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7.1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

7.1.1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Article is to create a clear and uniform set of sign regulations to promote a positive city image with effective and visually pleasing signage. The goal is to strengthen the economic stability of Arlington's tax base and to avoid visual clutter, which is potentially harmful to automobile and pedestrian safety, property values, business opportunities, and community appearance.

7.1.2. OBJECTIVES

In addition to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the community, these standards are adopted in order to:

- A.** Recognize that most signs, by their nature, are designed and located to be seen by the driving public, and to ensure that they are sized, located, and otherwise regulated so as to maximize traffic safety;
- B.** Recognize that visual clutter leads to a decline in the community's appearance, a decline in property values, and a decline in the effectiveness of the signs;
- C.** Enhance automobile and pedestrian safety;
- D.** Identify business, residential and public uses in a manner that produces aesthetic appeal to businesses and residents without creating confusion, unsightliness, or visual obscurity of adjacent business or other neighboring structures;
- E.** Encourage the integration of signs with the surrounding environment, including scale of development, landscaping, and building design;
- F.** Encourage a better aesthetic environment by enhancing the appearance of the city's major corridors;
- G.** Develop and adopt policies to ensure that entrances are easily identifiable and minimize urban clutter;

These objectives and strategies are to be pursued in applying the specific standards of this Article.

7.2. APPLICABILITY

- 7.2.1.** This article applies to all advertising displays in the city. The term "advertising displays" shall mean and include any letter, figure, character, mark, plane, point, marquee sign, design, poster, pictorial, picture, stroke, stripe, line, trademark, or reading material which shall be constructed, placed, attached, painted, erected, fastened, manufactured, or displayed in any manner whatsoever for the purpose of informing of or advertising about the nature, type, or quality of goods, services, or activities available; or to advertise the name of any firm, corporation, business, or any other enterprise, or its nature, type or quality of goods, services, or activities; or to attract to or identify any of the aforementioned or by its nature, act to draw attention to a business. Every display shall be classified and shall conform to the requirements set forth in this article.
- 7.2.2.** Any change in use or external addition to an existing structure shall comply with this article in the following scaled approach to the extent practicable,
- A. Change in Use.**
- Any change in use, as determined from the Table of Allowed Uses in Article 3, shall comply with Article 7, *Sign Standards*, as pertinent to that tenant space and any site signs.
- B. External Additions.**
- Any external additions to an existing structure as calculated based on the total area of that structure (and not total area of all structures per lot), shall comply with the following:
1. If the addition to a structure is less than 10 percent then the signage applicable to the addition must comply with Article 7, *Sign Standards*.
 2. If the addition to a structure is more than 10 percent then the signage applicable to the addition and any site signs must comply with Article 7, *Sign Standards*.
- 7.2.3.** This article shall not relate to building design, nor shall the article regulate official traffic signs, gravestones, lighting, or displays of a seasonal or traditional nature which are not commercially-oriented, scoreboards on athletic fields, or any display or construction not defined herein as a sign.

7.3. ADMINISTRATION

7.3.1. PERMIT REQUIRED

Except as provided in this Article, no person shall erect, alter, renovate, or demolish any sign or sign structure until a permit for such work has been issued by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with the requirements of all City codes. A permit is also required for any alteration to the copy face or lettering of any sign, with the exception of Section 7.3.2 D.

7.3.2. PERMIT NOT REQUIRED

The following shall be exempt from sign permitting but shall comply with other regulations contained in this Article or other law:

- A.** Repainting the same message;
- B.** Changing the message of an off-site advertising sign (Billboard);
- C.** Changing the digital message of an Electronic Message Center (EMC) sign;
- D.** Replacement of a sign face for an existing business with the same size and within the same panel for multi-tenant ground or pole signs;
- E.** A public notice or warning sign required by a federal, state or local law, regulation, or ordinance, including historical signs and markers placed by a city, county, state or national historical preservation organization and official vehicle inspection signs;
- F.** A sign located inside a building which is not displayed so as to be visible from outside the building or the street. Signs located within a covered shopping center building shall comply with the Construction Chapter of the Arlington Code of Ordinances. These generally include credit card decals, hours of operation signs, emergency contact information and similar signs, as determined by the Zoning Administrator;
- G.** A sign within or on railway property and placed or maintained in reference to the operation of such railway;
- H.** Underground utility warning signs and other safety signs not exceeding one square foot in area;
- I.** Security warning, neighborhood watch, or crime watch signs;
- J.** On-premise residential real estate signs, garage sale signs, and other signs as shown in the "Temporary Signs" chart in Section 7.10; and
- K.** Political signs; See Section 7.10.2
- L.** Sandwich Board Signs; (See Section 7.10 for standards)
- M.** Window Signs; (See Section 7.8.12 for standards)
- N.** Hanging Signs; (See Section 7.8.11 for standards)

- O. Primary Flags; (See Section 7.8.16 for standards) A building permit for the support structure may be required.

7.3.3. PERMITS AND FEES

All signs requiring a permit shall be subject to a permit fee. The amount of the fee shall be established in the City’s Fee Resolution.

A complete permit application must be submitted prior to the issuance of any permit. Incomplete permit applications will not be accepted or issued a permit. Information in the application which subsequently changes before the construction of the sign shall be updated by the applicant and approved by staff.

Signs must be constructed in accordance with the approved permit.

7.3.4. PERMIT EXPIRATION

If the work authorized by a permit issued under this Article has not commenced within 180 days after the date of issuance, the permit shall become null and void.

Any permittee holding an unexpired permit may apply in writing for an extension of the permit, if the permittee is unable to commence work for good and satisfactory reasons. The extension period shall not exceed 180 days. The permittee shall pay a fee for the extension of the unexpired permit. No permit shall be extended more than once.

7.3.5. PERMIT DENIAL

The permit shall be denied if the proposed sign does not meet the City’s regulations.

7.3.6. ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS

A. For an alternative design an Alternative Equivalent Compliance (AEC) application may be submitted, which meets the intent of this Article. The AEC procedures are detailed in Article 10, Section 10.4.22

B. An Alternate Sign Plan(ASP) may be approved at the discretion of the City Council upon the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The alternate sign plan must show a unified graphics package that includes all on-site signs. All signs must support a general development theme.
2. Sites shall have a minimum contiguous linear street frontage of 500 feet along a freeway or arterial

Prior to approval, the City Council shall determine that the alternate sign plan meets or exceeds the spirit and intent of the Code, and that signs specifically prohibited in Section 7.4 Prohibited Signs are not allowed to be proposed.

7.4. PROHIBITED SIGNS

7.4.1. SIGNS IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

Signs are prohibited in the public right-of-way.

Exceptions. The following signs are permitted in a public right-of-way:

- A. A sign posted or required by a governmental authority.
- B. A sign approved by the City under a right-of-way use agreement on file with the City.
- C. Signs on commercial vehicles or commercial trailers while lawfully in operation on public rights-of-way.

7.4.2. DECORATIVE FLAGS

Decorative flags and flags used as advertising displays, including but not limited to blade, feather, shark fin, solid, and teardrop flags, are prohibited.

7.4.3. ROOF SIGNS

Roof signs are prohibited.

7.4.4. PORTABLE SIGNS

Portable signs are prohibited regardless of whether they have been attached to the ground or other fixed object.

Exceptions.

- A. Sandwich board signs are permitted within five feet of the entrance to a business. See Section 7.10 for standards.
- B. A sign on a vehicle or trailer lawfully in operation on public rights-of-way.

7.4.5. LIGHT DISPLAYS

- A. Signs with a revolving beam, beacon of light and/or search lights are prohibited.
- B. Signs with a light resembling an emergency vehicle are prohibited.
- C. Signs resembling a traffic control signal, whether current traffic control signal or one of an older design, are prohibited.
- D. Signs with high intensity light are prohibited.
- E. Flashing, scrolling/running, strobe and similar lighting are prohibited.

7.4.6. MOTION SIGNS

Signs which have motion are prohibited. This prohibition includes signs in which the whole sign moves or in which a portion of the sign moves.

7.4.7. REFLECTIVE SIGNS

Reflective signs are prohibited, with the exception of governmental or public safety signs.

7.5. SIGNS ADJACENT TO RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS

7.5.1. The following standards shall apply to signs on properties that are adjacent to or across a local or minor collector street from properties zoned or used for single-family or two-family dwellings.

- A.** Wall signs are prohibited on the side or rear wall of the building. However, a wall sign shall be permitted if that side or rear wall is the only entrance into the business and the wall sign is not internally illuminated.

Exception.

Building service signs may be permitted on the side or rear wall of the building provided the sign lettering does not exceed four inches in height. The sign may be internally illuminated.

- B.** Freestanding signs shall not be internally illuminated.

Exception.

EMCs associated with institutional uses. (See 7.6.9 for standards)

7.6. GENERAL PROVISIONS

7.6.1. SIGNS TO MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS

- A.** All signs shall meet the applicable standards of this article and all City codes as amended. Compliance is required regardless of whether a permit is required.
- B.** The construction plans for all freestanding signs greater than four feet in height shall be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

7.6.2. NONCONFORMING SIGNS

For nonconforming signs refer to Article 11, *Nonconformities*.

