conforming condition. Also, the sign can not be moved or replaced unless to bring the sign into conformity.

Subsection B. If the non-conforming sign is destroyed by natural causes and is replaced it must be within the stipulations of these regulations. The message of the non-conforming sign may be changed but it can not create any new non-conformities.

SECTION 10. ENFORCEMENT.

Subsection A. Any violation or attempted violation of these regulations may be restrained or corrected by an injunction or other proceedings in compliance with state law. Any violation of these regulations is a violation of the Zoning Ordinance of this County and the corrective measures shall include:

- (1)** Issuance of a stop-work order for all signs on the zoned lot, or an injunction for removal or correction of the non-conformity.
- (2)** Issuance of a County Infraction for the violation.