

# ARTICLE 8

## SIGNAGE

	Page
<b>CHAPTER A GENERAL</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 1 General</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>A. Purpose and Intent</b> .....	<b>6</b>
1. Identification .....	<b>6</b>
2. Aesthetics .....	<b>6</b>
3. Land Values .....	<b>6</b>
4. Safety .....	<b>6</b>
5. Compatibility .....	<b>6</b>
<b>B. General Design Principles</b> .....	<b>6</b>
1. Visibility .....	<b>6</b>
2. Legibility .....	<b>6</b>
3. Readability .....	<b>6</b>
4. Architectural Compatibility .....	<b>6</b>
5. Consistency with Area Character .....	<b>6</b>
<b>C. Applicability</b> .....	<b>7</b>
1. Nonconforming Signs .....	<b>7</b>
2. Billboards and Off-Site Signs .....	<b>7</b>
3. Conflict with Graphics and Other Provisions .....	<b>7</b>
Table 8.A.1.C-1 – Organization of Sign Regulations .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 2 Definitions</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>CHAPTER B EXEMPTIONS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 1 Change of Ownership Signs [Ord. 2006-036]</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 2 Small Signs</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 3 Transportation-Related Signs</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 4 Window Signs</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 5 Ground Mounted Signs Damaged during Natural Disaster</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>A. Temporary Sign Certificate</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>B. Damaged Sign Face</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>C. Damaged Structure</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>CHAPTER C PROHIBITIONS</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 1 Banners, Streamers, or Pennants</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 2 Emissions</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 3 Mechanical Movement</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 4 Mobile Signs</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 5 Motion Picture or Video</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 6 Obscenities</b> .....	<b>10</b>

Section 7	Obstruction of Fire Fighting Equipment .....	10
Section 8	Obstructions to Driver Visibility.....	11
Section 9	Roof Signs.....	11
Section 10	Signs Creating Traffic Hazards .....	11
Section 11	Signs On Public Bus Shelters .....	11
Section 12	Signs On Water Vessels .....	12
Section 13	Snipe Signs .....	12
Section 14	Vehicle Displays .....	12
CHAPTER D	TEMPORARY SIGNS REQUIRING SPECIAL PERMIT .....	12
Section 1	Balloon Type Signs .....	12
	Table 8.D.1-2 – Balloon Type Sign Standards .....	12
	A. Permit Requirements .....	12
	B. Prohibitions in the WCRAO .....	13
Section 2	Campaign Drives or Civic Events .....	13
Section 3	Grand Openings .....	13
	A. Projects Less Than Five Acres .....	13
	B. Projects Over Five Acres .....	13
Section 4	Temporary Sales.....	13
	Table 8.D.4-3 – Temporary Sale Sign Standards.....	14
Section 5	Temporary Residential Development Signs .....	14
	A. Lots Less Than Five Acres .....	14
	B. Lots Over Five Acres.....	14
Section 6	Temporary Non-Residential Development Signs.....	14
CHAPTER E	PROCEDURES FOR SIGNAGE .....	14
Section 1	Required Permits and Approvals.....	14
Section 2	Required Tag.....	14
Section 3	Master Sign Program Plan.....	14
	A. Purpose and Intent .....	14
	B. Submittals .....	14
	1. Master Sign Plan (MSP).....	14
	2. Master Sign Plan .....	15
	C. Approval Process .....	15
	D. Conditions of Approval.....	15
Section 4	Alternative Sign Plan (ASP).....	15
	A. Design Principles.....	15
	B. Applicability .....	15

C. Allowable Modifications to Standards .....	15
D. Submittals and Approvals .....	16
1. Submittal Requirements.....	16
<b>CHAPTER F    GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL SIGN TYPES .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Section 1        Minimum Setbacks .....</b>	<b>16</b>
A. Temporary Signs .....	16
B. Permanent Signs .....	16
C. WCRAO Exemption .....	16
<b>Section 2        Computation of Maximum Sign Area .....</b>	<b>16</b>
A. Single-faced Signs .....	16
1. Channel Letters, Including Neon Channel Letters and Individual Letters .....	16
B. Double-faced Signs .....	16
C. Multi-faced Signs .....	16
D. Three-dimensional Signs .....	16
<b>Section 3        Building Frontage .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 4        Materials .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 5        Illumination.....</b>	<b>19</b>
A. General Requirements .....	19
B. U/S Tier Requirements .....	19
C. AGR Tier Requirements .....	20
D. Exurban, Rural, and Glades Tier Requirements.....	20
<b>Section 6        Changeable Copy .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Section 7        Abandoned Signs .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Section 8        Substitution of Sign Message .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Section 9        Encroachment into Public Street or Sidewalk.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Section 10       Required Address Signs.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CHAPTER G    STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Section 1        Building Mounted Signs .....</b>	<b>22</b>
A. Wall Signs.....	22
Table 8.G.1.A-4-Wall Sign Standards .....	22
B. Awning and Canopy Signs .....	22
Table 8.G.1.B-5 – Awning and Canopy Sign Standards .....	23
1. WCRAO Overlay .....	23
2. Gas Station Canopies .....	23
C. Projecting Sign .....	23
Table 8.G.1.C-6 - Projecting Sign Standards .....	23
D. Marquee Signs .....	24
<b>Section 2        Ground Mounted Signs.....</b>	<b>24</b>
A. Freestanding Signs .....	24
1. Prohibitions .....	24
2. Minimum Separations.....	24
Table 8.G.2.A-7 - Freestanding Sign Standards .....	25

Table 8.G.2.A-8 - Freestanding Signs: Maximum Heights.....	26
3. Limitations in Median .....	26
4. Relationship of Sign Base to Sign Width .....	26
B. Outparcel Identification Signs.....	26
Table 8.G.2.B-9 - Freestanding Outparcel Identification Signs .....	27
1. Relationship of Sign Base to Sign Width .....	27
C. Entrance Signs.....	27
Table 8.G.2.C-10 – Entrance Sign Standards.....	27
<b>Section 3      Other Sign Types .....</b>	<b>27</b>
A. Mobile Signs.....	27
B. Electronic Message Center Signs.....	28
1. Exemption.....	28
2. Prohibited Elements .....	28
3. Standards.....	28
Table 8.G.3.B-11 - Electronic Message Center Sign Standards.....	28
4. Location .....	28
5. Required Findings.....	28
6. Conditions of Approval .....	29
C. Flags and Freestanding Flagpoles .....	29
Table 8.G.3.C-12 - Flag and Flagpole Standards .....	29
D. On-Site Directional Signs .....	29
Table 8.G.3.D-13 – On-Site Directional Signs Standards .....	30
1. Large Developments.....	30
E. Project Identification Signs .....	30
Table 8.G.3.E-14 - Project Identification Sign Standards .....	31
<b>CHAPTER H    OFF-SITE SIGNS .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Section 1      Off-Site Directional Signs .....</b>	<b>31</b>
A. Structure Type .....	31
B. Locations.....	31
Table 8.H.1.B-15 - Off-Site Directional Sign Standards .....	32
<b>Section 2      Billboards .....</b>	<b>32</b>
A. Purpose and Intent .....	32
B. WCRAO Prohibitions.....	32
C. Billboard Registration Permits.....	32
D. Billboard Owners Not Party to the Stipulated Settlement Agreement.....	33
E. Removal of Billboard Sign Faces.....	33
F. Relocation of Billboards .....	33
G. Billboard Replacement.....	35
H. Repair and Maintenance of Billboards .....	35
I. Effect of Annexation.....	35
J. Appeals.....	35
<b>CHAPTER I    ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Section 1      Zoning Division Review .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Section 2      Enforcement.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Section 3      Persons Responsible for Compliance.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Section 4      Removal of Signs in Violation of this Article.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>A. Tagged Notice.....</b>	<b>36</b>

B. Storage and Removal .....	36
C. Mailed Notice.....	36
D. Return or Destruction .....	36
E. Destruction and Unpaid Fees .....	36
F. Illegal Signs in Public R-O-W .....	37
<b>Section 5 Appeals.....</b>	<b>37</b>

# ARTICLE 8

## SIGNAGE

### CHAPTER A GENERAL

#### Section 1 General

##### A. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this Section is to establish standards for the placement and use of signs and other advertising consistent with State of Florida and Federal law. These standards are designed to protect the health and safety of PBC and to assist in the promotion of tourism, business and industry. More specifically, this Section is intended to:

**1. Identification**

Promote and aid in the identification, location, and advertisement of goods and services, and the use of signs for free speech;

**2. Aesthetics**

Preserve the beauty and the unique character of PBC, protect PBC from visual blight, and provide a pleasing environmental setting and community appearance which is deemed vital to the continued economic development of PBC;

**3. Land Values**

Protect property values by assuring compatibility with surrounding land uses;

**4. Safety**

Promote general safety and protect the general public from damage or injury caused by, or partially attributed to, the distractions, hazards, and obstructions that result from improperly designed or located signs; and

**5. Compatibility**

Make signs compatible with the overall design objectives of the Plan and the Managed Growth Tier System (MGTS); ensure signs are compatible with the character of adjacent architecture and neighborhoods, and to provide the essential identity of, and direction to, facilities in the community.

##### B. General Design Principles

The following principles are general design guidelines that should be considered in the design of all signs. Signs which enhance a project are encouraged, and signs should make a positive contribution to the aesthetic appearance of the street or commercial area where they are located.

**1. Visibility**

A sign shall be conspicuous and readily distinguished from its surroundings.

**2. Legibility**

The size and proportion of the elements of the sign's message, including logos, letters, icons and other graphic images, shall be selected based on the average distance and average travel speed of the viewer. Sign messages oriented towards pedestrians may be smaller than those oriented towards automobile drivers. Colors chosen for the sign text and/or graphics shall have sufficient contrast with the sign background in order to be easily read during both day and night hours.

**3. Readability**

A sign message should be easily recognized and designed in a clear, unambiguous and concise manner, so that a viewer can understand or make sense of what appears on the sign. Excessive use of large areas of several colors can create competition for the eye and significantly reduce readability.

**4. Architectural Compatibility**

A sign (including its supporting structure, if any) shall be designed as an integral design element of a building's architecture, and shall be architecturally compatible, including color and scale, with any building to which the sign is to be attached and with surrounding structures. A sign which covers a window, or which spills over "natural" boundaries or architectural features and obliterates parts of upper floor of buildings is detrimental to visual order and may not be permitted.

**5. Consistency with Area Character**

A sign should be consistent with distinct area or district characteristics and incorporate common design elements such as sign materials or themes. In Traditional Development Districts (TDD'S) projecting signs are encouraged and should be located and sized to be viewed by people on foot.

Where signs are located in close proximity with a residential area, the sign should be designed and located so they have little or no impact on adjacent residential neighborhoods.

**Figure 8.A.1.B-1 – Visibility and Legibility**



**C. Applicability**

The provisions of this Section shall apply to all signs in unincorporated PBC, unless exempt by [Article 8.B, EXEMPTIONS](#).

**1. Nonconforming Signs**

Previously permitted signs that do not meet the current standards of this Code are nonconforming structures, subject to [Article 1.F.3, Nonconforming Structure](#). A nonconforming sign may not be enlarged, structurally altered, or moved unless the entire sign is brought into compliance with this Section. A sign face on a nonconforming sign may be replaced but not enlarged.

**2. Billboards and Off-Site Signs**

There shall continue to be a prohibition on billboards and similar off-site signs, however, this prohibition does not restrict the repair, maintenance, relocation, or replacement of billboards constructed consistent with applicable codes and permit procedures prior to November 15, 1988, and included within the billboard stipulated settlement agreement and billboard survey (approved February 6, 1996). The stipulated settlement agreement referred to herein shall be the primary source of information for implementing the intent and purpose of the regulations governing billboards and similar off-site signs.

**3. Conflict with Graphics and Other Provisions**

Where there is a conflict between the text and a graphic in this Section, the more restrictive provision shall prevail. Where other sign or outdoor advertising regulations are in effect and are more restrictive than the provisions of this Section, the more restrictive provisions shall prevail.

(This space intentionally left blank.)

**Table 8.A.1.C-1 – Organization of Sign Regulations**

<b>CHAPTER B, EXEMPTIONS</b>	Lists types of signs that are exempt from these regulations. Exemptions are made for change of business signs; construction signs; equipment signs; interior signs; mobile vendor signs; official flags; official government signs; parking and directional signs; political campaign signs; public warning signs; real estate for sale, or for rent signs; small signs; transportation-related signs; and window signs.
<b>CHAPTER C, PROHIBITIONS</b>	Lists types of prohibitions for sign types, materials, designs, messages, and locations for banners, streamers, or pennants; emissions; mechanical movement; mobile signs; obscenities; obstruction of fire fighting equipment; obstructions to driver visibility; roof signs; signs creating traffic hazards; signs on public bus shelters; signs on water vessels; signs using live animals or humans; snipe signs; and vehicle displays.
<b>CHAPTER D, TEMPORARY SIGNS REQUIRING SPECIAL PERMIT</b>	Lists provisions for temporary signs that require a special permit including balloon type signs; signs for campaign drive or civic events, grand openings, temporary sales, temporary displays, and temporary residential developments.
<b>CHAPTER E, PROCEDURES FOR SIGNAGE</b>	Lists the permit and identification requirements for non-exempt signs and sign structures. Includes the MSP required for developments subject to DRO, ZC, or BCC. Also lists provisions for use of an ASP.
<b>CHAPTER F, GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL SIGN TYPES</b>	Lists standards for computation of sign area; building frontage measurement; materials, illumination, changeable copy, signs that do not reduce allowable sign area; construction and maintenance, abandoned signs, substitution of sign message; encroachment into public street or sidewalk, and for resolving conflict between text and graphics in this Section or with other provisions.
<b>CHAPTER G, STANDRDS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES</b>	Lists specific provisions and standards for building-mounted signs (wall signs, awning and canopy signs, projecting signs, and marquee signs); ground-mounted signs (freestanding and monument signs) entrance wall signs; electronic message center signs; directional signs; flags and freestanding flagpoles; and project identification signs.
<b>CHAPTER H, OFF-SITE SIGNS</b>	Lists specific provisions and standards for off-site directional signs and outdoor advertising (billboards).
<b>CHAPTER I, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT</b>	Lists the authority and provisions for the administration and enforcement of this Section. Includes provisions for the amortization of non-conforming signs.