7.6.3. SIGN PLACEMENT

- A.** All signs advertising the name of the business, services provided, or products sold, shall be located on the premises.
- B.** No sign or sign structure shall project over any property line, into or over any rights-of-way, public drainage easement, public or private utility easement, unless approved through an easement or use agreement.
- C.** All freestanding signs shall be located a minimum of 10 feet from any overhead power line or structure.

7.6.4. SIGNS – MAINTENANCE REQUIRED; ENGINEERING REQUIREMENTS; UNSAFE SIGNS

- A.** All signs and all sign supports, braces, guys and anchors shall be kept in good repair.
- B.** All signs shall be thoroughly painted to ensure weather protection, unless the sign is constructed of galvanized or non-corroding metal. All exposed metal surfaces must be degreased, primed, and painted with a finish coat as necessary. Powder coated or other finishes are recommended.
- C.** All exterior surfaces shall be maintained in good condition. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion, and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to prevent future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.
- D.** Any sign which is unsafe, in danger of falling, insecure, and in any manner poses an immediate danger to persons or property in the opinion of the Zoning Administrator shall be immediately repaired or removed by the owner or person or firm responsible for the maintenance of the sign.
- E.** The requirements of this section shall not be interpreted to require a sign to be removed, relocated, or reconstructed. However, an on-premise sign or sign structure must be removed after the first anniversary of the date the business, person, or activity that the sign or sign structure identifies or advertises ceases to operate on the premises on which the sign or sign structure is located. If the premises containing the sign or sign structure is leased, the on-premise sign or sign structure must be removed after the second anniversary of the date the most recent tenant ceases to operate on the premises. Any nonconforming on premise sign which is altered, removed, or relocated shall be brought into conformance with this Article except as otherwise allowed herein.
- F.** No sign shall be erected in such a manner that any portion of the structure, surface, or supports will interfere in any way with the free use of any fire escape, exit, standpipe or window, or obstruct any required ventilation, ventilator, door or stairway.
- G.** Any internally lit sign not in working order shall be turned off immediately. The internal lighting or internal structure of a sign shall not be exposed unless it is actively under repair.

7.6.5. OBSTRUCTIONS TO VIEW

- A.** This sub-section supersedes any conflicting section, permit, authorization or zoning requirement or entitlement, except where noted.
- B.** No sign shall be erected, constructed, maintained, or allowed to remain which constitutes an obstruction to the view of operators of motor vehicles on public or private streets or entering public streets from private property. Signs shall not obstruct or interfere with a clear line of sight of approaching motor vehicles.

- C. No outdoor sign or display may be erected, constructed, maintained or allowed to remain that constitutes an obstruction to the view of pedestrians upon or entering a public or private street.
- D. No sign or display, whether permanent or temporary, may be located within a visibility triangle required in the “Streets and Sidewalks” chapter of the Code of the City of Arlington, unless the following standards are met:
 - 1. The sign or display shall have a vertical clearance of seven feet as measured from grade to the bottom of the sign, and such support does not exceed six inches in diameter; or
 - 2. The sign, flag, or display shall not exceed two feet in height as measured from grade to the top of the sign.

A sign or display that meets these requirements may be prohibited if the Zoning Administrator determines that the location within the visibility triangle interferes with vehicle or pedestrian lines of sight or otherwise creates a hazard to the public.

These provisions are not intended to allow a sign to exceed height requirement located elsewhere in this Article.

7.6.6. SIGN FACE

No more than two sign faces (sides) are allowed per sign, unless otherwise allowed by this Article and the issued permit.

7.6.7. SIGN SUPPORTS

Trees, rocks, bridges, fences, towers and abandoned buildings shall not be used as sign supports, unless approved by the Zoning Administrator through the procedure described in Article 10, Section 10.4.22, *Alternate Equivalent Compliance*.

7.6.8. SIGN ILLUMINATION

Signs may be illuminated as provided by this Code and specified by approved sign criteria, if applicable, in accordance with the following regulations:

- A. Externally illuminated signs may be illuminated by either ground-mounted lights or wall-mounted light bars.
- B. Internally illuminated signs or EMCs shall be lighted so that at a distance of 10 feet the light intensity does not exceed 11,000 lumens.
- C. Flashing or intermittent forms of illumination are prohibited, including running lights outlining windows and building wall edges.
- D. Exposed neon lighting is permitted only under the following conditions:
 - 1. Location: The use of neon lighting is allowed in the EDO as well as the area bounded by the centerlines of Division Street on the north, Mesquite Street on the east, Front Street on the south and Pecan Street on the west. This

area is targeted for redevelopment and neon lighting is used to enhance the architectural character of the historical buildings.

7.6.9. ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER

- A.** An Electronic Message Center (EMC) is a component of a freestanding sign and may not be allowed as an independent sign.
- B.** EMCs are only allowed on Ground Signs (See Figure 7-1)
- C.** EMCs are only allowed on freeways and arterials and not allowed in DB zoning district.

Exception. EMCs are allowed on ground signs for institutional uses such as religious assemblies, educational facilities, government administration and civic buildings, and public parks that front on local or collector streets. Messages shall only be displayed from 7 AM to 9 PM.

Figure 7-1 Electronic Message Center Sign Types Allowed



Ground Sign

- D.** The maximum area for an EMC shall be 75 percent of the overall sign area, not to exceed 50 square feet.
- E.** The EMC must include an auto-dimming feature.
- F.** A maximum of one EMC shall be permitted per lot
- G.** EMC signs shall obtain an annual inspection and pay the appropriate fee as shown on the fee schedule.
- H.** Changeable Messages are allowed as follows:
 - 1.** Message must change simultaneously on the entire sign face.
 - 2.** Text messages on an EMC must continuously display the message for at least 12 seconds.
 - 3.** Scrolling or animated messages are prohibited.

- 4. Letter height shall be based on sight distance of one inch of height per 36 feet of sight distance, providing a minimum 10-inch letter height on an arterial street and minimum 18-inch letter height on a controlled access freeway.

7.6.10. ELECTRICAL

All exposed conduit, junction boxes, and electrical transformer boxes must be concealed from public view.

Exposed raceways are discouraged and subject to administrative review. However, if raceways are exposed, wireways are preferred and shall be as thin and narrow as possible so as to not extend in width or height beyond the area of the sign’s lettering or graphics, finished to match the color and texture of the façade background, or be integrated into the overall design of the sign.

Figure 7-2: Wall Sign Electrical Mounting



Encouraged – Individual Channel Letters



Discouraged – Exposed Raceway

7.6.11. PRIMARY FLAGS

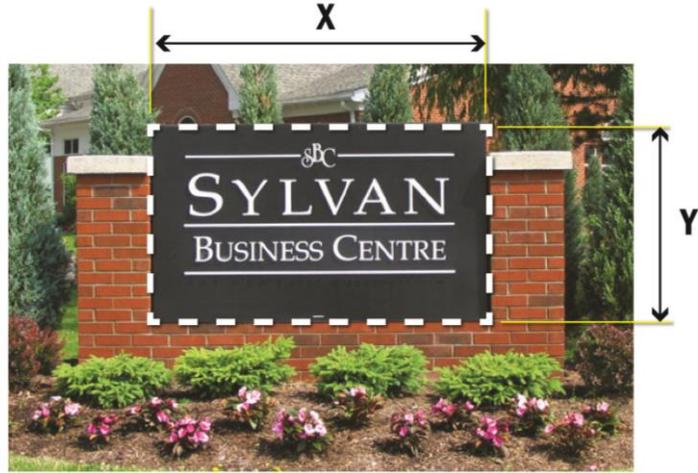
- A. Only flags that are not advertising displays may be considered primary flags and be displayed. Primary flags shall be flags showing the official emblem of a business, corporation, or organization, and governmental flags.
- B. No more than one identical primary flag shall be permitted per lot.
- C. Four primary flags may be permitted per developed lot. For unified developments, only four flags are permitted per street frontage. No minimum spacing is required between flagpoles.
- D. Torn or severely weathered flags shall not be permitted.

