

CHAPTER 152

SIGNS

152.01 Purpose

152.01 Definitions

152.03 Signs Allowed in All Districts

152.04 Signs in Business and Industrial Districts

152.05 Wall Signs

152.06 Projecting Signs

152.07 Free-Standing Signs

152.08 Canopy Signs

152.09 Portable Signs

152.10 Paper Posters

152.11 Billboard

152.12 Prohibited Signs

152.13 Permits

152.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to provide that all signs and sign structures are constructed to protect the safety and development of the City.

152.02 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the following terms are defined:

1. “Animated Sign” means a sign using actual motion or the illusion of motion.
2. “Awning” means a projection from and supported by the exterior wall of a building and composed of a covering of rigid or non-rigid material placed upon supporting framework.
3. “Billboard” means a sign erected, maintained or used for the purpose of displaying commercial or noncommercial messages not specific to the use of the property on which it is placed.
4. “Canopy” means any of the following:
 - A. Attached. An overhead structure or projection supported by the exterior wall of a building and columns at additional points.
 - B. Free-Standing. An overhead structure supported by columns on all sides and free from buildings.
5. “Canopy Sign” means a sign placed on a canopy.
6. “Changeable Sign” means a sign in which the message or content can be changed by means of manual or remote input.
7. “Free-Standing Sign” means a sign supported by a structure or structures affixed to the ground and not supported by a building. Acceptable means of support shall include columns or posts. This type of sign may also be referred to as “ground”, “pole” or “monument” sign.
8. “Political Sign” means a sign, temporary in nature, intended to promote an election or candidate.
9. “Portable Sign” means a sign not permanently attached to a building or the ground. Portable signs shall be considered temporary.
10. “Projecting Sign” means a sign that is attached to and extends more than 18 inches from the exterior wall of a building or structure.

11. "Roof Sign" means a sign that is mounted and supported by the roof of a building.
12. "Sign" means a device visible from a public or private place that displays either commercial or noncommercial messages.
13. "Temporary Sign" means a sign displaying commercial or noncommercial messages of a temporary nature not permanently attached to a building, a structure or the ground. Temporary signs shall include portable signs.
14. "Wall Sign" means a sign that is attached to and extends no more than 18 inches from the exterior wall of a building or structure.

152.03 SIGNS ALLOWED IN ALL DISTRICTS. The following signs are allowed in all districts:

1. Temporary signs not exceeding twelve (12) square feet in area advertising the sale or lease of real estate when located upon property to which the sign refers and when not located closer than ten (10) feet to a lot line, which shall be removed upon sale or lease of the property.
2. Temporary free-standing signs advertising future use or development of property on which such signs are located may be maintained subject to the provisions of this section provided such signs do not exceed thirty (30) square feet in area or remain longer than six (6) months. "For Rent" and "For Lease" signs in commercial and industrial districts for new buildings shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet or remain more than ninety (90) days after the building is completed.
3. Church or public building bulletin boards not exceeding twenty-four (24) square feet in area.
4. Traffic and public signs.
5. Political signs, on private property, not exceeding six (6) square feet in area. Such signs for election candidates or ballot propositions shall be displayed only for a period of sixty (60) days preceding the election and shall be removed ten (10) days after the election, provided that signs promoting successful candidates or ballot propositions in a primary election may remain displayed until not more than ten (10) days after the general election. Such signs shall not be placed in any public right-of-way.

152.04 SIGNS IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS. In the business and industrial districts, there may be roof signs, wall signs, projecting signs, free-standing signs, canopy signs and awning signs when displaying no advertising matter except pertaining to the business conducted in the building or on the premises on which any such sign is placed. The total square foot area of roof signs, wall signs, projecting signs, canopy signs and awning signs shall not exceed one-fifth (1/5) of the total square foot area of the face of the building on which they are placed. There shall not be more than one free-standing sign for each one hundred (100) feet of street frontage. For the purpose of this section, "pertaining to the business conducted in the building or on the premises on which any such sign is placed" refers to advertising matter pertaining to significant business or industrial operations being conducted in the building or on the premises in question (other than mere advertising). The Zoning Board of Adjustment may, on appeal from a decision of the Building Official, vary the

152.10 PAPER POSTERS. Paper posters applied directly to the wall or building or pole or other support and letters or pictures in the form of advertising, printed or applied directly on the wall of a building are prohibited. Temporary signs may be displayed in or attached to the inside of show or display windows provided the total sign area does not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the show or display window area.

152.11 BILLBOARDS. All new billboards are prohibited except those specifically designated by the City Council, when and after the Council has determined it is in the best interests of the City to allow said billboards. The Council shall conduct a public hearing on the placement and location of said billboards.

152.12 PROHIBITED SIGNS. Any sign, including animated signs and changeable signs, due to blinking, flashing, color, location, or design that resembles or conflicts with traffic control signs, devices or emergency vehicles shall be prohibited.

152.13 PERMITS. It is unlawful for any person to place or erect a sign without a valid permit issued by the Code Enforcement Officer. Permits issued for temporary signs are valid for thirty (30) consecutive days in any three (3) month period, and not more than ninety (90) days in any calendar year.

(Ch. 152 – Ord. 885 –Aug. 11 Supp.)

[The next page is 855]

requirements of this subsection in instances where strict enforcement of this subsection would cause undue hardship due to unique circumstances. However, any variances from the provisions of this section shall be granted only when it is demonstrated that such action will be in keeping with the spirit and intent of the provisions of the Zoning Ordinances.

152.05 WALL SIGNS.

1. No wall sign shall extend beyond the building more than eighteen (18) inches.
2. No wall sign shall be so erected as to cover the doors or windows of any building or otherwise prevent free ingress or egress to or from any window, door or any fire escape of any building.

152.06 PROJECTING SIGNS.

1. No projecting sign may extend more than four feet, six inches (4' 6") from a building or structure.
2. Projecting signs must have a minimum height of ten (10) feet from grade level to the bottom of the sign.

152.07 FREE-STANDING SIGNS. No free-standing sign shall extend downward nearer than ten (10) feet to ground or pavement. The maximum total area for all free-standing signs on the premises shall be based on street frontage as follows:

1. 0 to 80 foot frontage — 2.0 square feet per foot of frontage;
2. For the next 80 to 160 foot frontage — 1.5 square feet per foot of frontage;
3. For the next 160 to 240 foot frontage — 1.0 square foot per foot of frontage;
4. For all over 240 foot frontage — 0.5 square foot per foot of frontage;
5. No free-standing sign shall exceed 400 square feet total, all faces.

152.08 CANOPY SIGNS. A sign may be placed upon a canopy provided such sign does not extend more than three (3) feet above or one foot below such canopy.

152.09 PORTABLE SIGNS. Portable signs may only be allowed in business and industrial districts under the following conditions:

1. One portable sign will be allowed at each service station restricted solely to stating the price of gasoline. Said sign cannot exceed three (3) feet in length (horizontally) or be over five (5) feet high.
2. Portable signs shall not have any lights attached to them or shining on them, although they may have a constant light or lights inside of the sign for illumination.
3. Portable signs shall not be placed on public right-of-way and shall not be placed in such a location as they are hazardous to traffic as determined by the Police Chief.
4. One portable sign will be allowed at all other locations and will be considered temporary in nature and with the issuance of a temporary sign permit.