**Section 2 Definitions**

See [Art. 1.1, Definitions and Acronyms](#).

**CHAPTER B EXEMPTIONS**

The following signs shall be exempt from the permitting requirements of this Article and may be constructed or attached without a permit, except as prohibited in [Art. 8.C, Prohibitions](#). An electrical permit shall still be required for signs using electrical service. **[Ord. 2005 – 002] [[Ord. 2006-036]**

**Section 1 Change of Ownership Signs [Ord. 2006-036]**

A temporary attachment or covering of wood, plastic, or canvas over a permanent sign indicating a change of ownership or activity may be displayed no longer than 30 days following the change of ownership or activity for which the sign is intended, or up to 90 days following issuance of a building permit. The sign shall be no larger than the previously permitted permanent sign.

**Section 2 Small Signs**

Small signs shall include but not be limited to the following types of signage and corresponding limitation on sign face area. Equipment, mobile vendor, and on-site directional signs shall be limited to a maximum of eight square feet in sign face area and five feet in height. Other small signs shall include but not be limited to temporary signs such as real estate for sale and for rent signs; construction signs which typically include names of the project, contractors, architects and other entities associated with the project; freedom of speech signs; campaign signs,

provided such signs are removed within ten days after the election date; permanent signs such as public warning signs; official government signs and commemorative plaques. Other small signs shall be limited to a maximum of eight square feet of sign face area and five feet in height on residential properties less than five acres in size, and a maximum of 32 square feet of sign face area and ten feet in height for all non-residential properties and residential properties greater than five acres in size. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

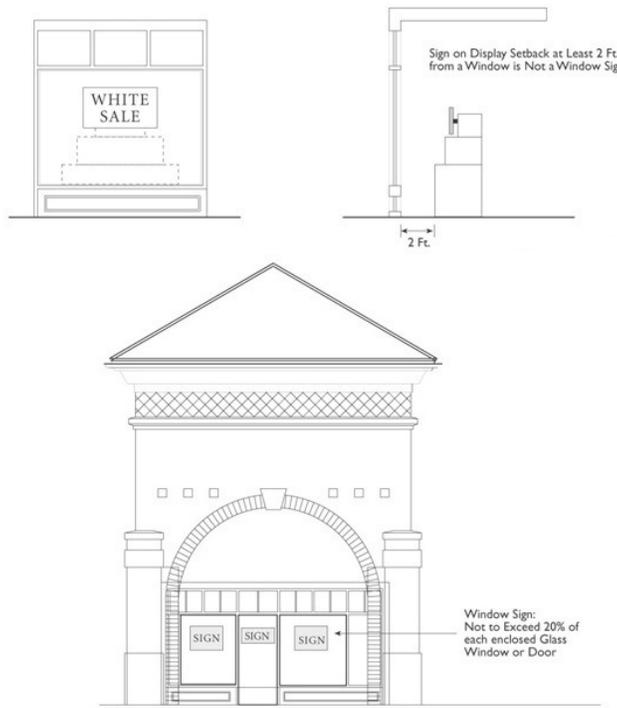
**Section 3 Transportation-Related Signs**

Signs on public transportation vehicles regulated or licensed by federal, state, PBC or municipal officials or organizations, including public buses and taxicabs; and all off-premises signs incorporated into PBC owned, controlled, or operated bench, bus shelter, or waste receptacle attached to a bench or shelter, pursuant to the PBC contract dated August 22, 1989, as may be amended.

**Section 4 Window Signs**

Window signs not exceeding 20 percent coverage of each glass window or glass door to which the sign is attached. Any sign either hung within two feet of a window or attached to a display located within two feet of a window is considered a window sign.

**Figure 8.B.4-2- Window Signs**



**Section 5 Ground Mounted Signs Damaged during Natural Disaster**

In the event of a natural disaster, which destroys or damages legally permitted ground-mounted signs, a temporary sign may be erected or an existing sign modified subject to the following limitations and requirements: **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**A. Temporary Sign Certificate**

A temporary sign certificate shall be issued by the Building Division in conjunction with a complete building permit application for the replacement of the damaged sign. This certificate will allow a temporary sign, as stated above, for a period no more than six months from the date of issuance. A copy of the temporary sign certificate shall be provided to Code Enforcement. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**B. Damaged Sign Face**

A temporary attachment or covering of plastic, or canvas may be installed over an existing sign, which was damaged during a natural disaster. The attachment shall be no larger than the previous legally permitted permanent sign. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

### C. Damaged Structure

A temporary sign may be installed, in place of a previously permitted sign, not more than 32 square feet in sign face area and not more than five feet in height. The temporary sign shall meet the minimum setback requirements, as stated in this Article or any conditions of approval, whichever is more restrictive. [Ord. 2006-036]

## CHAPTER C PROHIBITIONS

The following prohibitions apply to all signs and structures, notwithstanding the provisions in [Article 8.B, EXEMPTIONS](#):

### Section 1 Banners, Streamers, or Pennants

Banners, streamers, pennants, and other signs made of lightweight fabric or similar material mounted to a pole or building, except where otherwise stated in this Section.

### Section 2 Emissions

Signs that produce noise or sounds capable of being heard, excluding voice units at drive-thrus, and signs that emit visible smoke, vapor, particles, or odor.

### Section 3 Mechanical Movement

Signs with visible moving, revolving, or rotating parts or visible mechanical movement of any kind.

### Section 4 Mobile Signs

Any sign not permanently attached to a wall or the ground or any other approved supporting structure, or a sign designed to be transported, such as signs transported by wheels, mobile billboards, "A-frame" or sandwich type, sidewalk or curb signs, blank copy signs, and unanchored signs, except where otherwise stated in this Section.

**Figure 8.C.4-3- Mobile Signs**



### Section 5 Motion Picture or Video

Motion picture and video mechanisms used in such a manner as to permit or allow-images to be visible from any street.

### Section 6 Obscenities

Signs that depict, describe, or relate to "specified sexual activities" or "specified anatomical areas" as defined in [ART. 1.I DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS](#).

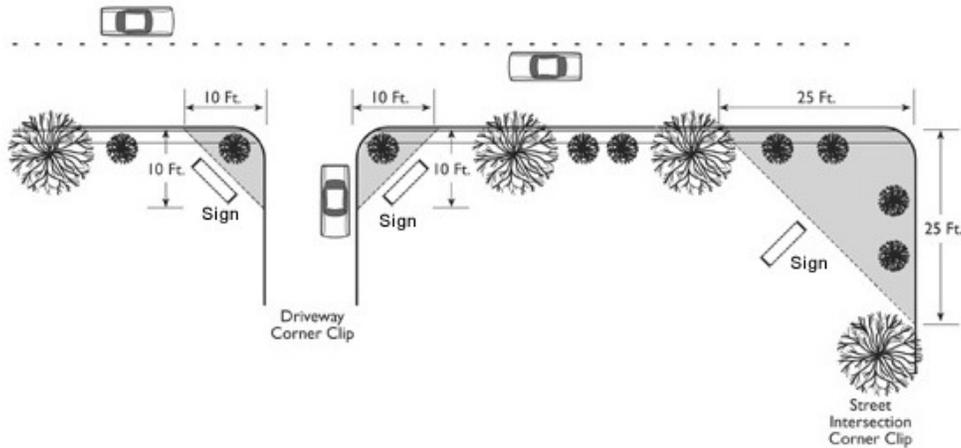
### Section 7 Obstruction of Fire Fighting Equipment

Signs erected, constructed, or maintained so as to obstruct any fire fighting equipment; unless approved by the Fire Marshall.

**Section 8 Obstructions to Driver Visibility**

Signs in corner clips and line of sight in accordance with PBC standards that do not meet the visibility requirements in accordance with PBC standards.

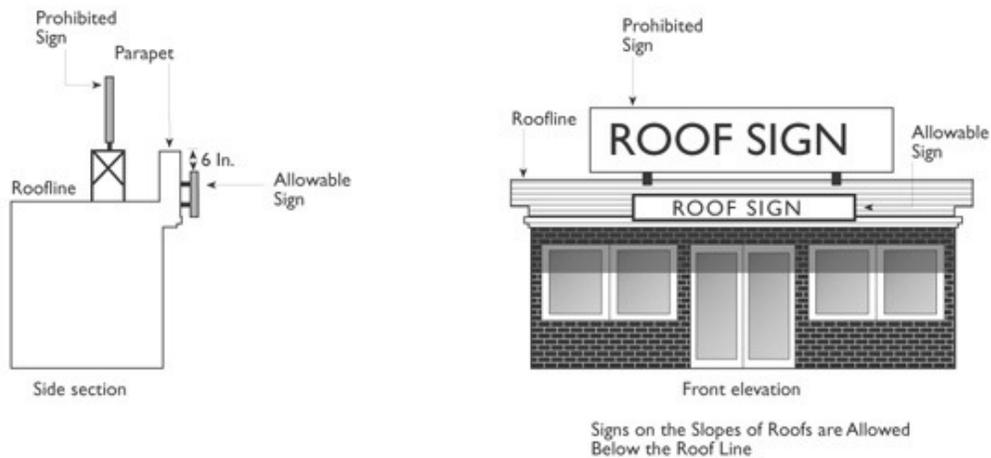
**Figure 8.C.8-4- Corner Clip Visibility**



**Section 9 Roof Signs**

Signs erected above the roofline or parapet, and signs on rooftop structures, such as penthouse walls or mechanical enclosures. Signs on a sloped roof, a mansard roof or a parapet located a minimum of six inches below the roof deck or top of the parapet are allowed, subject to the standards for building mounted signs in [Article 8.G.1, Building Mounted Signs](#).

**Figure 8.C.9-5 - Roof Signs**



**Section 10 Signs Creating Traffic Hazards**

Signs that may be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device; or which makes use of the words "stop," "look," "danger," or any other word, phrase, symbol, or character that interferes with, misleads, or confuses vehicular drivers.

**Section 11 Signs On Public Bus Shelters**

Any sign placed upon a bench, bus shelter or any waste receptacle attached to a bench or shelter, except as exempted by [Article 8.B.3, Transportation-Related Signs](#), and authorized by PBC.

**Section 12 Signs On Water Vessels**

Any nonexempt sign painted on or attached to a vessel, for the purpose of displaying advertisements, which is docked or anchored in the coastal waterways of PBC. This restriction does not apply to vessels passing through PBC on the Intracoastal Waterway. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**Section 13 Snipe Signs**

All off-site signs, tacked, nailed, posted, pasted, glued, or otherwise attached to trees, poles, stakes, fences, trailers, or other supporting structures, except where otherwise stated for in this Article.

**Section 14 Vehicle Displays**

Unless there is only one row of parking between a building and the street, motor vehicles with business names, business addresses, telephone numbers, contractor certification numbers, logos and similar information painted or embossed on vehicle surfaces shall not park or be stored in the row of parking or any area within 25 feet of the front property line longer than four hours in a 24-hour period. This prohibition does not apply to vehicles with advertising, where the vehicles are making deliveries to that business (e.g. U.S. Postal Service, UPS, Federal Express, DHL, Airborne, etc.) or vehicles used in conjunction with a special promotion with a valid permit, vehicles with advertising signs with letters less than eight inches in heights and eight square feet in area, public transportation vehicles, and vehicles in industrial zones parked in vehicle use area.

**CHAPTER D TEMPORARY SIGNS REQUIRING SPECIAL PERMIT**

The Zoning Director may approve special permits for the following signs pursuant to [Article 2.D.2, Special Permit](#). All temporary signs not removed within the time limit indicated on the permit or in this Chapter shall be removed subject to the provisions of [Article 8.I.4, Removal of Signs in Violation](#) of this Article.

**Section 1 Balloon Type Signs**

Balloon type signs are allowed in the CG-General Commercial, PO-Public Ownership, CRE-Commercial Recreation, IL-Light Industrial, IG-General Industrial or PDD-Planned Development zoning districts, subject to the standards in [Table 8.D.1-2, Balloon Type Sign Standards](#). Only cold air shall be used in the balloon. Balloons shall not be located within any required vehicular use area.