7.7. DIMENSIONAL CALCULATIONS

7.7.1. SIGN AREA

- A. The sign area shall be measured by square feet.
- B. The area of a sign mounted as individual letters and/or graphics against a wall, fascia, or window of a building shall be determined by the area of the smallest square, circle, rectangle, triangle, or combination thereof that encompasses the smallest perimeter of the sign message.
- C. Sign copy mounted or painted on a background panel or area distinctively painted, textured, or constructed as a background for the sign copy shall be measured as the area enclosed by the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the outside dimensions of the background panel or surface, including sign trim or frame.
- D. Sign copy mounted or painted on an illuminated surface shall be measured as the area enclosed by the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the entire illuminated surface and sign trim or frame. However, for a continuous sign band that is an integral part of the building architecture, the area shall be measured as that portion containing the graphics of the sign.
- E. For spherical, free-form, sculptural and other non-planar signs, the sign area shall be the sum of the areas using only the vertical sides of the smallest hexahedron that will encompass the sign.
- F. **Special Conditions.**
 - 1. Pole Signs
 - a. The cabinet area shall determine the area of a pole sign. If the cabinet is not an actual rectangle, the rectangle will be simulated by using the two furthest points on the horizontal plane and the two furthest vertical points. Using the actual or simulated lines, the surface area will be calculated in the same manner as the area of a rectangle is calculated (multiplying length times width) to find the area. Complimentary design elements or ornamentation outside of the cabinet may not be included in the calculation of the sign area.
 - 2. Ground Sign/Multi-Tenant Ground Sign
 - a. The sign structure, including the base, side, and top frames will not be included in the area calculation.
 - b. Address blocks are required. The area of the address block is not included in the calculation of the sign area
 - 3. Awning Signs
 - a. Sign copy on awnings shall be measured as the area enclosed by the smallest single rectangle that will enclose all the copy on the awning.

Figure 7-3: Ground Signs



$$\text{Area} = X * Y$$

Figure 7-4: Wall Signs (w/
Cabinet boxes)



$$\text{Area} = X * Y$$

Figure 7-5: Wall Signs (with Channel Letters and logo)



$$\text{Area} = (X_1 * Y_1) + (X_2 * Y_2)$$

Figure 7-6: Pole Signs



$$\text{Sign Area} = X * Y$$

Figure 7-7: Free form/Non Planar Signs



$$\text{Total Sign Area} = \text{Surface A Area} + \text{Surface B Area} + \text{Surface C Area}$$

7.7.2. SIGN HEIGHT

- A. The height of a freestanding sign shall be measured in linear feet and be calculated from the top of the sign structure to the lowest grade level within 10 feet of the base of the sign.
- B. The height of any monument base or other structure erected to support or ornament the freestanding sign shall be measured as part of the sign height

7.7.3. SIGN WIDTH

The width of a sign shall be measured in linear feet and be calculated from the outer edge of the smallest rectangle that will enclose the sign face.

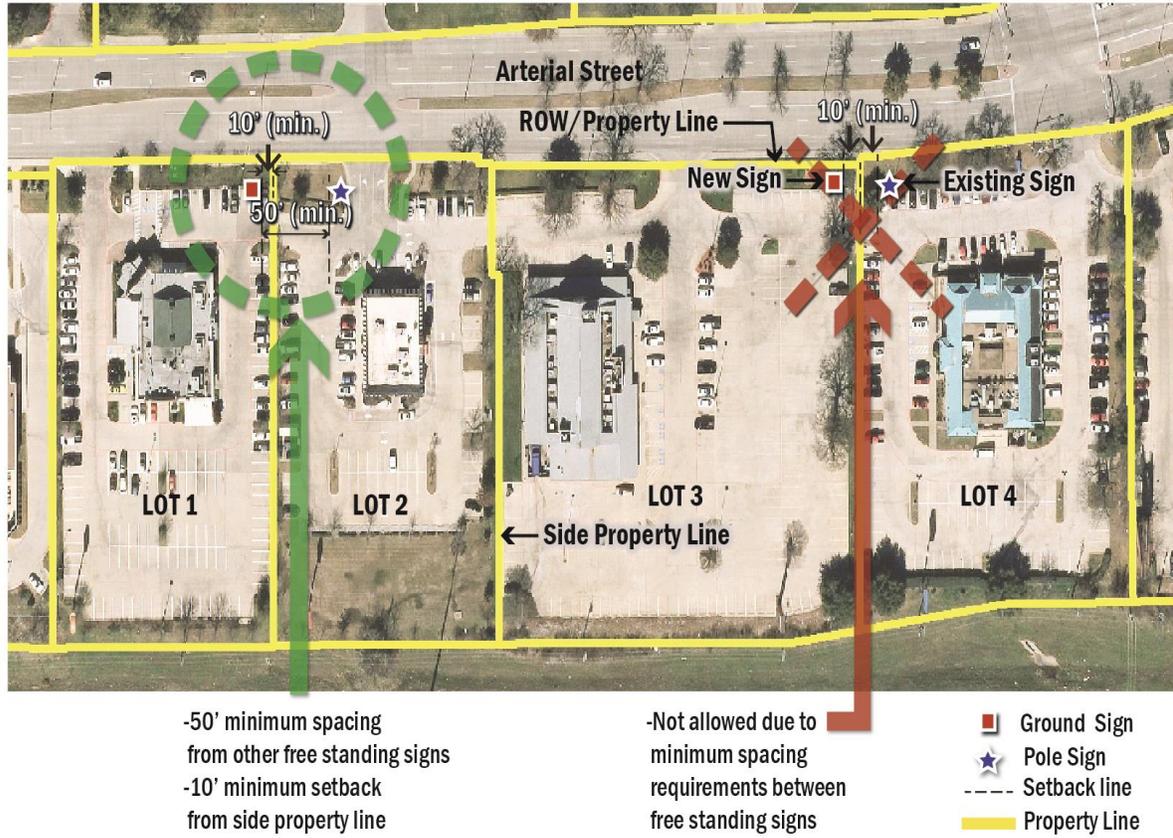
7.7.4. SETBACKS

- A. Setbacks shall be measured from the property lines.
- B. A minimum setback of 10 feet from all side property lines is required for all signs. (See Figure 7-8)

7.7.5. SPACING

Signs shall be separated by a minimum of 50 feet from any other freestanding sign on the same lot or an abutting lot. The required spacing is not measured from signs located on lots across a public or private street.

Figure 7-8: Setback and Spacing Standards for Freestanding Signs



DK

7.8. TYPES OF SIGNS

7.8.1. POLE SIGNS

A. Description

A pole sign is a sign supported by a single pole and intended to advertise a single business entity within a single cabinet.

Figure 7.8.1-A:1. Acceptable Pole Sign



Figure 7.8.1-A:2. Not Acceptable

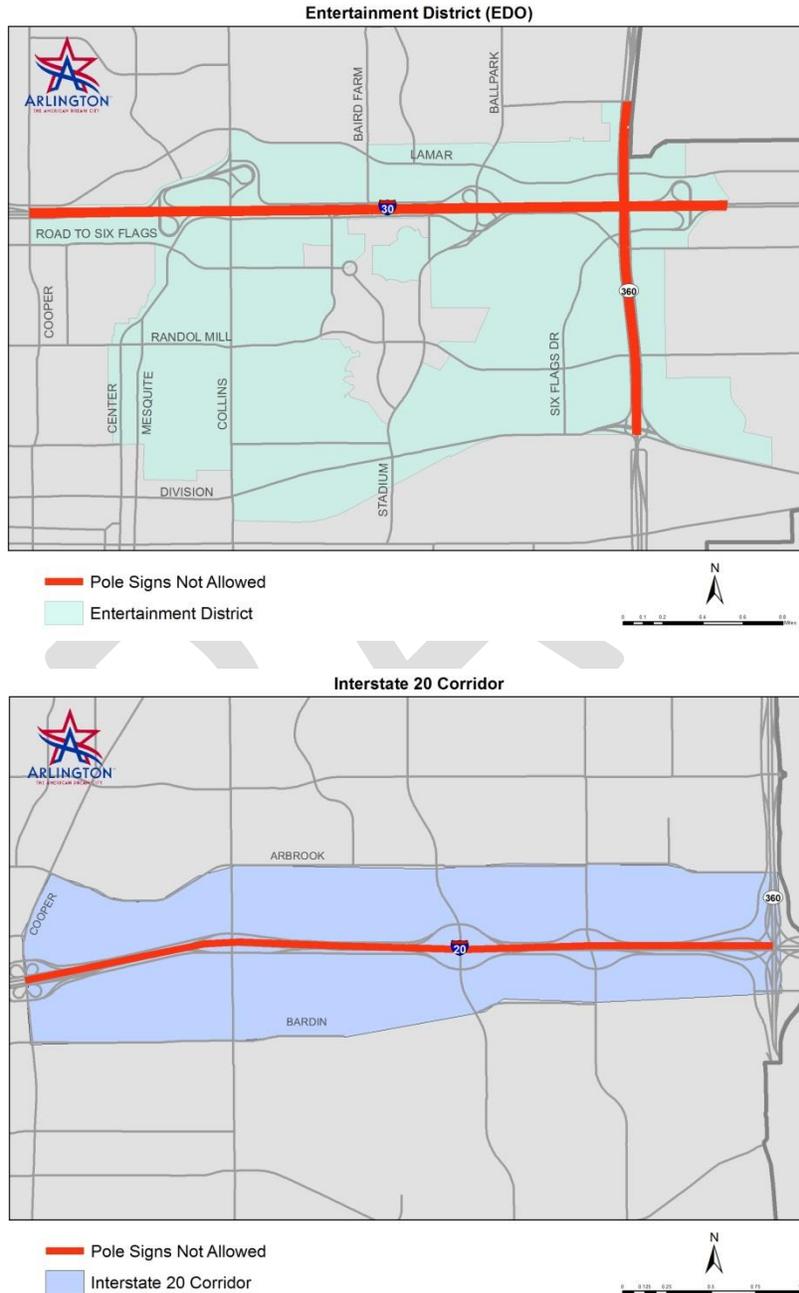


B. Street Type and Frontage	
I-20, I-30, SH360, US 287 Hwy	
Linear street frontage, min (ft)	100
C. Sign Dimensions - Area	
Area, max. (s.f.) per face	
0-299 ft linear frontage	40
300 + ft linear frontage	75
D. Sign Dimensions - Height	
Height, max (ft)	25
E. Sign Dimensions - Width	
Width, max (ft)	n/a
F. Number of Signs	
Signs per lot, max.	1
No other freestanding signs are allowed on the lot	
Exceptions. For lots with multiple street frontage see Section 7.8.1-K:4	
G. Setbacks and Spacing	
Setbacks	
Interior property lines, min (ft)	10
Spacing	
Nearest freestanding sign along the same side of the street, min (ft)	50
Vertical Clearance	
From grade, min. (ft)	10
If projecting over drive aisles, from grade, min (ft)	14
H. Illumination	
Lighting may be internal or external.	
I. Electronic Message Center (EMC)	
EMCs are not allowed	
J. Finishing	
Powder-coated; painted with accepted commercial standards; or with approved pole covers	