**Table 8.D.1-2 – Balloon Type Sign Standards**

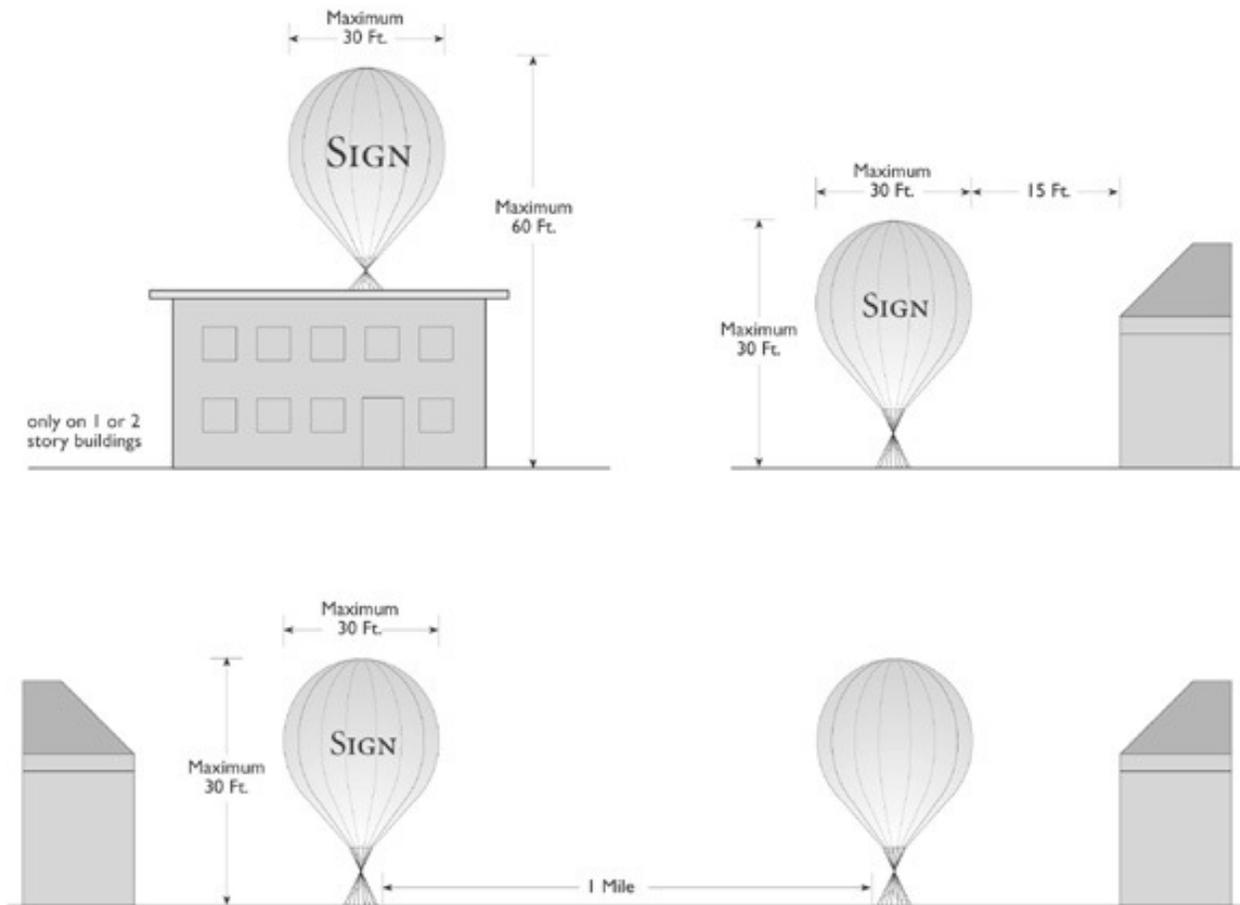
<b>Maximum Width</b>	30 ft.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	30 ft. 60 ft. for balloons on top of buildings (allowed on 1 or 2 story buildings only)
<b>Minimum Separation Between Other Permitted Balloon Type Signs</b>	1 mile
<b>Minimum Setback from Base Building Line</b>	15 ft.

**A. Permit Requirements**

The following information shall be provided to the Zoning Division with the application for a special permit. No project shall be issued more than two balloon permits in any calendar year. The maximum duration of any permit shall be for ten days. There shall be a minimum of 30 days from the day the first balloon is removed before a second permit for a balloon may be issued.

1. Legal description, property control number (PCN) and address of location;
2. Written permission of property owner or owner's designated agent;
3. Cold air balloon installation occupational license;
4. Evidence of installer's liability and property damage insurance;
5. Site plan or survey showing location of balloon and centerline of adjacent R-O-W demonstrating compliance with these regulations; and
6. A photograph of the balloon.

**Figure 8.D.1.A-6 - Temporary Balloon Type Signs**



**B. Prohibitions in the WCRAO**

Balloon type signs are prohibited in the WCRAO. [Ord. 2006-004]

**Section 2 Campaign Drives or Civic Events**

These signs are allowed 60 days prior to the campaign drive or event; they shall not exceed 32 square feet or ten feet in height. They shall be removed within 30 days following the end of the campaign drive or event.

**Section 3 Grand Openings**

One temporary sign, per business, per location for a grand opening shall be permitted, and may be displayed for up to 14 days.

**A. Projects Less Than Five Acres**

Grand opening signs shall not be more than eight square feet in sign area. Freestanding grand opening signs shall be a maximum of five feet in height and have a minimum setback of five feet.

**B. Projects Over Five Acres**

Grand opening signs shall not be more than 32 square feet in sign area. Freestanding grand opening signs shall be a maximum of ten feet in height and have a minimum setback of five feet.

**Section 4 Temporary Sales**

One temporary on-site and non-illuminated freestanding sign announcing a temporary sale, prior or in accordance with the [Article 2.D.2, Special Permit](#) shall be permitted for 30 days, subject to the standards in [Table 8.D.4-3, Temporary Sales Sign Standards](#).

**Table 8.D.4-3 – Temporary Sale Sign Standards**

Maximum Sign Area	20 sq. ft.
Maximum Height	8 ft.

**Section 5 Temporary Residential Development Signs**

No more than two temporary residential development signs shall be permitted per frontage for up to three years or until 80 percent of the development has received a CO.

**A. Lots Less Than Five Acres**

Temporary residential development signs shall be a maximum of eight square feet in sign area and not more than five feet in height.

**B. Lots Over Five Acres**

Temporary residential development signs shall not be more than 32 square feet in sign area and not more than ten feet in height.

**Section 6 Temporary Non-Residential Development Signs**

For projects with DRO approval, no more than one temporary development sign shall be permitted, per frontage, for up to two years or until the development has received a CO.

- A. Maximum height: eight feet;
- B. Maximum sign Area: 32 square feet.

**CHAPTER E PROCEDURES FOR SIGNAGE**

All signs, except signs exempted by [Article 8.B, EXEMPTIONS](#), shall receive a building permit prior to construction, erection, attachment or placement from PBC. Non-exempt signs not erected or repaired pursuant to a valid permit are considered illegal. No sign shall be structurally altered, enlarged, or relocated except in conformity with this Article. The repair or changing of movable parts, sign copy, display, or graphic material is not deemed an alteration.

**Section 1 Required Permits and Approvals**

All development requiring DRO, ZC, or BCC approvals, shall submit an approved MSP pursuant to [Art. 8.E, Procedures for Signage](#). [Ord. 2005 – 002]

**Section 2 Required Tag**

- A. Every sign for which a building permit is required shall be plainly marked with the corresponding permit number issued for the sign. The permit number shall be marked on permanent material with a contrasting color in numbers at least one inch in height.
- B. Tags shall be displayed on signs or at the base of the structure in a visible location. Tags for freestanding signs must be located on the structure between one and three feet above grade. [Ord. 2005-041]
- C. The absence of the required tag shall be evidence that the sign is in violation of this Article.

**Section 3 Master Sign Program Plan**

**A. Purpose and Intent**

The purpose and intent of a MSP is to provide a unified record of signs and to promote coordinated signage for all development subject to DRO, ZC, BCC approval or architectural review. MSP also may be required as a condition of approval. The MSP shall demonstrate how the intent of this Section is met in whole or in part, in regard to the following objectives:

1. Improves the safety and welfare of the general public by minimizing distractions, hazards, and obstructions from sign design or placement;
2. Provides for sign design or placement appropriate with the MGTS tier in which the signs are located;
3. Incorporates sign design and placement related to architectural and landscape features on site; and
4. Incorporates sign design, scale, and placement oriented to pedestrian traffic.

**B. Submittals**

**1. Master Sign Plan (MSP)**

A MSP shall be submitted to the Zoning Division at the time of initial application. The initial MSP shall include the total number of all proposed signs or sign types, the location of sign types on a site plan and general building elevations, drawings, sketches of generic sign types, a computation of the total allowable sign area for each sign and sign type (the sign budget), the height of each sign, and the proposed location of each sign on a site plan or general building elevations. A MSP shall also describe proposed public artwork that would be exempt from sign area calculations.

## **2. Master Sign Plan**

Concurrent with architectural review submittal and approval, in accordance with [Article 5.C, DESIGN STANDARDS](#), a master sign plan consisting of the following, shall be submitted:

- a. Drawings or sketches indicating the exterior surface details such as font, type, size, dimensions, and base planting details for all signs and types;
- b. A written program of standards for all sign types to be distributed to future tenants, including color, size, illumination, construction details, placement and the necessity for PBC review; and
- c. A visual representation of unified color, unified graphics, materials and illumination standards for all sign types.

## **C. Approval Process**

A MSP shall be subject to, and part of, the same review and approval process as the development itself. In approving a MSP, the DRO, ZC, or BCC, shall find that:

1. The proposed signs are compatible in style and character with any building to which the sign is to be attached, any surrounding structures, and any adjoining signage on the site;
2. Future tenants will be provided adequate opportunities to construct, erect or maintain a sign for identification; and
3. Directional signage and building addressing is adequate for pedestrian and vehicular circulation and emergency vehicle access.

## **D. Conditions of Approval**

The DRO, ZC or BCC, may impose conditions necessary to carry out the intent of the MSP while still permitting each sign user opportunities for effective identification and communication. These conditions may include reductions in the allowable number of signs, total sign face area, location of signs, and types of signs allowed.

## **Section 4 Alternative Sign Plan (ASP)**

An applicant may demonstrate the intent of this Section provision can be exceeded, in whole or in part, through an ASP. The ASP shall be prepared in accordance with the design principles set forth below and shall clearly detail the modifications being requested from the provisions of this Section and how they enhance the design principles.

### **A. Design Principles**

To qualify for consideration, an ASP shall demonstrate compliance with the following principles:

1. Innovative use of materials and design techniques in response to unique characteristics of the specific MGTS tier and site;
2. Placement of sign preserves or incorporates existing native vegetation;
3. Integrates architectural features and pedestrian facilities in a manner compatible with the tier in which the development is located. In the U/S Tier and in TDD's, this may include pedestrian-oriented signage;
4. Consistency with approved neighborhood plans, studies, area plans or special planning or design studies; and
5. Preservation of historic signs based on the following criteria:
  - a. signs 40 years or older;
  - b. signs which are particular unique in character, design, or history; or
  - c. signs that are part of the historic character of a building, business, or district.

### **B. Applicability**

An ASP may be submitted for any of the following:

1. PDD's;
2. TDD's; or
3. Conditional or requested uses.

### **C. Allowable Modifications to Standards**

Subject to approval, an ASP may provide for the following modifications to the standards of this Section:

1. Transfer up to 20 percent of the total sign area allowed for building mounted signs to another sign type;

2. Decrease the minimum separation required for signs within properties under common ownership;
3. Transfer freestanding sign area to building mounted signs;
4. Adjust the standards of this Section to allow for the preservation of historic signs; and
5. Vary the geometry and rules used in the measurement of sign area to allow for creative and unique sign shapes.

**D. Submittals and Approvals**

In addition to the requirements of a MSP, an ASP shall be submitted in conjunction with a Zoning application, subject to the following requirements:

**1. Submittal Requirements**

The ASP shall be submitted with a supplemental application and justification form to include project information, specific code references and proposed alternatives. The ASP shall require approval of the requested deviations from the requirements of this Section by the ZC or BCC and may be subject to conditions of approval.

**CHAPTER F GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL SIGN TYPES**

This Section establishes the physical standards and requirements applicable to all signs and the districts in which they are located. More detailed standards applicable to specific types of signs follow this Section.

**Section 1 Minimum Setbacks**

Unless otherwise specified in this Section, signs shall be setback as follows:

**A. Temporary Signs**

Five feet from the property line.

**B. Permanent Signs**

Five feet from the base building line. If the PBC Engineer waives the requirement that the setback be measured from the base building line, the setback shall be measured from the property line.

**C. WCRAO Exemption**

Properties fronting on Okeechobee Boulevard, Military Trail, Congress Avenue and Belvedere Road are excluded from the five foot minimum setback, for properties that have been altered by eminent domain takings for R-O-W expansions. **[Ord. 2006-004]**

**Section 2 Computation of Maximum Sign Area**

The methodology for computing the sign area for all sign types shall be as follows:

**A. Single-faced Signs**

Single-faced signs shall measure the sign area to include the entire area within a single continuous perimeter composed of squares or rectangles that enclose the extreme limits of all sign elements including, but not limited to, sign structures or borders, written copy, logos, symbols, illustrations, and contrasting colored background and materials, unless stated otherwise herein. Supporting structures such as poles, sign bases, decorative elements, details, columns are not included in the sign area calculation provided no lettering or graphics except for addresses or required tags. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**1. Channel Letters, Including Neon Channel Letters and Individual Letters**

20 percent may be added to the calculation of the maximum area of a sign comprised solely of channel letters or neon channel letters or other individual freestanding letters, for developments that require a MSP. **[Ord. 2005 – 002]**

**B. Double-faced Signs**

Double-faced signs shall be counted as a single faced sign. Where the faces are not equal in size, the larger sign face shall be used as the bases for calculating sign area.

**C. Multi-faced Signs**

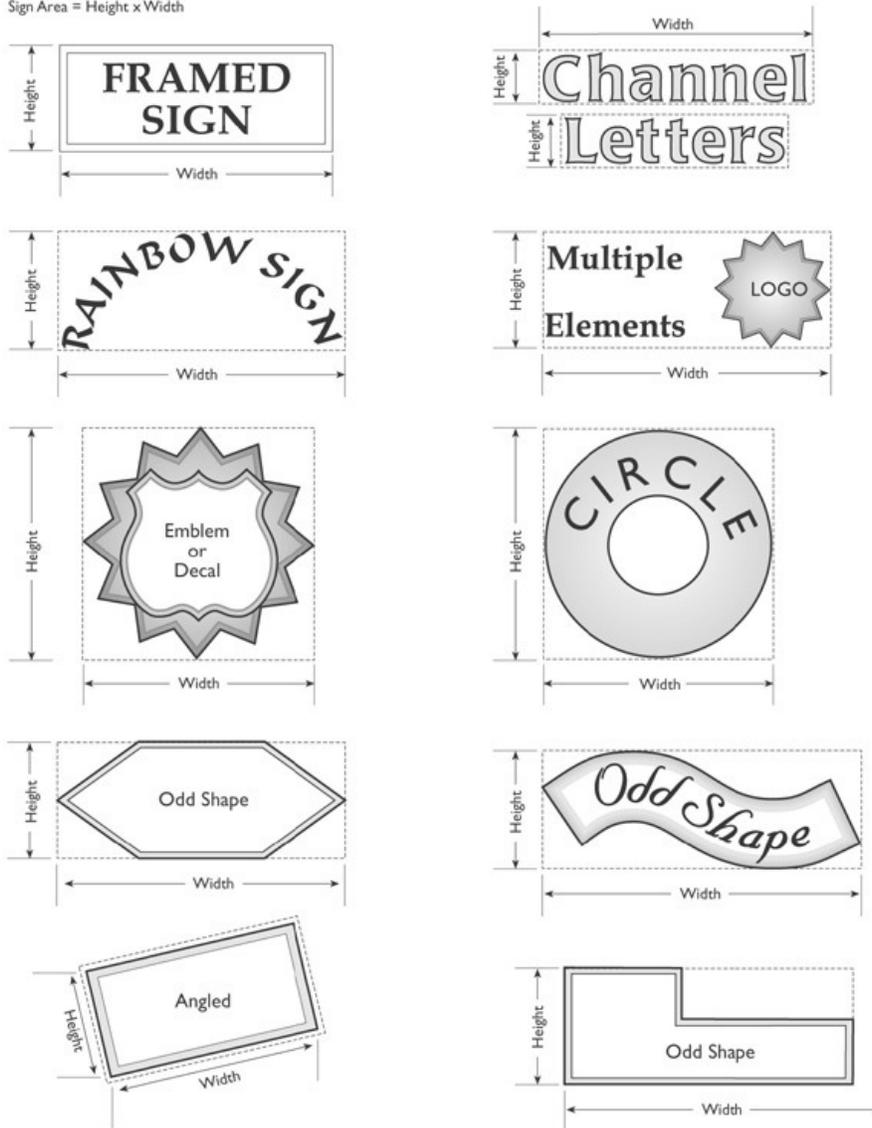
Signs with three or more sign faces, or signs with two sign faces with a distance greater than three feet apart or an interior angle greater than 45 degrees, shall calculate the sign area as the sum of all the sign faces.

**D. Three-dimensional Signs**

Signs that consist of, or have attached to them, one or more three-dimensional objects (i.e., balls, cubes, clusters of objects, sculpture, or statue-like trademarks), shall have a sign area of the sum of all areas using the four vertical sides of the smallest cube that will encompass the sign.

Figure 8.F.2.D-7- Measurement of Sign Area

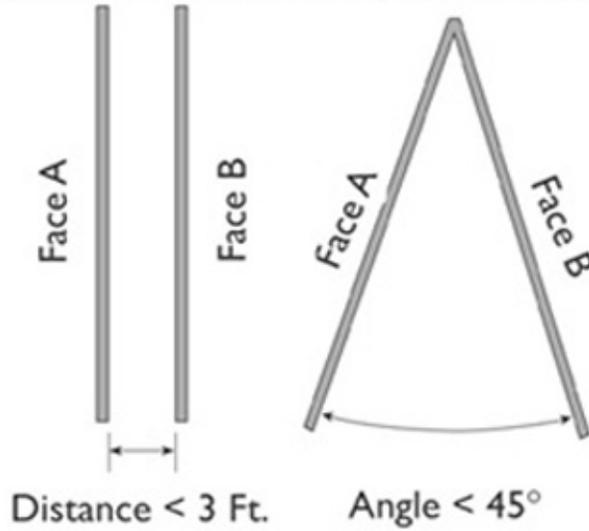
Sign Area = Height x Width



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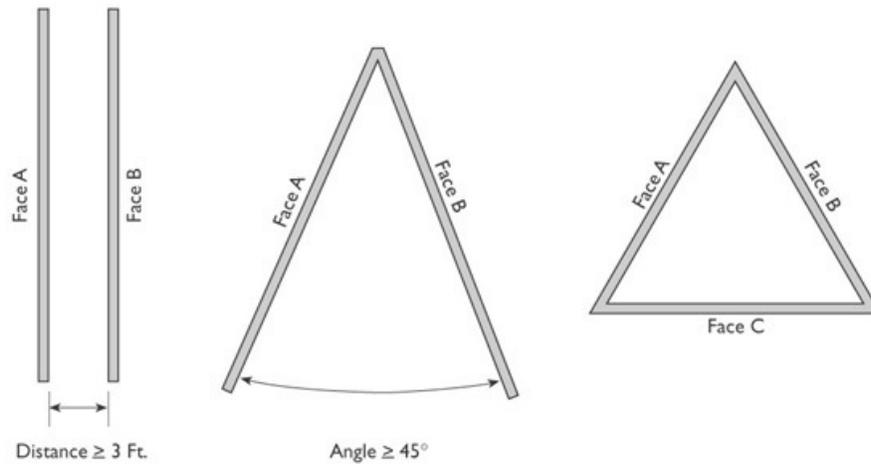
**Figure 8.F.2.D-8- Measurement of Double-Faced Signs**

Total Sign Area = Face A or Face B, whichever is larger



**Figure 8.F.2.D-9 - Measurement of Multi-Faced Signs**

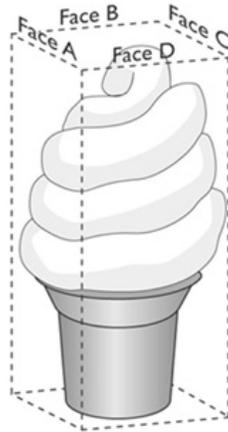
Total Sign Area = Sum of All Sign-Faces



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### Figure 8.F.2.D-10 - Measurement of Three-Dimensional Signs

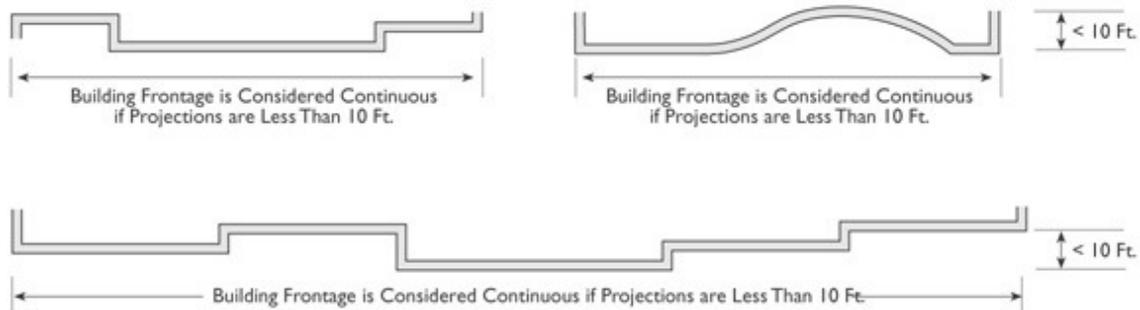
Total Sign Area = Sum of All Sign Faces of Smallest Cube



### Section 3 Building Frontage

For the purpose of this Section, a building's frontage is considered continuous if projections or recesses in a building wall do not exceed ten feet in any direction.

Figure 8.F.3-11- Building Frontage



### Section 4 Materials

Paper, cardboard, or other material subject to rapid deterioration shall be limited to signs displayed for no more than 30 days.

### Section 5 Illumination

Signs may be illuminated subject to the following standards:

#### A. General Requirements

1. Ground-mounted and building-mounted signs adjacent to a residential zoning district, a residential use shall be illuminated only during hours when the establishment is open for business;
2. External lighting shall be properly shielded to prevent glare on adjacent streets or properties; and
3. Illumination shall be constant and shall not consist of flashing, animated or changing lights, except for electronic message center signs, pursuant to [Art. 8.G.3.B, Electronic Message Center Signs](#).

#### B. U/S Tier Requirements

1. Signs may be illuminated by silhouette, internal and external lighting, except where located in or oriented towards the NRM or NG Sub-areas of the WCRAO; and **[Ord. 2006-004]**
2. Neon signs are allowed in the U/S Tier, except where located in or oriented towards the NRM or NG Sub-areas of the WCRAO, as part of a wall sign or window sign only. The sign area for a neon sign shall not exceed eight square feet. **[Ord. 2006-004]**

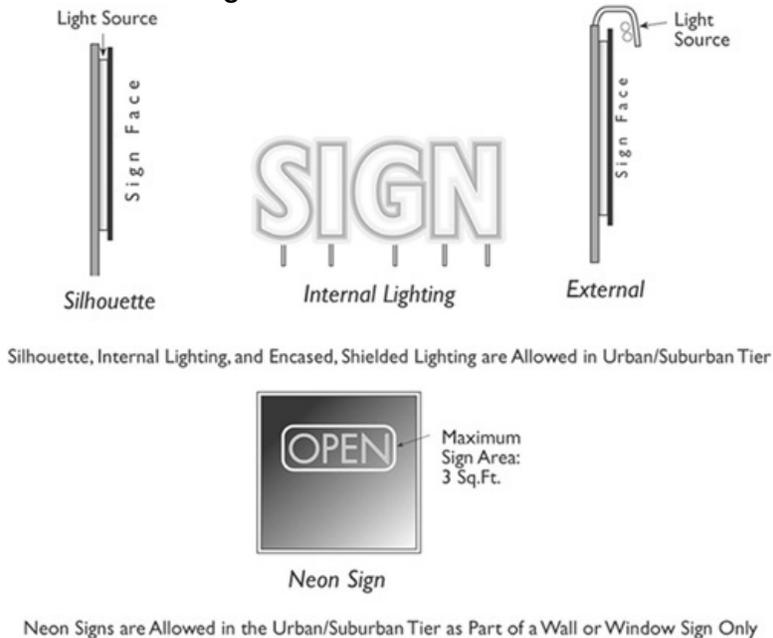
**C. AGR Tier Requirements**

1. Signs may be illuminated by external or silhouette lighting only.
2. Outparcel identification signs require external lighting only.
3. All sign lighting is restricted to the hours of operation of the entity or establishment with which the sign is associated.
4. Neon signs are allowed as a window sign only. The sign area shall not exceed six square feet.

**D. Exurban, Rural, and Glades Tier Requirements**

1. Signs may be illuminated by external lighting only.
2. All sign lighting is restricted to the hours of operation of the entity or establishment with which the sign is associated.

**Figure 8.F.5.D-12- Illumination**



**Section 6 Changeable Copy**

Changeable copy shall cover no more than 20 percent of the total sign area, except for the following uses which are exempt from this restriction: all public and civic uses, indoor theaters, fuel price signs, and signs that flash the time and temperature subject to [Article 8.G.3.B, Electronic Message Center Signs](#).

- A. Unless exempt, signs and supporting structures shall be installed in accordance with the Building Code;
- B. All signs and supporting structures, shall be maintained in the condition originally permitted; and
- C. If a sign is removed from its supporting structure for longer than 90 days, the supporting structure shall be removed pursuant to the procedures in [Article 8.I.4, Removal of Signs in Violation of this Article](#).

**Section 7 Abandoned Signs**

Sign faces with commercial messages shall be removed within 60 days after the activity, product, business, service or other use which was being advertised has ceased or vacated the premises. Any commercial message not removed or replaced with a site-related message within this time may be removed pursuant to the removal procedures set forth in [Article 8.I.4, Removal of Signs in Violation of this Article](#).

**Section 8 Substitution of Sign Message**

Any sign authorized by this Section may contain non-commercial copy in lieu of any other copy.

**Section 9 Encroachment into Public Street or Sidewalk**

Any sign projecting over a public street or sidewalk requires approval of the Department of Engineering and Public Works (DEPW) or other applicable agency.

## Section 10 Required Address Signs

One address sign, between eight and 12 inches in height, is required for each freestanding building, and at least one freestanding sign if parcel has freestanding signs, subject to the following provisions: **[Ord. 2005 – 002]**

- A. Where a multi-tenant building has a freestanding sign, the building address shall be posted on that sign in a contrasting color with letters of sufficient size to be plainly visible and legible from the roadway;
- B. Where a building has multiple addresses, the address range shall be posted;
- C. Numbers posted on signs shall be in a contrasting color and shall be proportionate to the total sign area. Address numbers shall not be including in the sign face measurement; and
- D. Where multiple address signs are provided in a development, they shall be of uniform size and color.