K. Special Conditions.

1. Prohibited in in the EDO District and the Interstate 20 corridor bounded by Cooper Street on the west, Arbrook Boulevard on the north, State Highway 360 on the east and Bardin Road on the south.

Figure 7-9: EDO and Interstate 20 Corridor- Pole Signs Not Allowed



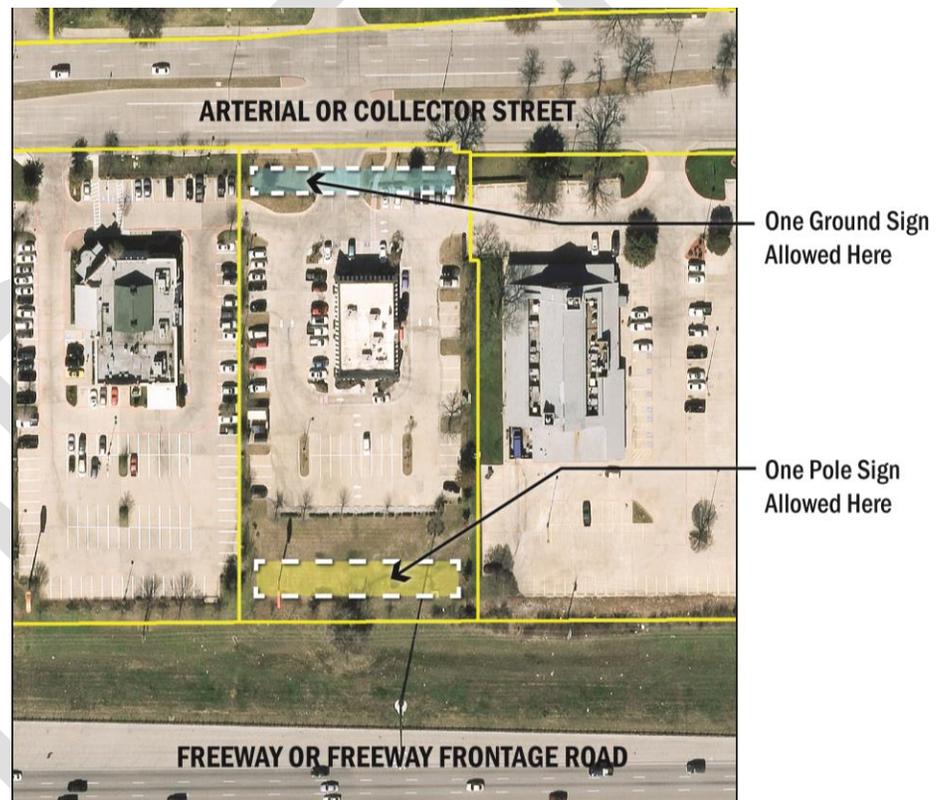
2. Reader Boards may be incorporated into the permitted business sign provided they do not exceed 75% of the sign area.
3. When incorporating Gasoline Price Signs, see Section 7.8.15

Exceptions.

A lot with a pole sign shall not have any other freestanding signs, except as otherwise provided below (Figure 7-10).

4. On double-frontage lots with one frontage along a freeway, a business may have one ground sign and one pole sign, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. the ground sign conforms to the size and height to the requirements for ground signs at that location; and
 - b. the pole sign is located along the freeway street frontage.
5. The use of this exception shall not be permitted for side streets on corner lots.

Figure 7-10: Illustration showing exception for double frontage lots



7.8.2. GROUND SIGNS

A. Description

Ground Signs stand directly on the ground and are independent from any building or structure. Ground signs are freestanding and have no clear space for the full width of the sign between the bottom of the sign and the surface of the ground. An address block is required on all ground signs.

A maximum of two tenants may be included on a single sign structure. See Multi-Tenant Ground Signs for three or more tenants on a single sign structure

Ground Signs must include the address block where the sign is situated, but the space required for the address block is not included in the sign dimension calculation.

Figure 7.8.2-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.2-A:2. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types except local streets.
* Local streets see Section 7.8.2-K for exceptions

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Freeways and Arterial Streets – Area, max. (s.f.) Size based on linear street frontage.

0-299 ft linear frontage	50
300 + ft linear frontage	100

Collector Streets – Area, max. (s.f.). Size based on linear street frontage.

0-299 ft linear frontage	35
300-399 ft linear frontage	50
400-499 ft linear frontage	75
500 + ft linear frontage	100

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Freeways

Height, max. (ft)	20
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Arterial Streets - Height, max. (ft).
Size based on linear street frontage.

0-99 ft linear frontage	8
100 + ft linear frontage	12

Collector Streets

Height, max. (ft)	8
-------------------	---

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft)	15
------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

0-399 ft linear frontage, max.	1
400 + ft linear frontage, max.	2

See conditions in section 7.8.2-K

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks

Interior property lines, min (ft)	10
-----------------------------------	----

Spacing

Nearest freestanding sign, min (ft)	50
-------------------------------------	----

Vertical Clearance	NA
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H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

See General Provisions Section 7.6.9

J. Finishing

Sign structure must complement building materials, but exceptions may be allowed to enhance contrast. See Article 10, Section 10.4.22 AEC

K. Special Conditions.

1. Reader Boards may be incorporated up to 75% of the sign area.
2. See Section 7.8.15 for Gasoline Price Signs
3. One ground sign shall be permitted per lot, per street front, provided there are no pole signs on the lot. Two ground signs may be permitted along a single street frontage of 400 or more linear feet. The total area of both signs shall not exceed the maximum sign area permitted if a single sign were erected. The minimum separation between signs shall be at least 150 feet.
4. The size of ground signs for lots with 400 or more feet of frontage may be increased by 10 percent for each 10 feet that the sign setback exceeds 20 feet. In no case shall the sign area exceed 200 square feet.
5. Ground signs shall be landscaped at the base of the sign in accordance with the following:
 - a. The landscaped area shall extend a minimum of three feet from the sign base on all sides.
 - b. The minimum number of plants shall be 10 plants per 50 square feet of the landscaped area. All plants, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, and vines shall be species identified on the plant list approved by the Zoning Administrator.

Exception.

Ground signs on local streets shall only be allowed for institutional uses such as religious assemblies, educational facilities, government administration and civic buildings, and public parks. The signs standards shall be based on the standards applicable to collector streets with a maximum sign area of 75 square feet.

7.8.3. MULTI-TENANT GROUND SIGNS

A. Description

Multi-Tenant Ground Signs stand directly on the ground and are independent from any building or structure. They are freestanding and have no clear space for the full width of the sign between the bottom of the sign and the surface of the ground.

Three or more tenants may be included on a single sign structure.

Multi-Tenant Ground Signs must include the address block where the sign is situated, but the space required for the address block is not included in the sign dimension calculation.

Figure 7.8.3-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.3-A:2. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types EXCEPT local streets

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Freeways and Arterial Streets – Area, max. (s.f.)
 Size based on linear street frontage.

0-299 ft linear frontage	75
300 + ft linear frontage	150
400 + ft linear frontage	200

Collector Streets – Area, max. (s.f.)
 Size based on linear street frontage.