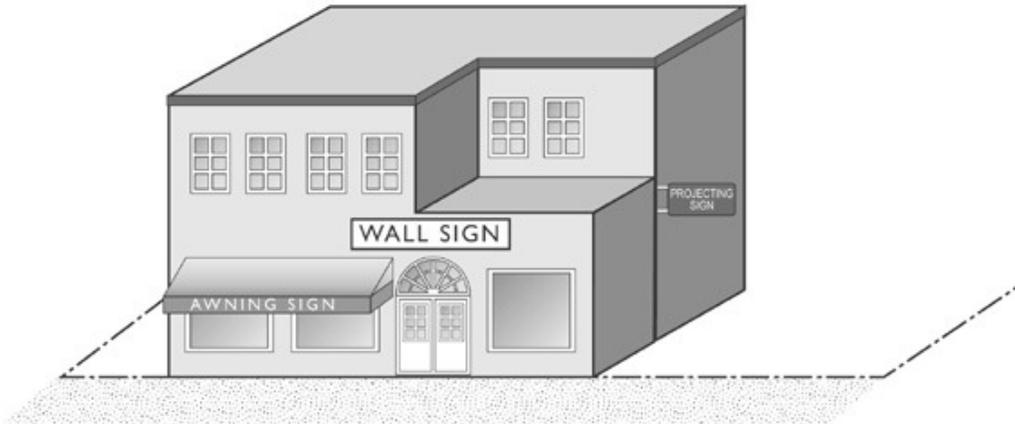
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## CHAPTER G STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES

### Section 1 Building Mounted Signs

Building mounted signs consist of wall signs, awning and canopy signs, projecting signs, and marquee signs. There is no limit on the maximum number of wall signs and awning and canopy signs provided that the total size of all such signs does not exceed the total maximum signage area permitted for wall signs. Projecting signs over a pedestrian sidewalk and not under a canopy, awning, or arcade, and marquee signs are not included in the maximum sign area calculation for building mounted signs.

**Figure 8.G.1-13 - Building Mounted Sign Types**



#### A. Wall Signs

Wall signs, including signs mounted on a mansard roof or parapet, are subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.1.A-4, Wall Sign Standards](#). No wall sign may cover wholly or partially any required wall opening

**Table 8.G.1.A-4-Wall Sign Standards**

	U/S Tier	AG-R Tier	Exurban, Rural, and Glades Tiers
Maximum Sign Area (per linear ft. of the wall to which the sign is attached)	1.0 sq. ft. along building frontage, a minimum of 24 square feet <sup>1</sup>	0.75 sq. ft. along building frontage, a minimum of 24 square feet <sup>1</sup>	0.5 sq. ft. along building frontage, a minimum of 24 square feet <sup>1</sup>
	0.5 sq. ft. along the side and rear walls		
	0.25 sq. ft. for walls facing a residential zoning district.		
Allowable Facades	Front, Side, and Rear if facing a street	Front and Side	Front facing a R-O-W only
Minimum Horizontal and Vertical Separation Between Signs	3 ft.	3 ft.	3 ft.
Maximum Projection from Surface of Building <sup>2</sup>	24 in.	24 in.	24 in.
Minimum Vertical Separation Between Sign and Roof Line	6 in.	6 in.	6 in.
Minimum Horizontal Separation Between Sign and Wall Edge	6 in.	6 in.	6 in.

[Ord. 2005 – 002]

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Projects that are not subject to an MSP approval under Art. 8.E.3, Master Sign Program and Plan, the maximum wall sign area for the storefront shall be one and a half times the length of the storefront wall, building bay, or tenant space occupied by the retail business. [Ord. 2005 – 002]

<sup>2</sup> Signs that project more than 24 inches are considered projecting signs, subject to Art. 8.G.1.C, Projecting Signs.

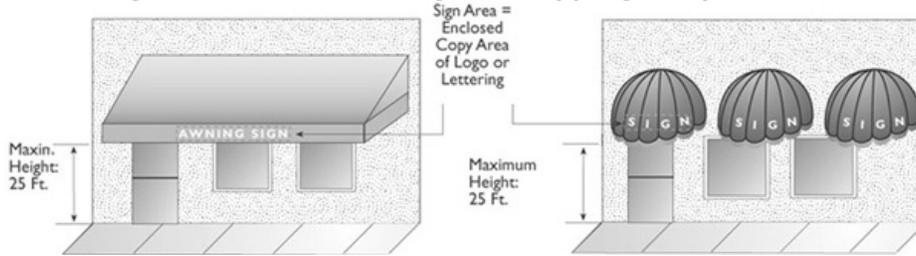
#### B. Awning and Canopy Signs

Awning and canopy signs are included in the maximum allowable signage area for wall signs. Awning and canopy signs are permitted on the ground floor of buildings and shall be made of durable, long-lasting fabric and designed to fit the storefront. Awning and canopy signs shall be subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.1.B-5, Awning and Canopy Signs](#). [Ord. 2006-004]

**Table 8.G.1.B-5 – Awning and Canopy Sign Standards**

<b>Maximum Sign Area</b>	24 sq. ft.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	25 feet above grade

**Figure 8.G.1.B-14 – Awning or Canopy Sign Requirements**



**1. WCRAO Overlay**

Awning signs shall be prohibited in the NRM, NG and NC Sub-areas of the WCRAO. [Ord. 2006-004]

**2. Gas Station Canopies**

No more than two canopy signs per station may be allowed in addition to the maximum allowable signage area for wall signs. Gas station canopy signs shall not exceed 18 inches in height. [Ord. 2006-004]

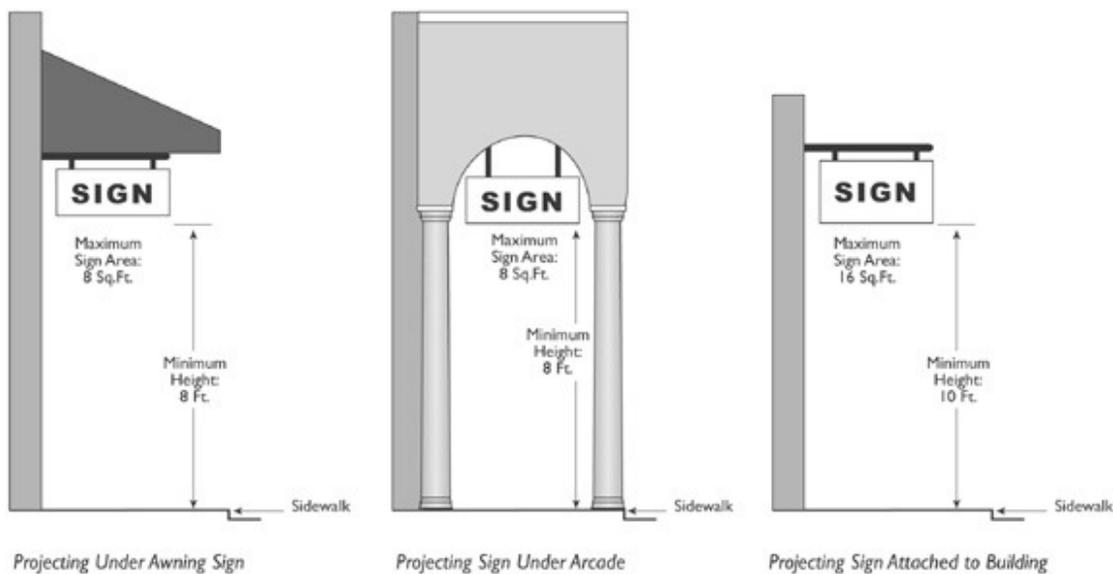
**C. Projecting Sign**

Projecting signs under canopies or covers in conjunction with pedestrian walkways are not included in the maximum allowable signage area for wall signs; however are subject to the standards in Table 8.G.1.C-6. Projecting Signs Standards, shall be placed perpendicular to the building façade and not project above the roof line. Projecting signs over a public sidewalk are included in the maximum allowable signage for wall signs. Projecting signs may include banners provided the sign and sign area conforms to the standards in Table 8.G.1.C-6, Projecting Sign Standards. [Ord. 2005 – 002]

**Table 8.G.1.C-6 - Projecting Sign Standards**

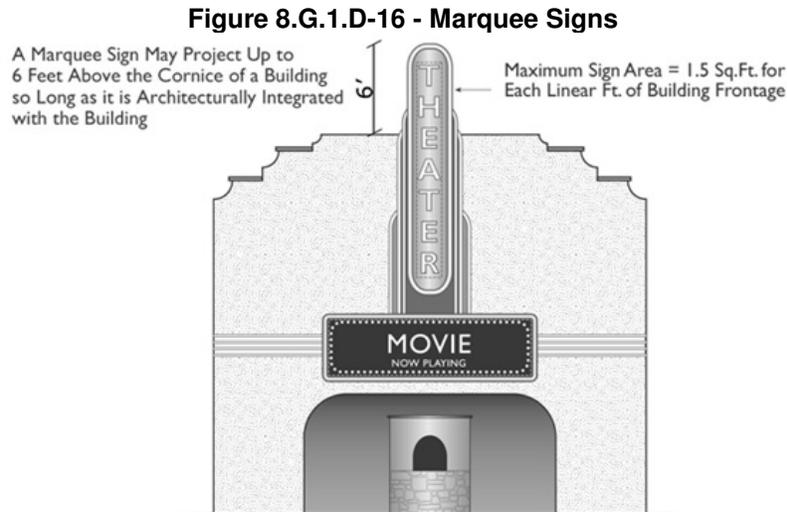
	<b>Under Awnings, Canopies or Arcades</b>	<b>Other Locations</b>
<b>Maximum Sign Area</b>	8 sq. ft.	16 sq. ft.
<b>Minimum Height</b>	8 ft.	10 ft.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	n/a	20 ft.
<b>Minimum Setback</b>	n/a	5 ft.

**Figure 8.G.1.C-15 - Projecting and Under Awning Sign Standards**



#### D. Marquee Signs

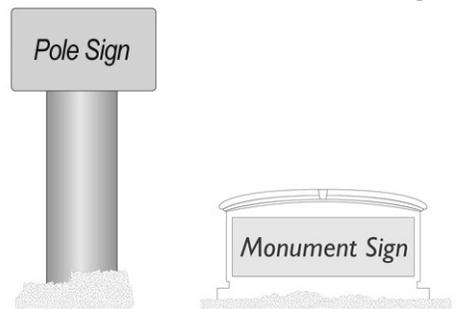
Marquee signs are allowed for theaters, stadiums, auditoriums, and similar uses subject to BCC approval. Marquee signs are not subject to wall sign area limits, but the maximum sign area shall not exceed one square foot for each foot of building frontage. Marquee signs may be electronic message center signs, subject to [Article 8.G.3.B, Electronic Message Center Signs](#), and have changeable copy. A marquee sign may project a maximum of six feet above the cornice of a building provided that it is architecturally integrated with the building.



#### Section 2 Ground Mounted Signs

Ground mounted signs consist of freestanding signs such as monument signs, outparcel identification signs, and entrance signs.

**Figure 8.G.2-17 - Ground-Mounted Sign Types**



#### A. Freestanding Signs

Freestanding signs are subject to the standards in [Tables 8.G.2.A-7, Freestanding Sign Standards](#), and [8.G.2.A-8, Freestanding Signs: Maximum Heights](#).

##### 1. Prohibitions

Freestanding signs shall be prohibited in the NRM, NG and NC Sub-areas of the WCRAO. **[Ord. 2006-004]**

##### 2. Minimum Separations

Freestanding signs shall have a minimum separation of 75 feet from a residential zoning district or freestanding signs on abutting parcels. Freestanding signs in the same project, shall have a minimum separation of 50 feet.

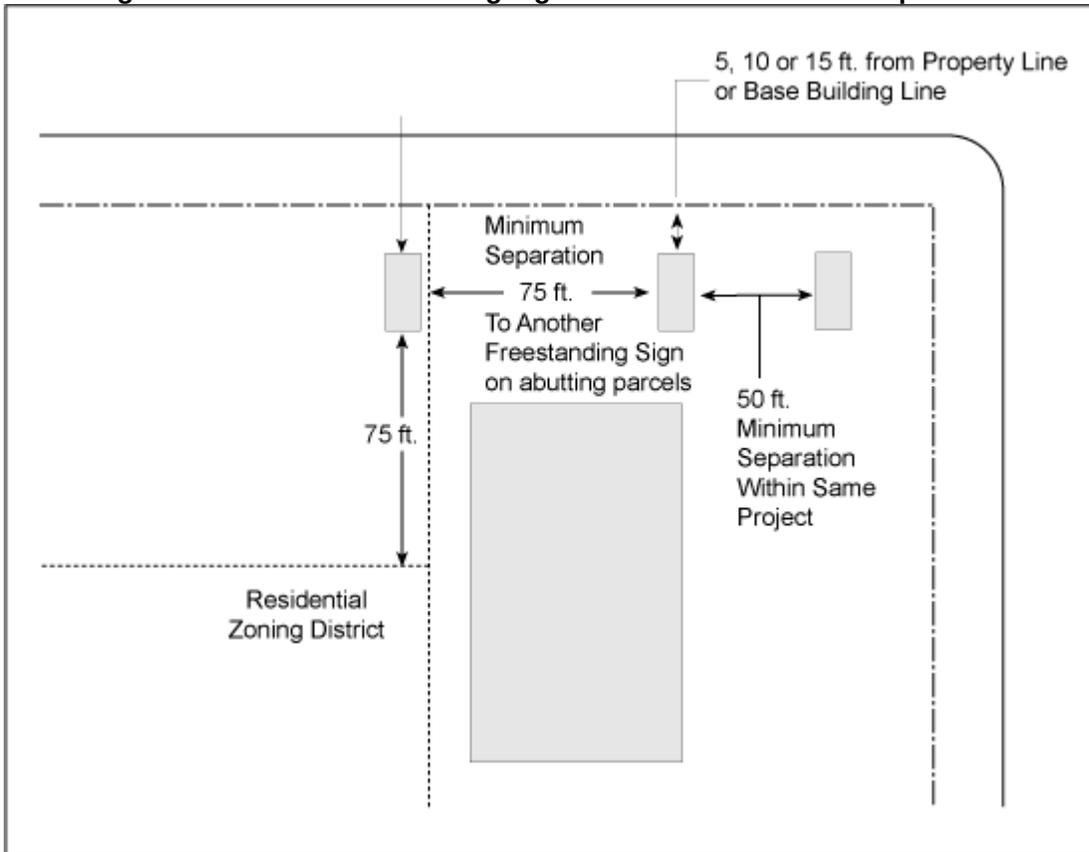
**Table 8.G.2.A-7 - Freestanding Sign Standards**

	U/S Tier	AG-R Tier	Exurban, Rural, and Glades Tiers
Maximum Number Per Project Frontage	3 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>2</sup>	1 (with minimum 150 ft. frontage)
Maximum Sign Area (per lineal ft. of frontage)	1.0 sq. ft.	0.75 sq. ft.	0.5 sq. ft.
Maximum Sign Area (per individual sign)	200 sq. ft.	150 sq. ft.	100 sq. ft.
Minimum setback <sup>3</sup>	5 ft.	10 ft.	15 ft.

Notes:

1. Number per frontage based on the frontage of the entire project or development, (1 sign per 200 ft. or less, 2 signs per 201-300 ft., 3 signs maximum per 301 ft. or greater in U/S Tier only);
2. Number per frontage based on the frontage of the entire project or development (1 sign per 200 ft. or less, 2 signs per 201 ft. or more in the AGR Tier only).
3. Freestanding signs shall have a minimum setback of 75 feet from a residential zoning district.  
[Ord. 2005 – 002] [Ord. 2006-036]

**Figure 8.G.2.A-18 - Freestanding Sign Minimum Setback And Separation**



[Ord. 2005 – 002]

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**Table 8.G.2.A-8 - Freestanding Signs: Maximum Heights**

R-O-W Width	Maximum Height					
	C/C <sup>1</sup>		C/R <sup>2</sup>		R <sup>3</sup>	
	S <sup>4</sup>	PDD <sup>5</sup>	S <sup>4</sup>	PDD <sup>5</sup>	S <sup>4</sup>	PDD <sup>5</sup>
110 ft. or greater	20	15	15	12	10	10
80 – 110 ft.	15	10	10	8	8	8
80 ft. or less	10	8	8	6	6	6

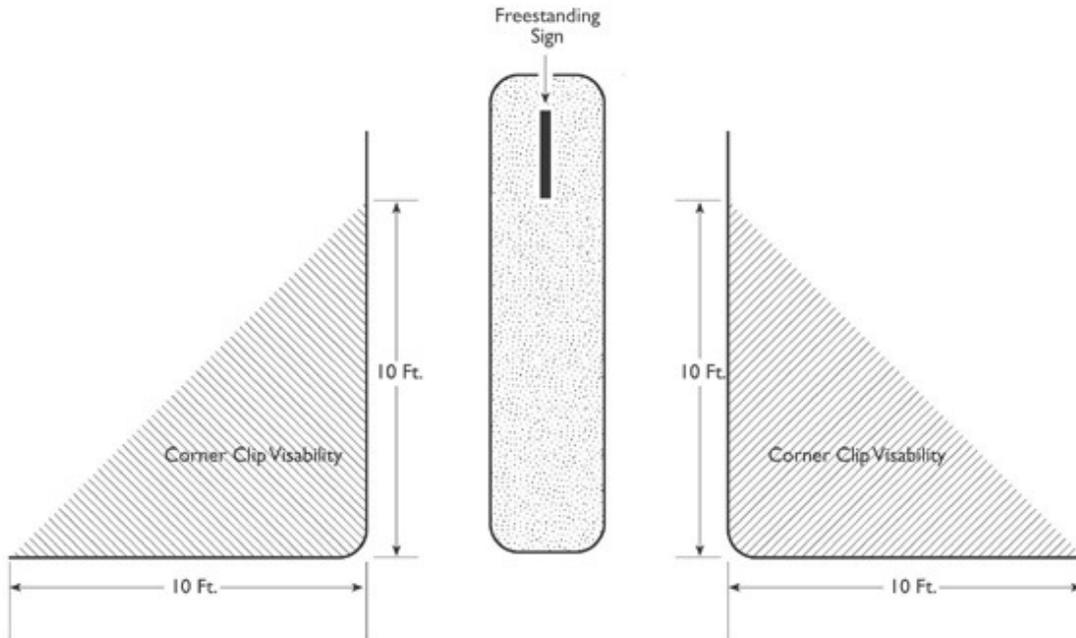
Notes:

1. C/C = commercial, industrial, or non-residentially zoned parcels adjacent to commercial, industrial or non-residentially zoned parcels.
2. C/R = commercial industrial or non-residentially zoned parcels adjacent to any residentially zoned parcel.
3. R = residentially zoned parcel
4. S = Standard Development
5. PDD = Planned Development

**3. Limitations in Median**

Freestanding signs erected in a median within a driveway to a development shall not be located in corner clips or visibility areas unless they are less than 30 inches high and shall be set back a minimum of five feet from the face of curb, or from the edge of adjacent pavement where no curb exists. Signs that overhang a driveway shall be a minimum of 13.5 feet above the adjacent pavement.

**Figure 8.G.2.A-19 - Limitation In Median**



**4. Relationship of Sign Base to Sign Width**

The total width of the sign base for signs shall be at least 30 percent of the width of the sign.

**B. Outparcel Identification Signs**

One freestanding out parcel identification sign may be allowed for each out parcel, subject to the standards in Table 8.G.2.B-9, Freestanding Outparcel Identification Signs, in addition to freestanding signs for PDDs and TDDs. This sign is excluded from the standards of Table 8.G.2.A-7, Freestanding Sign Standards. [Ord. 2005 – 002]

**Table 8.G.2.B-9 - Freestanding Outparcel Identification Signs**

	U/S Tier	AG-R Tier	Exurban, Rural and Glades Tiers
Maximum Number	1 per outparcel		
Maximum Sign Area	20 sq. ft.		
Maximum Height	6 ft.		
Minimum Separation	30 ft.		
Minimum Setback	5 ft	10 ft.	15 ft.
<b>[Ord. 2005 – 002]</b>			

**1. Relationship of Sign Base to Sign Width**

The total width of the sign base for signs shall be at least 30 percent of the width of the sign.

**C. Entrance Signs**

Entrance signs shall be permitted for the purpose of identifying a development, subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.2.C-10, Entrance Sign Standards](#). **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**Table 8.G.2.C-10 – Entrance Sign Standards**

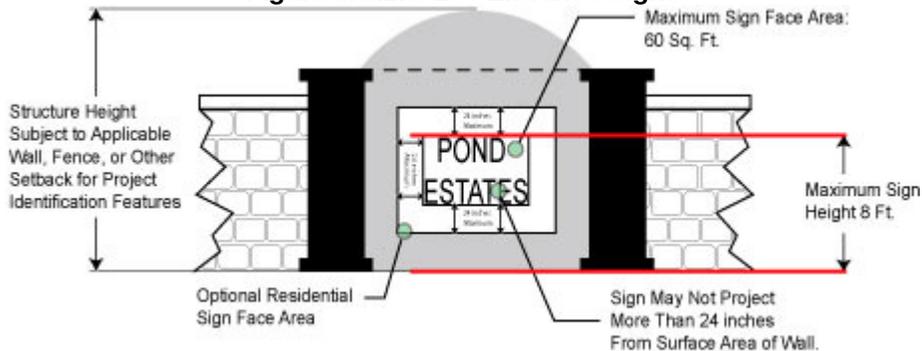
Maximum Number	2 signs per entrance
Maximum Sign Face Area Per Sign	60 sq. ft.
Additional Residential Sign Face Area Option	If a decorative background element such as tile, stucco, or other building material or color is used, the maximum sign face area for such decorative treatment may be expanded 24 inches measured from the sign face area in each cardinal direction.
Maximum Height	8 ft.
Additional Residential Height Option	The maximum sign height, excluding the height of the structure to which the sign is attached may be increased up to ten feet for a R-O-W > 80 or = to 110 feet in width, or 12 feet for a R-O-W > 110 feet, subject to a 25 foot setback or the district setback, whichever is greater <sup>1</sup> .
Maximum Projection	24 inches from surface of wall
Location	Attached to a wall, fence or project identification feature located at or within 100 feet of the entrance to a development.
Sign Copy and Graphics	Shall be limited to the name and address of the development.

**Ord. 2006-036**

**Notes:**

- The maximum sign height, excluding the height of the structure to which the sign is attached may be increased up to 20 feet for signs fronting on the Rural Parkway in the AGR zoning district. **[Ord. 2006-036]**

**Figure 8.G.2.C-20 - Entrance Signs**



**[Ord. 2006-036 ]**

**Section 3 Other Sign Types**

The following signs are permitted subject to their own specific maximum allowable sign area and standards.

**A. Mobile Signs**

“A” frame type signs are allowed at business entrances on arcaded sidewalks in the U/S tier and in front of commercial or mixed-use buildings in TDD’s.

**B. Electronic Message Center Signs**

Electronic message center signs are allowed only at regional facilities, facilities with serial performances, and, specialized attractions that, by their operating characteristics, have unique sign requirements. These signs require approval as a Class A conditional use/requested use unless exempt under [Article 8.B, EXEMPTIONS](#).

**1. Exemption**

Electronic message center signs with a message unit less than 20 square feet in area that display the time and temperature only are exempt from the requirements of this Section.

**2. Prohibited Elements**

The following are prohibited:

- a. Electronic message center signs in windows and externally visible;
- b. Message units that change copy, light, color, intensity, words or graphics more than once per two seconds;
- c. Reflectorized lamps; and
- d. Electronic message center signs with lamps or bulbs over 30 watts.

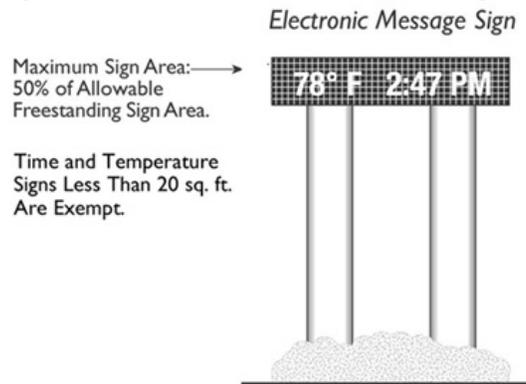
**3. Standards**

Electronic message center signs are subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.3.B-11, Electronic Message Center Sign Standards](#), and the height standards for freestanding signs in [Table 8.G.A-8, Freestanding Signs: Maximum Heights](#).

**Table 8.G.3.B-11 - Electronic Message Center Sign Standards**

<b>Maximum Sign Area</b>	50 percent of allowable freestanding sign area (Table 8.G.2.A-7)
<b>Minimum Setback: Front</b>	15 feet
<b>Minimum Setback: Side and Rear</b>	30 feet
<b>Minimum Setback: Side Street</b>	50 feet

**Figure 8.G.3.B.3-21 - Electronic Message Sign**



**4. Location**

An electronic message center sign may be located in the following areas and subject to the following provision:

- a. In a CG, CRE, PO, or IL zoning district or in a non-residential planned development.
- b. Electronic message center signs may not be located within 100 feet of a residential zoning district or residential use.
- c. Adjacent to roadways classified as arterials or expressways, and a minimum of 1,000 feet from any signalized intersection and/or existing electronic message signs; and
- d. No more than one electronic message center sign shall be permitted per project.
- e. Electronic message center signs are prohibited in the WCRAO. **[2006-004]**

**5. Required Findings**

The BCC may approve an application for an electronic message center sign upon finding that:

- a. The sign will not create confusion or a significant distraction to passing motorists;
- b. The sign is of the same architectural character as the building's principal use;
- c. The sign will not be a nuisance to occupants of adjacent and surrounding properties; and

d. The sign is accessory to a use regional in scale and attraction that, by its nature, demonstrates a unique need to communicate more information than is ordinarily needed for a business or attraction.

**6. Conditions of Approval**

In reviewing an application for an electronic message center sign, the BCC may impose conditions to assure the sign is compatible with and minimizes adverse impacts on the area surrounding the proposed sign.