0-299 ft linear frontage	50
300 + ft linear frontage	100

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Freeways and Arterials – max.(ft)	20
Collector – max. (ft)	15

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

All Street Types – max. (ft)	15
------------------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

0-399 ft linear frontage, max.	1
400 + ft linear frontage, max.	2
See conditions in section 7.8.3-A	

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	
Interior property lines, min (ft)	10
Spacing	
Nearest freestanding sign, min (ft)	50
Vertical Clearance	NA

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Finishing

Sign structure must complement building materials, but exceptions may be allowed to enhance contrast. See Article 10, Section 10.4.22 AEC

K. Special Conditions.

1. One multi-tenant ground sign shall be permitted per lot, per street front, provided there are no other freestanding signs on the lot.
2. Two multi-tenant ground signs may be permitted along a single street frontage of 400 or more linear feet. The total area of both signs shall not exceed the maximum sign area permitted if a single sign were erected. The minimum separation between signs shall be at least 150 feet.
3. The address, name of the center, or major tenant may have a large sign panel, and the large sign panel shall include the address of the location. If there is more than one street number, the street number range and street name shall be shown.
4. In the Entertainment District Overlay all signs shall have an architectural side border of at least 10 inches in width.
5. Multi-Tenant Ground signs shall be landscaped at the base of the sign in accordance with the following:
 - a. The landscaped area shall extend a minimum of three feet from the sign base on all sides.
 - b. The minimum number of plants shall be 10 per 50 square feet of the landscaped area. All plants, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, and vines shall be species identified on the plant list approved by the Zoning Administrator.
6. Unified, multi-tenant developments adjacent to freeways may provide signs with increased height and area if the development meets the following criteria:
 - a. The minimum leasable area is 250,000 square feet; and
 - b. One of the following criteria is met:
 - (i) the lot has at least 700 linear feet of frontage along the freeway; or
 - (ii) the site area is at least 15 acres.

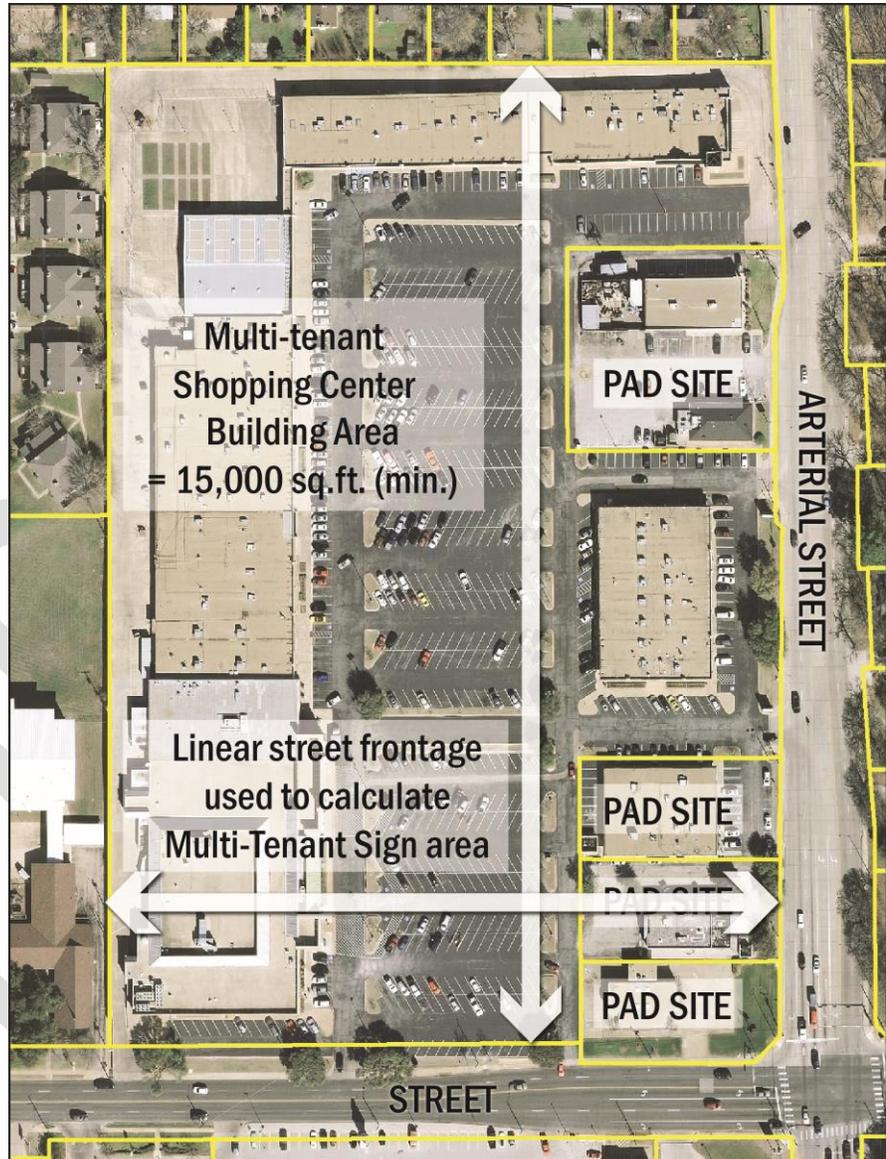
Developments meeting the above criteria shall be eligible for the following increases:

 - a. Center Identification may be allowed up to 40 feet in height from grade.
 - b. Tenant signage may be allowed up to 30 feet in height from grade.
 - (i) maximum area allowed for tenant signage is 300 square feet.
 - (ii) signs must be spaced at least 500 feet apart.
7. Existing multi-tenant retail developments, adjacent to freeways or arterial streets may be entitled to increased sizes if they meet the following criteria:
 - a. Shall have a minimum leasable area of 15,000 square feet;

- b. The visibility of wall signs from the adjacent streets is inhibited by individually platted and developed pad sites along the street frontages.

Developments meeting the above criteria shall be eligible to include the street frontages of the front pad sites along with their own lot frontages to determine the maximum sign dimensions for the sign on the street frontage.

Figure 7-11: Measuring Linear Frontage for Multi-tenant Developments with Individually Platted and Developed Front Pad Sites



7.8.4. WALL SIGNS

A. Description

A wall sign is a sign that is attached to a wall of a building or is an integral part of a wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the attached wall.

Signs in windows, attached to windows, or viewed through windows are covered in the Window Signs section.

Figure 7.8.4-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.4-A:2: Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Total wall area, max. (%)	20
---------------------------	----

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

1. Not to exceed height of structure

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Associated tenant space, max. (%)	75
-----------------------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

1. Signs per building, max.	NA
-----------------------------	----

G. Setbacks and Spacing

1. Setbacks	NA
-------------	----

H. Illumination

1. Lighting may be: internal and external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

The maximum distance between the wall and the inner edge of the sign is 18 inches.

The sign may not extend above, below, or beyond the parallel face of the attached wall

K. Special Conditions.

1. For multi-story buildings within the EDO district, the maximum height of a wall sign is three feet for the first or second story, and five feet for the third story or above.
2. Cabinet signs are prohibited in in the DB, DNO, EDO, LCMUO, NMU, and RMU districts.
3. Multiple wall signs shall be permitted, provided that the cumulative area of all signs does not exceed the maximum permitted area.
4. Wall signs shall be attached to the walls of the building or tenant space occupied by the business that it advertises. Wall signs may be located on an exterior wall that is not immediately abutting the tenant space or business that it advertises upon approval by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with the provisions of Article 10, Section 10.4.22.
5. No painted-on wall signs are allowed.
6. Murals without advertising may be allowed in the Downtown Business district subject to the conditions set forth in that District.
7. For multi-family apartment buildings, a maximum of two wall signs shall be permitted per street front, provided that they are separated by 500 feet. Additionally, the maximum area of each wall sign shall not exceed 50 square feet
8. Wall signs for internal lease spaces without external wall area may only be allowed if:
 - a. The building contains at least 50,000 square feet in leasable area; and
 - b. The total area of wall signs does not exceed the 20 percent of wall area.

7.8.5. PROJECTING SIGNS (BLADE)

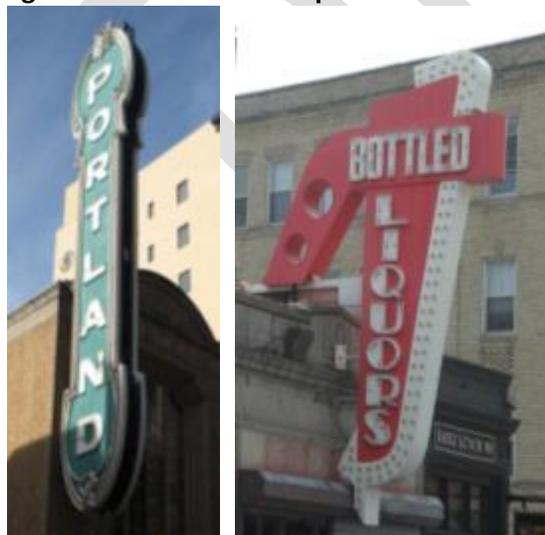
A. Description

Projecting Signs are generally attached perpendicular to the face of the building and extending outward.

Figure 7.8.5-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.5-A:2. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types except local streets.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Per Face - Area, max. (s.f.)	36
------------------------------	----

When used as building identification, see Additional Standards below.

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

1. If attached to a single story building, the height of the top edge of the signboard shall not exceed the height of the wall from which the sign projects
2. If attached to a multi-story building, the height of the top edge of the sign board shall not exceed the height of the sill or bottom of any second story window.