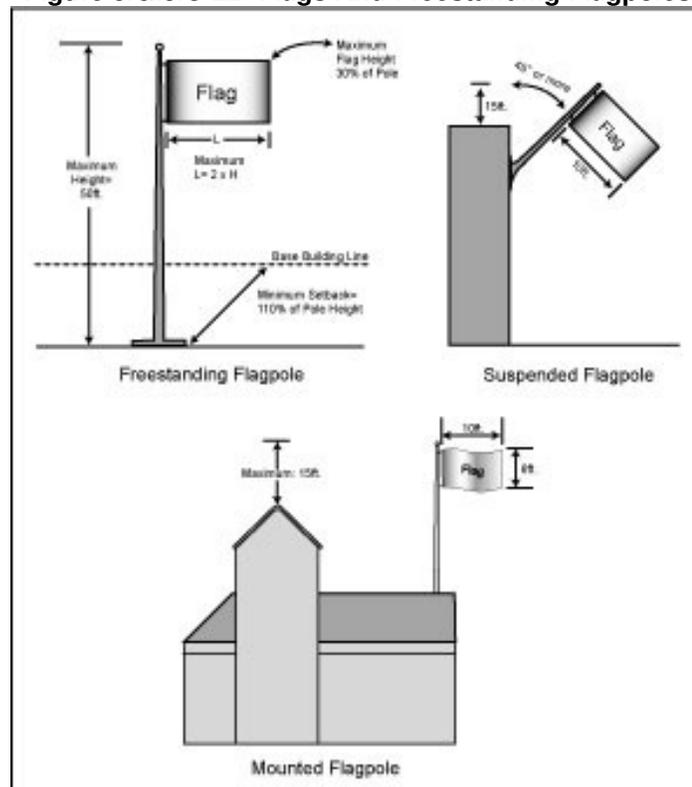
**C. Flags and Freestanding Flagpoles**

Flags and flagpoles are subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.3.C-12, Flag and Flagpole Standards.](#)

**Table 8.G.3.C-12 - Flag and Flagpole Standards**

Flags	
Maximum Number	3 flags per parcel
Maximum Ratio of Length to Height	2 to 1
Freestanding Flagpoles	
Maximum Flagpole Height	50 feet
Maximum Flag Height	30 percent of total flagpole height.
Minimum Setback	110% of pole height.
Wall Mounted or Suspended Flagpoles	
Maximum Height	15 feet above the highest point of the building or structure
Maximum Flag Size	6 feet by 10 feet
[Ord. 2005 – 002]	

**Figure 8.G.3.C-22- Flags And Freestanding Flagpoles**



[Ord. 2005-002] [Ord. 2006-036]

**D. On-Site Directional Signs**

Directional signage within developments and subdivisions shall be for communicating directions and facility information including on-site services. Directional signage shall contain no advertising copy other than the project logos, and shall be of a similar type and style throughout the development. Directional signs shall be subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.3.D-13, On-Site Directional Sign Standards.](#)

**Table 8.G.3.D-13 – On-Site Directional Signs Standards**

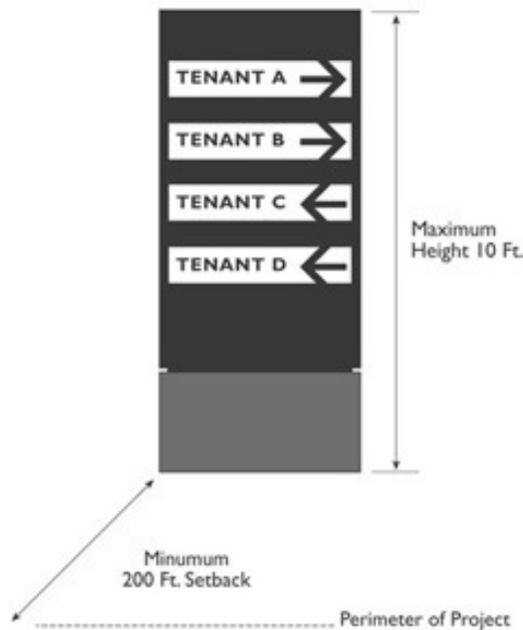
	Residential Zoning Districts	Non-Residential Zoning Districts
<b>Maximum Number</b>	N/A	4 per parcel
<b>Maximum Sign Area Per Sign</b>	24 sq. ft.	20 sq. ft.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	7 ft.	10 ft.

**1. Large Developments**

Developments with more than 250,000 square feet, 1,500 dwelling units, 2200 ft frontage or having a combination of these uses that exceed these thresholds on a proportional basis<sup>1</sup>, may be allowed an unlimited number of direction signs up to ten feet in height, provided all signs are a minimum of 200 feet from the perimeter of the project.

<sup>1</sup> If half of the total floor area in a mixed use development is non-residential, then the proportional threshold is 125,000. Similarly, if half of the total floor area is residential, then the proportional threshold is 750 units.

**Figure 8.G.3.D-23 - Multiple Direction Signs**



**E. Project Identification Signs**

Project identification signs are allowed for residential projects for the purpose of identifying the limits of the project. Project identification signs shall be subject to the standards in [Table 8.G.3.E-14, Project Identification Sign Standards](#), and the following:

1. Project identification signs shall be attached to a buffer wall or project identification feature.
2. Project identification signs shall contain no advertising copy other than the project name or logo.
3. Project identification signs shall be permitted at the project corners only.

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**Table 8.G.3.E-14 - Project Identification Sign Standards**

<b>Maximum Number</b>	2 signs per road frontage with PUD access
<b>Maximum Sign Area Per Sign</b>	24 sq. ft.
<b>Additional Residential Sign Face Area Option</b>	If a decorative background element such as tile, stucco, or other building material or color is used, the maximum sign face area for such decorative treatment may be expanded 24 inches measured from the sign face area in each cardinal direction.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	U/S Tier: 8 ft. Ag. Reserve Tier: 6 ft. Exurban, Rural, & Glades Tiers: 6 ft.
<b>Minimum Setback from Base Building Line</b>	U/S Tier: 5 ft. AGR Tier: 10 ft. Exurban, Rural, & Glades Tiers: 15 ft.

[Ord. 2006-036]

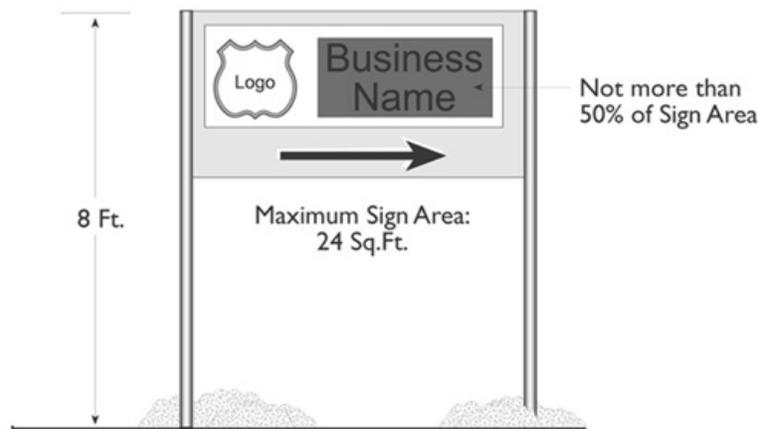
**CHAPTER H OFF-SITE SIGNS**

Off-site signs are allowed subject to the following standards.

**Section 1 Off-Site Directional Signs**

Off-site, freestanding directional signs are allowed to communicate directional information, provided they meet the following requirements and the standards in [Table 8.H.B-15, Off-site Directional Sign Standards](#). Off-Site directional signs are permitted only for parcels that have access to, but no frontage on arterial or collector streets.

**Figure 8.H.1-24 - Off-Site Directional Sign**



**A. Structure Type**

Off-site directional signs shall be completely independent, freestanding structures and not attached to any other structure, nor shall any structure, including other signs, be attached to an off-site sign.

**B. Locations**

Off-site directional signs shall be located in the following areas:

1. On a parcel abutting the parcel identified on the directional sign;
2. On a parcel subject to a recorded document insuring ingress and egress to the parcel identified on the directional sign;
3. On a parcel adjacent to an arterial or collector street;
4. Within 50 feet of the point of ingress;
5. A minimum of five feet from all base building lines; and
6. Not in a public R-O-W or public easement.

**Table 8.H.1.B-15 - Off-Site Directional Sign Standards**

<b>Maximum Number</b>	1 per parcel for each access or frontage.
<b>Maximum Sign Area Per Sign</b>	24 sq. ft.
<b>Maximum Height</b>	U/S Tier: 8 ft. AGR Tier: 6 ft. Exurban, Rural, & Glades Tiers: 4 ft.

**Section 2 Billboards**

**A. Purpose and Intent**

It is the purpose and intent of the BCC to prohibit billboards and similar off-site signs in order to improve the aesthetic appearance of unincorporated PBC. It is also the purpose and intent of the BCC to remove and amortize all billboards and similar large off-site signs in order to cure the visual and aesthetic degradation caused by these structures and to achieve the goal of an aesthetically improved built environment.

**B. WCRAO Prohibitions**

Billboard signs are prohibited in the WCRAO, unless existing at the time of this amendment and identified in the stipulated billboard settlement agreement, [Art. 8.H.2, Billboards](#). [Ord. 2006-004]

1. Each billboard company shall be provided with a complete copy of the 1988 billboard inventory.
2. The 1988 billboard inventory shall be revised by each billboard company to reflect the current status of billboards it owns or controls.
3. The revised billboard inventory shall include the location, height, size, and number of billboard faces.

**C. Billboard Registration Permits**

The Zoning Division shall establish a system of billboard registration permits. A registration permit shall be issued for each billboard not to be removed pursuant to the billboard stipulated settlement agreement. Billboard registration permits shall be issued as special permits, as provided in [Article 2.D.2, Special Permit](#). Billboard registration permits shall be issued as provided below.

1. An application for a billboard registration permit shall include the following information:
  - a. name, address, and telephone number of the billboard company owning or controlling the billboard;
  - b. name of applicant;
  - c. agent's authorization for the applicant to act on behalf of a billboard company;
  - d. location, height, number of sign faces, and size of sign faces; and
  - e. permit number or other acceptable evidence the billboard was lawfully erected.
2. Billboard registration permits shall be issued annually.
3. Applications for initial billboard registration permits shall be submitted no later than January 1, 1998 with the exception of registration permits for lawfully erected billboards located on federal aid primary highways. Applications for permits for the unregistered billboards on federal aid primary highways described above shall be submitted no later than January 10, 2004.
4. Billboard registration permits shall be valid for a period of one year and shall be renewed annually upon compliance with the terms of this Section and the billboard stipulated settlement agreement.
5. Renewals for billboard registration permits shall be submitted at least 60 days prior to expiration date of the existing registration permit.
6. PBC may charge a fee of \$50.00 for the issuance of each billboard registration permit. This fee may be increased by the BCC from time to time.
7. Billboard registration permits shall be transferable if ownership of the billboard changes.
8. This billboard registration system shall not require "tagging" of billboards by the owner of the billboard structure.
9. Violations
  - a. If a permit holder fails to submit fees required by this section prior to or upon the annual expiration date, PZB shall:
    - 1) Immediately issue a notice of violation as specified below; and
    - 2) Suspend acceptance of any new applications for off-premises signs from the same permit holder. No new permit applications shall be accepted from the same permit holder until final resolution of any disputes arising from the PZB's actions.
  - b. In the event that disputes arise regarding the amount of annual license fees charged, the permit holder may establish an escrow account into which he shall pay an amount equal to that portion of fees and other charges assessed by PZB which is in dispute. PZB shall be named as the

beneficiary of the escrow account. This escrow account shall be established prior to the annual expiration date and shall remain in effect until final resolution of the dispute. Affected off-premises signs shall continue to be treated as illegal signs; however, as long as the escrow account remains in effect, they shall not be removed as provided in this subsection.

- c. The notice of violation shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. At a minimum, it shall:
  - 1) Indicate the total amount of annual fees due.
  - 2) Indicate that the permit holder has 30 days from the date of mailing in which to pay the total fee due.
  - 3) Assess an additional delinquency fee equal to 25 percent of the amount due.
  - 4) Inform the permit holder that failure to pay all required fees within the time allowed shall constitute a violation of this chapter and his off-premises signs shall thereupon be considered to be illegal.
  - 5) Inform the permit holder of the process established by this chapter for the removal of illegal signs.
  - 6) Inform the permit holder of his right to appeal the action of PZB, as provided in this subsection.
- d. A copy of the notice of violation may also be prominently affixed to each off-premises sign.

**D. Billboard Owners Not Party to the Stipulated Settlement Agreement**

Any firm or individual owning billboards may become eligible to utilize the provisions of this Section provided they execute an agreement consistent with the stipulated billboard settlement agreement. Such firms or individuals shall execute an agreement as approved by the County Attorney's Office.

**E. Removal of Billboard Sign Faces**

Each billboard company that has signed or agreed to the stipulated billboard settlement agreement, or similar agreement as approved by the County Attorney, shall permanently remove ten percent of the total of sign faces it owns or controls. Billboard companies that have signed the stipulated settlement agreement shall remove the sign faces within one year following adoption of this amendment to the ULDC. Billboard companies that execute an agreement approved by the County Attorney shall remove the sign faces within one year following execution of the agreement.