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

All Street Types, max. (ft)	3
-----------------------------	---

F. Number of Signs

Signs per street front, max.	1
------------------------------	---

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

Vertical Clearance

From grade min. (ft)	9
----------------------	---

If projecting over drive aisles; from grade, min. (ft)	14
--	----

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal only.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. The sign may project over the public right-of-way, subject to approval of an easement use agreement.
2. Support structures must be constructed of metal.
3. The depth of the sign cabinet shall not exceed six inches.
4. Signs may extend above a tenant's lease space, subject to approval from the owner of the building.
5. The maximum distance from the wall to the outer edge of the sign is four feet.
6. The maximum distance between the wall and the inner edge of the sign is 18 inches.
7. Signs must be double-sided.
8. Projecting signs serving as building identification on buildings with three or more stories in the DB, DNO, and EDO districts shall be allowed a maximum sign area of 150 square feet. Additionally, no restrictions will apply to the width or projection from the wall.

7.8.6. MARQUEE SIGNS

A. Description

Marquees signs are similar to projecting signs and include manual removable and/or changeable letters.

Figure 7.8.12-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.12-A: 2. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Total wall area, max. (%)	20
---------------------------	----

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

May not exceed height of building by 10 ft

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Associated tenant space, max. (%)	75
-----------------------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

Signs per building, max.	NA
--------------------------	----

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Only allowed for performance and movie theaters.
2. No running or flashing lights shall be allowed.

7.8.7. BUILDING IDENTIFICATION SIGNS

A. Description

A Building Identification Sign identifies the name of the building or a primary tenant of the building and is allowed on a building of three or more stories in height. A building identification sign shall only be allowed with the express written permission of the building owner or his designee.

The building identification sign should be placed on the top floor of the building or at a location consistent with the architecture of the building.

Figure 7.8.7-A:1. Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

1. Total wall area, max (%)	20
-----------------------------	----

The combined area of wall sign(s) and building identification sign on any single elevation shall not exceed 20 percent of the area of that elevation.

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Not to exceed height of the structure

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Associated building elevation, max. (%)	75
---	----

F. Number of Signs

Per building face, max.	1
-------------------------	---

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Spacing between signs, min. (ft)	NA
----------------------------------	----

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed.

J. Additional Standards

1. Applied letters shall be constructed of painted cast metal, bronze, brass, or black anodized aluminum. Applied plastic letters are not permitted.
2. A Building Identification Sign shall be limited to one name and its corresponding logo and may be placed on more than one building façade if the signs are identical.
3. A tenant with a Building Identification Sign may also have a ground floor wall sign in accordance with the requirements of this Article if the tenant has office or retail space on the ground floor of the qualifying building and the sign immediately abuts the tenant space.

7.8.8. ENTRYWAY SIGNS

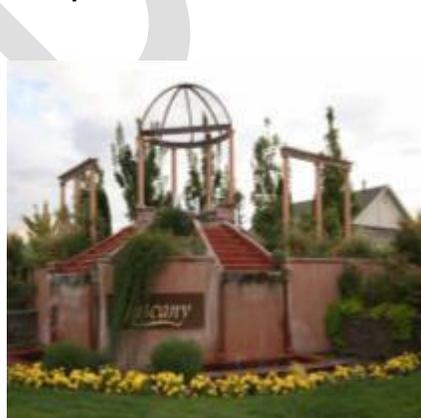
A. Description

An entryway sign identifies the entryway to a commercial development, single-family or multi-family subdivision and serves to provide an identity for the community.

Figure 7.8.8-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.8-A:22. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Area, max. (s.f.) 50

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft) 8

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft) NA

F. Number of Signs

Per entry, max. 2

G. Setbacks and Spacing

May be placed on either or both sides of a street providing direct access to a subdivision.

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external.

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Permitted only for commercial developments and single-family or multi-family subdivisions.
2. Entryway signs shall be limited to development name and address.
3. Walls shall be constructed of materials specified for perimeter fencing in Article 5, Section 5.3.4, Fences.
4. For multi-family developments on lots with more than 300 feet of street frontage, two 30-square-foot entryway signs may be substituted for C-1 above, provided that the signs are separated by at least 300 feet.
5. For commercial developments entryway signs shall not be considered a freestanding sign.
6. Entryway signs shall be landscaped at the base of the sign in accordance with the following:
 - a. The landscaping shall extend a minimum of three feet from the sign base.
 - b. The minimum number of plants shall be 10 per 50 square feet of the landscaped area. All plants, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, and vines shall be species identified on the plant list approved by the Zoning Administrator.

7.8.9. AWNING SIGNS

A. Description

An awning is generally a lightweight frame structure over which a covering is attached. Awning signs are generally used as auxiliary signs.

Figure 7.8.9-A:1. Acceptable – Primary Signs



Figure 7.8.9-A:2. Acceptable – Auxiliary Sign



Figure 7.8.9-A:33. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area,

Sign Area, max. (s.f.)	16
------------------------	----

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft)	NA
-------------------	----

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Copy on awnings shall be limited to 75 percent of the awning width.

F. Number of Signs

Signs per building face, max.	NA
-------------------------------	----

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

H. Illumination

None

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Vertical clearance of nine feet above grade from the bottom of the awning is required.
2. Awnings must be professionally constructed. The use of vinyl as a material is not permitted.
3. Awning signs are permitted only on the first floor of the building.
4. Lettering and graphic is permitted on the front and side vertical panels only.
5. In the Downtown Business zoning district and the Downtown Neighborhood Overlay district awnings may be used as the primary business sign.
6. If functioning as the primary business sign, it shall not be in addition to a wall mounted sign
7. As primary business sign the maximum sign area is not to exceed 20 square feet.
8. As primary business sign, one store logo or the store name may be applied on the sloped portion of the awning.
9. If functioning as an auxiliary business sign, lettering shall be located on the valance only, and the height of the lettering shall not exceed eight inches.

7.8.10. CANOPY/FASCIA SIGNS

A. Description

Canopy signs may be used as a primary or auxiliary sign. Typically, if used as a primary business sign the lettering and graphics are mounted above the front panel of the canopy. If used as an auxiliary business sign lettering and graphics are affixed to the front panel of the canopy.

Signs on the fascia will meet the same standards as Canopy Signs

Figure 7.8.10-A:1. Acceptable – Primary Sign (on top of canopy)



Figure 7.8.10-A:2. Acceptable – Auxiliary Sign (on the fascia of canopy)



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area,

Area, max. (s.f.)	25
-------------------	----

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft)	3
-------------------	---

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft)	NA
------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

Signs per tenant building face, max.	1
--------------------------------------	---

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

H. Illumination

Lighting may be: internal only

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Vertical clearance of nine feet above grade from the bottom of the canopy is required.
2. The area of canopy signs shall be counted towards the maximum wall sign area allowed for that elevation.
3. Individual letters or graphics may be internally illuminated, glow with a halo-illumination effect, or glow through the front faces.
4. Flashing lights, or exposed raceways, conduits, or transformers are prohibited.
5. Shall not extend above the second floor ceiling or the top of the roof, whichever is less.
6. Shall consist only of letters and/or geometric designs and not constructed as part of a sign can or cabinet. Each letter may be internally illuminated with lights other than florescent or neon.

7.8.11. HANGING SIGNS (UNDER-CANOPY)

A. Description

Hanging signs generally include graphic or icon signs which hang from an arcade roof or canopy. These signs are only to be used as pedestrian signage.

Figure 7.8.11-A:1. Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Per Face - Area, max. (s.f.)	6
------------------------------	---

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max.	NA
--------------	----

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

All Street Types – max. (ft)	3
------------------------------	---

F. Number of Signs

Signs per tenant space, max.	1
------------------------------	---

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

Spacing between signs, min. (ft)	15
----------------------------------	----

Vertical Clearance

From grade, min. (ft)	9
-----------------------	---

H. Illumination

Not Allowed

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Support structures must be constructed of metal.
2. Signs must be double-sided.

7.8.12. WINDOW SIGNS

A. Description

A window sign is generally affixed to a window for the purpose of being viewed from the exterior of a building.

Figure 7.8.12-A:1. Acceptable



Figure 7.8.12-A:2. Not Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types except local streets.

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Area, max. (% of single window area) (See Figure 7-12)	25
--	----

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft)	NA
-------------------	----

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft)	NA
------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

Only one window sign per tenant, per street frontage is allowed.

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks	NA
----------	----

H. Illumination

Not allowed

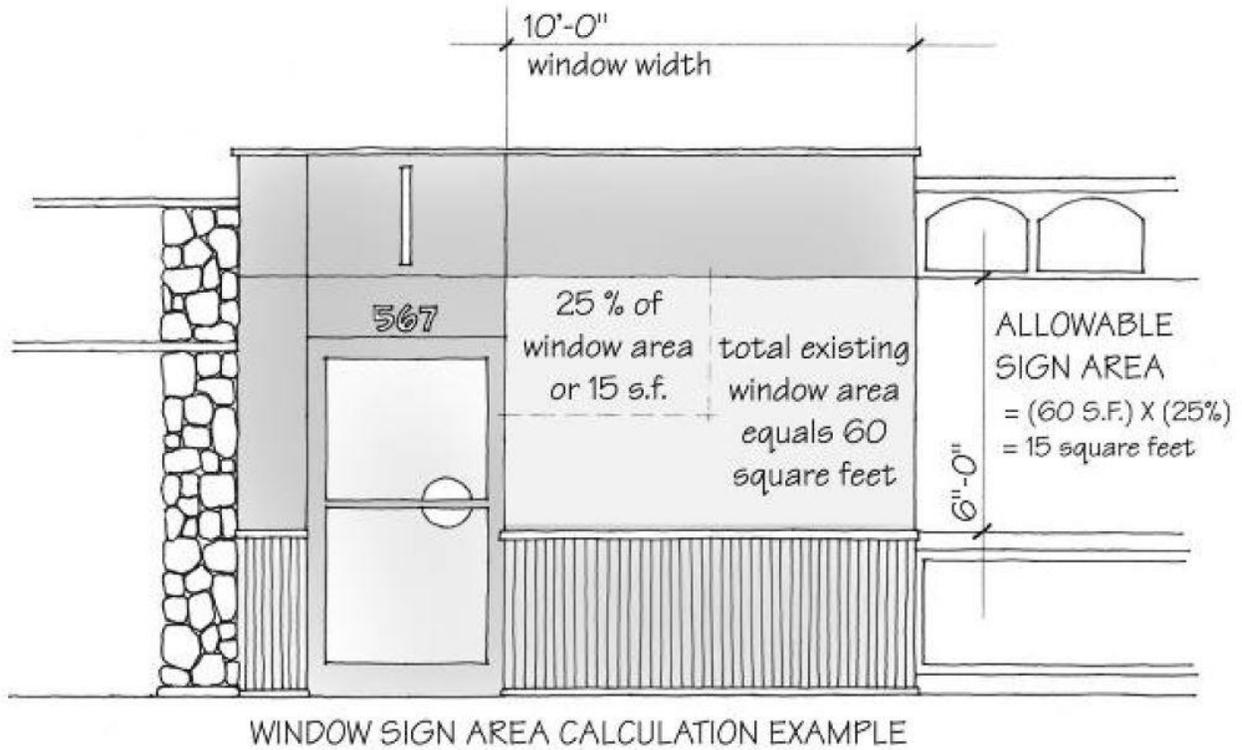
I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

1. Window signs should not obscure the visibility into a shop for the passerby. Every effort should be made to integrate window signs with store window displays.
2. Lighted signs, flashing signs or any other sign not applied directly to a windowpane are not permitted.
3. No fluorescent vinyl shall be used for window signs.
4. Window signs are only permitted on the first story of the building.
5. Temporary advertising placards, banners, pennants, trademarks, or other descriptive material.
6. Business name, address, hours of operation, entrance/exit information, and emergency phone numbers may be displayed on primary entrance door.
7. shall not be placed on the inside of the glass. However, restaurants may display menus.

Figure 7-12: Window Area Calculation



Source: City of Santa Ana California, Citywide Design Guidelines

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7.8.13. DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

A. Description

Directional signs are generally used to aid in internal site circulation and identify points of ingress and egress.

Figure 7.8.13-A:1. Acceptable



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on Arterial, Collector, Local Streets

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Area, max. (s.f.)	8
-------------------	---

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft)	
Wall Signs	8
Freestanding (directional only)	4

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft)	NA
------------------	----

F. Number of Signs

No maximum.

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Spacing between signs, min. (ft)	20
----------------------------------	----

H. Illumination

1. Lighting may be internal

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

No more than 50 percent of the sign face may be used for an advertising logo.

7.8.14. MENU BOARDS

A. Description

A sign displaying the restaurant menu, generally located adjacent to a drive aisle for a drive-through window.

Figure 7.8.14-A:1. Acceptable – Drive-through



Figure 7.8.14-A:2. Acceptable – Pedestrian-Oriented



B. Street Type and Frontage

Permitted on all street types

C. Sign Dimensions - Area

Area, max. (s.f.) 32

D. Sign Dimensions - Height

Height, max. (ft) 8

E. Sign Dimensions - Width

Width, max. (ft) NA

F. Number of Signs

Max NA

G. Setbacks and Spacing

Setbacks (ft) 10

H. Illumination

Lighting may be internal or external

I. Electronic Message Centers

EMCs are not allowed

J. Additional Standards

Restaurants and cafes shall be permitted one wall-mounted display per business featuring the actual menu as used at the dining table, to be contained within a shallow case, and clearly visible through a glass front. The display case shall be attached to the building wall next to the main entrance.

7.8.15. GASOLINE PRICE SIGNS

- A. Along arterials and collector streets, gasoline prices may be incorporated into the pole or ground signs, provided the maximum area and height for the sign is not exceeded.
- B. Along local streets, gasoline prices may be incorporated into the wall sign provided the maximum area for advertising gasoline prices does not exceed 20 square feet per street front.
- C. The posting of gasoline prices shall not be considered to be an electronic message center.
- D. Brand identification on gasoline pumps shall not be deemed as signs for the purpose of this section.

Figure 7.8.15-A:1. Acceptable:



Ground Sign with EMC and Gasoline Price

Figure 7.8.15-A:2. Not Acceptable:



7.8.16. BUILDING DIRECTORY SIGNS

- A. The maximum square footage allowed shall be eight square feet
- B. Signs may only be internally illuminated.
- C. One sign per entrance is allowed and the sign must be located next to the building entrance.
- D. Additional requirements:
 - 1. The sign may project out from the wall to which it is attached no more than six inches.
 - 2. The sign shall not extend above the parapet, eave, or building façade.

Figure 7.8.17-A.1. Acceptable:



7.8.17. PAINTED WALL MURALS

- A.** Murals are permitted subject to conditions.
 - 1. Murals are allowed up to 100 percent of the wall area.
 - 2. Lighting of a mural shall be external.
 - 3. Only one mural per building is allowed.
- B. Special Conditions.**
 - 1. Murals shall be painted with a weather-resistant paint.
 - 2. No portion of the mural shall be used to advertise a specific product or service. The mural may display the name or logo of the on-site tenant, as long as it does not exceed more than 20 percent of the mural area.
 - 3. Should the mural become faded, peeled, and severely weathered in the opinion of the Zoning Administrator, the owner, or the person or firm maintaining the same, shall, upon written notice, repair or remove the mural or repaint the wall on which mural is painted within 60 days.

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7.9. OFFSITE ADVERTISING SIGNS - BILLBOARDS

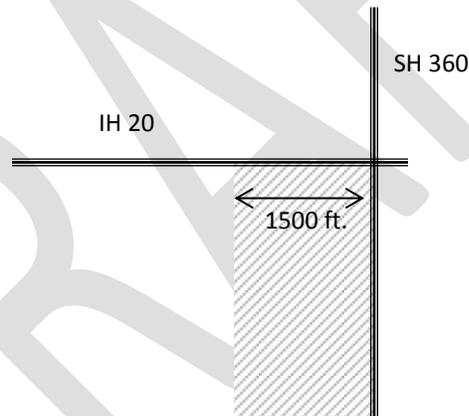
7.9.1. BILLBOARDS

Billboards shall be permitted as follows:

A. Districts and Streets.

1. Billboards shall be allowed in the GC, LI, and IM zoning districts.
2. Billboards are allowed only on lots with street frontage on the following controlled access freeways: Interstate Highway 20, Interstate Highway 30, State Highway 360, and U.S. Highway 287 as described below.
3. Billboards must be located on a platted lot.
4. Billboards shall only be permitted directly adjacent to the controlled access freeways listed above. However, billboards are prohibited within one thousand five hundred (1,500) feet of State Highway 360, south of Interstate Highway 20.

Figure 7-13: Offsite Sign Setback on SH 360 south of I-20



5. Billboards are prohibited in:
 - a. the Entertainment District Overlay; and
 - b. the area of the Interstate Highway 20 corridor bounded by Cooper Street on the west, Arbrook Boulevard on the north, State Highway 360 on the east and Bardin Road on the south. (See Figure 7-9)
6. Billboards shall be deemed as a primary use of the property on which they are located. Such signs shall not be located on a lot where other buildings or uses exist.

- B. A sign face shall only be visible from one direction of traffic.
- C. Billboards may be internally or externally illuminated.

The maximum allowed square footage shall be 672 square feet.

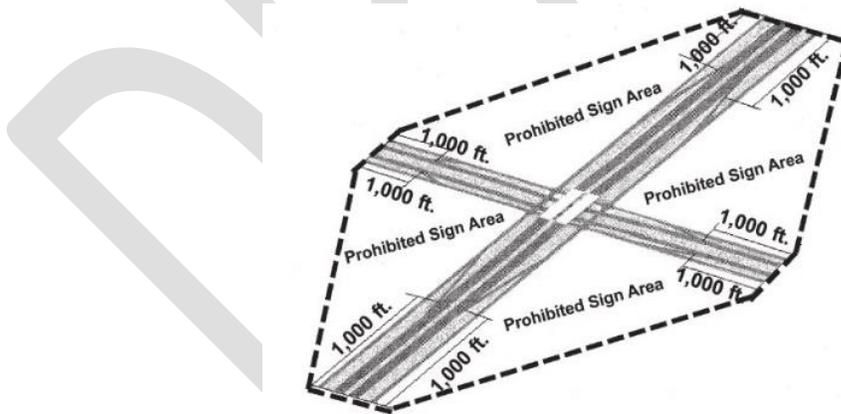
D. Maximum Height.