1. The total amount of sign faces to be removed shall be calculated utilizing the billboard inventory. The sign faces shall be removed utilizing the procedure set forth below.
2. The sign faces to be removed shall be identified in Exhibit "A" of the billboard stipulated settlement agreement or similar agreement. However, the sign faces to be removed as identified in Exhibit "A" may be substituted for reasons established in the stipulated billboard settlement agreement.
3. The Building Division, with the written approval of the Zoning Division, shall issue a demolition permit for each sign face to be removed.
4. The demolition permit shall be in a form prepared by the Zoning Division, and shall include the location, permit number, name of billboard company, and date when such sign face is to be removed.
5. Each billboard company shall provide a statement, in a form approved by the PBC Attorney's Office, certifying the removal of a sign face. Removal of the sign face shall include the entire billboard structure.

**F. Relocation of Billboards**

Billboards may be relocated subject to the provisions of the billboard stipulated settlement agreement or similar agreement. Billboard relocation shall occur as indicated below:

1. A billboard company shall notify the Zoning Division in writing of its intent to relocate a billboard. The written notification shall be provided at least 30 days prior to the intended date of demolition and relocation, unless otherwise waived by the Zoning Director.
2. Each billboard to be relocated shall be assigned a billboard registration permit. The Zoning Division shall verify the request for relocation, subject to the billboard stipulated settlement agreement. Upon verification of the request for relocation, the Building Division shall issue a demolition permit for removal of the affected billboard.
3. For each billboard demolished, a billboard company shall provide verification of the demolition. A Certificate of Completion of Demolition from the Building Division shall act as the verification of the demolition. **[Ord. 2005 – 002]**
4. Each billboard demolished subject to this Section may be relocated. The combination of a proof of billboard registration from the Zoning Division, a billboard demolition special permit from the Zoning Division, and a Certificate of Completion of Demolition from the Building Division shall be required prior to submitting application for a billboard relocation special permit. **[Ord. 2005 – 002]**

5. A billboard relocation special permit application shall be submitted within four years from the issuance of the Certificate of Completion of demolition from the Building Division. The relocation of the billboard shall be confirmed with a Building Department Certificate of Completion submitted to the Zoning Division no later than the end of the fifth year. Failure of the applicant to submit to the Zoning Division the Certificate of Completion from the Building Division for the relocation of the billboard by the end of the fifth year, or by date specified in a condition of approval in the special permit, shall result in the relocation special permit becoming null and void. This requirement shall not be applicable to previously completed billboard relocations. **[Ord. 2005 – 002]**
6. A billboard relocation permit shall allow construction of a billboard with the same or lesser number of faces as contained on the demolished billboard. Two relocated single face, single billboard structures may be combined into a new two-face billboard structure.
7. A relocated billboard may be constructed only within the following comprehensive plan land use categories: "CH" (Commercial High), "CL" (Commercial Low), or "I" (Industrial).
8. Within the CH, CL, and I future land use plan categories, a relocated billboard may only be located within the following zoning districts: CG, CC, IL, IG, MUPD, and PIPD.
9. Any billboard proposed for relocation within a conditional use, planned development, or similar project with an approved signage plan shall obtain approval for the relocation from the BCC, which shall retain the same discretion it exercised when granting the original development approval. If the billboard relocation requires modification of a signage plan that does not require BCC approval, the relocation shall be approved by the DRO, subject to the requirements of this Section and the billboard stipulated settlement agreement.
10. Relocation of a billboard to a PDD shall comply with the height and setback requirements for structures approved in the master plan. If modification of signage located within a PDD does not require BCC approval, such modification of signage shall be approved by the DRO.
11. A relocated billboard shall not be relocated on property assigned a residential, agricultural, or conservation zoning designation. For the purposes of this Section, residential, agricultural, and conservation zoning districts shall be as described in the billboard stipulated settlement agreement.
12. All relocated billboards shall be located within an area containing a front dimension containing at least 500 linear feet. This linear dimension may include property abutting a public R-O-W.
13. The height of any relocated billboard shall not exceed 40 feet above finished grade, excluding temporary embellishments.
14. A relocated billboard shall comply with the setbacks listed below:
  - a. Front: the lesser of 15 feet or the required district setback.
  - b. Side: the lesser of the billboard's previous setback or the required district setback.
  - c. Rear: the lesser of the billboard's previous setback or the required district setback.
  - d. Side corner: the lesser of the billboard's previous setback or the required district setback. If applicable, the required district side corner setback may be reduced to 15 feet when the specific lot configuration makes relocation of the sign structure impossible based on application of the required district setback.
15. A relocated billboard shall not be constructed within a lateral distance of at least 250 feet of any residential zoning district located on the same side of the street. The lateral distance shall be measured along the street R-O-W, and shall include public R-O-W. This requirement shall supersede any other setback requirements established by this Section.
16. When a relocated billboard will be placed on a public R-O-W which:
  - a. is designated by PBC for an ultimate width of 120 feet less, and,
  - b. abuts a residential zoning district across the street, then a residential "clear zone" shall be established.
17. The "clear zone" shall extend at least 170 feet from the front setback of the billboard. The "clear zone" shall be the public R-O-W. Any portion of the "clear zone" located within the abutting residential district shall not contain any existing or proposed residential use.
18. When a relocated billboard will be placed on a public R-O-W which:
  - a. is designated by PBC for an ultimate width of more than 120 feet but less than 170 feet, and,
  - b. abuts a residential zoning district across the street;
  - c. then a residential "clear zone" shall be established;
  - d. the "clear zone" shall extend at least 170 feet from the front setback of the billboard. The "clear zone" shall be include the public R-O-W. Any portion of the "clear zone" located within the abutting residential district shall not contain any existing or proposed residential use.
19. When a relocated billboard will be placed on a public R-O-W which:
  - a. is designated by PBC for an ultimate width of more than 170 feet, and;

- b. abuts a residential zoning district across the street, then a residential "clear zone" is not required.
- 20. For the purposes of this Section, a residential "clear zone" may include such uses as landscaping, perimeter buffers, vegetation preservation areas, drainage facilities, roads, recreational areas, and similar nonresidential uses.
- 21. A relocated billboard shall not be placed within 120 feet of any residential zoning district located across from, but not directly abutting, a public R-O-W. For the purposes of this Section, the 120 feet distance shall be measured from the rear of the billboard to the nearest point of the residential zoning district.
- 22. For relocated billboards, the setback shall be measured from the property line.
- 23. A billboard shall not be relocated to a site on a road with an R-O-W width of less than 80 feet.
- 24. The number of billboards to be relocated during any 12-month period shall be limited by the stipulated billboard settlement agreement.
- 25. A minimum separation of at least 500 feet from any other existing or relocated billboard that is not on the same structure must be maintained.

**G. Billboard Replacement**

A replacement for an existing billboard may be constructed consistent with the provisions of this Section.

- 1. Shall be located within the permitted billboard location.
- 2. A replacement billboard shall remain on the same side of the public R-O-W.
- 3. Existing billboard or the setbacks provided by the zoning district.
- 4. For replacement billboards, the front setback shall be measured from the property line.
- 5. A replacement billboard may be constructed at the same or lesser height of the existing billboard.
- 6. The sign face or faces of the replacement billboard shall not exceed the size of the sign face or faces of the existing billboard.
- 7. A replacement billboard shall contain the same number, or lesser number, of sign faces as the existing billboard.
- 8. When an existing billboard is located on property that is being or has been acquired for public road R-O-W purposes, the billboard location criteria of this Section may be waived by the Zoning Director. The Zoning Director may waive the billboard location criteria when the width of the R-O-W to be acquired will not allow billboard replacement consistent with the intent of this Section.
  - a. Supplemental billboard regulations.
    - 1) Roof-mounted billboards are prohibited.
    - 2) Billboards shall not be relocated to a site on a road with an R-O-W width of less than 80 feet.
    - 3) The number of billboards to be relocated during any 12-month period shall be limited by the stipulated billboard settlement agreement.
    - 4) Billboard illumination shall be directed only towards the billboard face.
    - 5) Following execution of the stipulated billboard settlement agreement, billboards shall be legal, conforming structures, and may be repaired and maintained as provided by the applicable building codes of PBC. Billboards to be removed by the operation of the stipulated billboard settlement agreement may be repaired and maintained as legal structures. However, any expenses incurred for such repair and maintenance shall be the sole responsibility of the billboard owner, and PBC shall incur no liability for such expenses.
    - 6) Billboard registration permits may be sold, transferred, or exchanged without regard to participation in the stipulated billboard settlement agreement.

**H. Repair and Maintenance of Billboards**

All billboards shall be maintained in good repair. Repair and maintenance of billboards shall be exempt from the limitations of [Article 1.F, NONCONFORMITIES](#). Repair and maintenance of billboards shall not include any improvement which increases the height, size, or number of billboard faces. Temporary embellishments may be included as part of normal maintenance and repair of billboards.

**I. Effect of Annexation**

- 1. Any billboard included within the billboard stipulated settlement agreement that is annexed shall not be eligible for relocation into any unincorporated area.
- 2. The billboard registration permit for any billboard included within the billboard stipulated settlement agreement that is annexed shall be void upon annexation.

**J. Appeals**

Appeals of any decision by the Zoning Director or Building Director regarding interpretation or implementation of this Section or the billboard stipulated settlement agreement shall be made to the BCC in accordance with [Article 1.B, INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE](#).

## **CHAPTER I ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

### **Section 1 Zoning Division Review**

The Zoning Division shall complete its review of all final approvals required by this Article within 30 days from the date of a fully completed application for a building permit, as determined by the Zoning Division, that has been submitted for Zoning Division review. For the purposes of this Article, final approval shall mean approval from the Zoning Division issued in conjunction with a building permit for the ultimate placement and construction of a sign. The Zoning Division shall either approve or deny the application within this review period. Upon expiration of this review period, the applicant may demand the required approval and proceed with the building permit approval process as though the Zoning Division approval required under this Article has been granted. If a building permit is issued, the applicant may display the sign until the Zoning Division either grants the required approval, or notifies the applicant of a denial of the application and states the reasons for the denial.

### **Section 2 Enforcement**

PBC may enforce the provisions of this Article by all means available to it including but not limited to enforcement proceedings before the PBC Code Enforcement Special Masters pursuant to [Art. 10, ENFORCEMENT](#), imposition of fines under [Art. 10.B.3, Administrative Fines; Costs; Liens](#), and initiation of any civil or administrative proceeding to prevent, restrain or abate any act prohibited by the Article.

### **Section 3 Persons Responsible for Compliance**

Persons who will be charged with violations of this Article are:

- A. The owner, agent, lessee, tenant, contractor, or any other person using the land, building, or premises where such violation has been committed or exists; and
- B. Any person who knowingly commits, takes part or assists in such violation.

### **Section 4 Removal of Signs in Violation of this Article**

Any sign, banner, or sign structure not constructed or located in conformance with this Code is an illegal sign and is subject to the following procedure for notification, removal, and storage:

#### **A. Tagged Notice**

If a sign is erected, constructed or located in violation of this Code, PBC shall attach a notice to the sign stating the violation and any corrective measures needed to bring the sign into compliance with this Article. The notice shall further specify that the sign may be removed after ten days have lapsed from the date the tagged notice was placed on the sign, if the specified corrective measures have not been taken.

#### **B. Storage and Removal**

If corrective measures have not been complied with after ten days of placement of the tag on the sign, PZB may remove and store the sign in an appropriate storage facility at the expense of the sign owner. The storage period shall be for at least 30 days.

#### **C. Mailed Notice**

Upon removal and storage of the sign by PZB, a Notice of Violation and Removal and Storage shall be sent directly to the named owner of the sign, if the owner's address can be readily ascertained from the sign or the address where the sign was located. The notice shall also provide information as to where the sign is stored, how the sign may be reclaimed, and the owner's right to appeal.

#### **D. Return or Destruction**

Any sign which has been removed from private property pursuant to the above provisions may be claimed by and returned to the property owner. Release of any sign shall be by written authorization of the Director of Code Enforcement upon proof of ownership and payment of a sum appropriate to compensate PBC for the expense of locating, tagging, mailing notice, removing, and storing the sign. Any sign that remains unclaimed after 30 days from the date of removal shall become the property of PBC and may be disposed of in any manner deemed appropriate by PBC.

#### **E. Destruction and Unpaid Fees**

Destruction of the illegal sign shall not extinguish any claim for payment of unpaid fees. Any cost associated with removal of an illegal sign, including cost of collecting unpaid permit, may also be assessed to the sign owner. No new sign permit application will be accepted from the owner of an illegal sign until all fees and costs associated with removal and storage of any illegal sign(s) are paid.

#### **F. Illegal Signs in Public R-O-W**

Illegal signs in the public R-O-W may be immediately removed by the PBC. Such signs need not be stored and may be immediately disposed of in any manner deemed appropriate by PBC. However, if the approximate value of the sign or other structure is determined to be greater than \$300.00 and the sign bears the name of the owner, the sign owner shall be notified and the sign shall be removed, stored, or returned, as the case may be, in accordance with the procedures in this Section.

### **Section 5 Appeals**

An aggrieved person has the right to immediately appeal a denial of an application for a permit or other approval required by this Article, or any notice of intent to remove or destroy a sign in violation of this Article, to the Circuit Court in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida. Any such appeal to the Circuit Court shall be filed within thirty days of the mailing of the written notice of a denial of a permit or other approval contemplated by this article, or within 30 days of the mailing of a notice of violation and removal and storage issued pursuant to this Article.

#### **Amendment History:**

**[Ord. 2003-067; January 1, 2004] [Ord. 2005-002; February 2, 2005] [Ord. 2005-041; September 1, 2005]  
[Ord. 2006-004; March 1, 2006] [Ord. 2006-036; August 29, 2006]**