50 feet, not to exceed 42.5 feet above the adjacent freeway surface. Sign height above the adjacent freeway surface shall be measured from the highest point of the sign to the grade level of the centerline of the nearest travel lane, not including ramps closest to the sign at a point perpendicular to the sign location.

E. Setback and Spacing.

- 1. Five feet from the right-of-way line of a controlled access freeway.
- 2. 200 feet from any residential zoning district or property line.
- 3. 1,500 feet from a park, forest, playground, or scenic area.
- 4. 200 foot radius from any freestanding pole sign or wall sign.
- 5. 1,500 feet from any billboard on the same side of a freeway.
- 6. 1,000 feet from an interchange, including ramps or acceleration and deceleration lanes. Such distances shall be measured along the highway from the nearest point of beginning or ending of pavement widening at the exit from, or entrance to, the main traveled way.

Figure 7-14: Prohibited Areas Near Interchange



Typical Interchanges Showing Ramps and Connecting Roadways
(The area enclosed by the dotted lines is a prohibited sign area.)

Source: Texas Department of Transportation

7. 10 feet from interior side lot lines.
8. 10 feet from the front property line.
9. 10 feet from the rear property line.

F. Number.

One billboard per platted lot with a required minimum lot size per the base zoning district.

G. Other.

1. All offsite advertising signs shall be of a monopole design, with underground utility service.
2. The right to existing nonconforming billboards may be transferred to another location, if the sign is removed due to a governmental action. If the new location does not meet the requirements, a sign variance may be sought through the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
3. Existing billboards on a controlled access freeway, which are deemed "nonconforming structures" by Article 11 of the Code due to size, lighting, or spacing, may be modified to a digital billboard if a new permit is obtained, and the action is in full compliance with all applicable provisions of this Code.

7.9.2. ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR DIGITAL BILLBOARDS.

- A. Digital billboard shall obtain an annual inspection and pay the appropriate fee as established in the City's Fee Resolution.
- B. Each message for digital billboards shall be displayed for at least eight seconds and a change of message shall be accomplished within two seconds or less;
- C. A change of message must occur simultaneously on the entire sign face;
- D. The sign shall not display any illumination by flashing, intermittent or moving lights;
- E. The sign shall not contain or display animated or moving video;
- F. The sign shall not contain any scrolling elements;
- G. The sign shall not project a static image upon a stationary object;
- H. The sign shall automatically adjust the intensity of its display brightness according to the natural ambient light conditions; and
- I. The sign shall contain a default design mechanism that freezes the sign in one position if a malfunction occurs.
- J. The sign owner shall provide contact information for a person who is available at any time, twenty four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays and

weekends. The contact person shall be available at any time to turn off the sign promptly after a malfunction occurs or reduce the intensity of the sign no later than 12 hours of a request by an official from the City or the Texas Department of Transportation. If the request is to reduce the intensity of the lighting, the intensity must be reduced to a level that is acceptable to the Texas Department of Transportation.

- K.** Granting Permits: The Zoning Administrator will grant a permit for a digital billboard construction or modification in the following sequential manner:
- 1.** If the applicant satisfies the requirements of this Section, the Zoning Administrator will issue a provisional permit granting permission for the digital sign, subject to the granting of a permit by the Texas Department of Transportation, where applicable.
 - 2.** The applicant shall obtain a permit from the Texas Department of Transportation allowing the requested construction or modification, and shall present a true copy of that permit to the Zoning Administrator not later than 12 months following the issuance of the provisional permit.
 - 3.** If the applicant and the Texas Department of Transportation permit satisfy the requirements of this Section, the Zoning Administrator shall issue a sign permit for the digital billboard.
 - 4.** The provisional permit shall expire 12 months after its issuance without further action by the Zoning Administrator if no sign permit has been issued in that time.

7.10. TEMPORARY SIGNS

7.10.1. TEMPORARY SIGN STANDARDS.

Temporary signs shall not be illuminated and shall have no moving parts.

Table 7.10.1 - Temporary Sign Standards					
Type	Permit Required (Y/N)	Max. Height (ft)	Max. Area (SF)	Timeframe	Standards
Residential Front Yard Signs	N	4	8	NA	
Model Home Signs	Y	8	20	Until the construction has begun on 90 percent of the lots in a subdivision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One per lot
Real Estate Signs (Non-residential)	N	8	20	Until the sale or rental of property or structure, or the lease of tenant(s) spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spaced a minimum of 500 feet apart with maximum of two signs per street front per parcel. Not to be used to advertise rental of individual multi-family residential units.
Banner Signs	N	n/a	50	Allowed to stay for no longer than 30 consecutive days, with a 60-day separation between the events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not allowed on local streets. Exception. institutional uses such as religious assemblies, educational facilities, government administration and civic buildings, and public parks One per occupied business tenant space at one time (An apartment complex is deemed to be a single business tenant). May be placed only next to a wall of the occupied tenant space it advertises. Shall be secured at all points of attachment to the building wall. (A fence or railing is not considered a building wall).
Grand Opening Signs (Balloons & Streamers)	N	30	n/a	One period of 14 consecutive days within the first six months of issuance of Certificate of Occupancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not allowed on local streets; Min. setback from front and side property lines = 20 ft; Streamers, balloons less than three cubic feet in volume, and one balloon larger than three cubic feet per business may be displayed Thirty feet of clearance shall be maintained from all power lines to balloons,

Table 7.10.1 - Temporary Sign Standards

Type	Permit Required (Y/N)	Max. Height (ft)	Max. Area (SF)	Timeframe	Standards								
Development Sign	Y	25	200	<p>Commercial: Until the initial certificate of occupancy is granted on the property for single tenant developments, or until multi-tenant developments are 50-percent occupied.</p> <p>Residential: Until construction is substantially complete on 90 percent of the lots within a subdivision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offsite development signs are prohibited. ▪ Commercial: One sign per lot. For lots larger than 10 acres, one additional sign is allowed for each 10 acres. ▪ Residential: Two signs are allowed per residential subdivision, with each platted phase being considered a separate project. ▪ Setback: 10 feet from interior side lot lines. 								
		8	50			Sandwich Board Signs	N	4	8	Only allowed during business hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only freestanding A-frame style signs constructed of steel or plastic are permitted. ▪ Signs must be sufficiently weighted or anchored to the pavement to provide stability. ▪ Signs must be placed within five feet of the building entrance. Signs located on sidewalks must maintain a pedestrian path of at least five feet in width and not obstruct pedestrian movement or safety. 	Political Signs	N
Sandwich Board Signs	N	4	8	Only allowed during business hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only freestanding A-frame style signs constructed of steel or plastic are permitted. ▪ Signs must be sufficiently weighted or anchored to the pavement to provide stability. ▪ Signs must be placed within five feet of the building entrance. Signs located on sidewalks must maintain a pedestrian path of at least five feet in width and not obstruct pedestrian movement or safety. 								
Political Signs	N	8	36	See section 7.10.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allowed on private real property only with consent of the property owner. ▪ Political Signs do not include a billboard that contains a political message on a temporary basis and that is generally available for rent or purchase to carry commercial advertising or other messages that are not primarily political. 								

7.10.2. POLITICAL SIGNS

A. Time, place, and manner restrictions – signs on public property during voting periods.

1. Time.

In accordance with Texas Election Code §61.003, signs shall be allowed at polling sites during early voting periods or on Election Day. Signs so posted must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the early voting period or the close of the polls on Election Day, whichever is applicable.

2. Place.

- a.** No signs or campaign literature are permitted on City property, except as required by Texas Election Code sections 61.003 or 85.036. This prohibition includes all locations, so long as there is no polling site at that location, including city hall, city service center, library, recreational center, public parks and aquatic centers, fire stations, police departments, and water pumping stations.
- b.** For so long as required by Texas Election Code sections 61.003 and 85.036, all public property upon which there is located a polling place, outside the area described in §61.003, and within the area which is allowed to have signs posted shall meet the following requirements: an area (i) that is not within the public right of way; (ii) that is not on impervious surfaces; (iii) that is not a traffic or safety hazard; (iv) that is attached to a stake not to exceed a 9 gauge diameter (American Wire Gauge standard (AXG)) driven into the ground well clear of tree roots, irrigation lines and any other underground vegetation or structures; (v) not to be attached to any building or structure (vi) not in a landscape bed to include flower beds and (vii) an area which meets all the requirements of City ordinances.

3. Manner.

Political signs permitted at voting locations pursuant to Election Code sections 61.003 and 85.036 shall not exceed six square feet and eight feet in height.

- a.** State law. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Section and State law, State law shall govern.