
Sec. 106-3. Exempt signs.

The following signs are exempt from the operation of the sign regulations in this chapter and from the requirement in this land development code that a permit be obtained for the erection or alteration of signs, provided they are not placed or constructed so as to create a hazard of any kind, provided they are not prohibited by article II, division 2 of this chapter provided they comply with the following enumerated terms and conditions:

- (1) Signs that are not visible from a publicly owned area, public access area or from any adjacent property.
- (2) Business incidental signs, provided such signs conform to the following standards:
 - a. *Sign area.* The total sign face area per business location shall not exceed three square feet.
 - b. *Location.* Each sign shall be, affixed to, or displayed behind a window or door on the premises.

The sign shall not be attached to a permanent accessory sign or its sign structure unless specifically authorized by the permit issued for the permanent accessory sign. Business incidental signs are not permitted at home occupation locations.
- (3) Merchandise displays behind storefront windows, so long as no part of the display moves, or appears to move, or contains flashing or blinking lights, or neon lights, and no part of the display is attached to the window. A drawing, poster, picture or other representation of merchandise or a service, shall be considered an advertising sign, not a merchandise display, for purposes of applying the standards of this land development code.
- (4) Signs erected on public or private property under authority of or with permission from the city or signs required by federal or state law.
- (5) Legal notices and official instruments. Official notices posted by public officers or employees in the performance of their duties.
- (6) Signs erected on public property or within public rights-of-way for a celebration, convention, or commemoration of significance to the entire community when authorized by the city manager for a prescribed period of time.
- (7) Memorial signs, plaques, or tablets, or other remembrances of persons or events that are noncommercial in nature, subject to city council approval.
- (8) Machinery or equipment signs. Signs incorporated into machinery or equipment by a manufacturer or distributor, which identify or advertise only the product or service dispensed by the machine or equipment, such as signs customarily affixed to vending machines, newspaper racks, telephone booths, and gasoline pumps, provided no extraneous graphics, unrelated to such machinery or equipment, or advertising, are attached or painted thereon.
- (9) *Vehicle signs.* Signs located on taxicabs, buses, automobiles, boats, trolleys, trailers, trucks, or other vehicles or vehicle bumpers, bicycles or other human-powered vehicles, for the purpose of identification, safety, and incidental advertisement, provided that such sign is not prohibited by article III, division 2 of this chapter.
- (10) Warning signs. Where such signs warn of a danger, they shall be removed within three days following the subsidence of danger. The number, location, type, area and height of such warning signs shall be as necessary to warn the public of the existence of danger. However, signs warning of a danger, which are greater than one square foot in area or three feet in height shall have the approval of the city manager prior to being erected. Other warning signs which advise of any other condition on the premises shall not exceed one sign per property, no higher than two feet high, if a ground sign, and no greater than

48 square inches in size. Where the size, height or placement of a warning sign is prescribed by general law, the general law shall control.

- (11) Building identification signs as required by section 126-938.
- (12) Waste receptacle signs. Signs on waste receptacles, provided:
 - a. There is only one sign per receptacle;
 - b. The sign is a maximum of one square foot in area; and
 - c. The sign copy identifies only the owner of the receptacle and provides instructions for the placement or use of the receptacle.
- (13) *Holiday decorations.* Holiday lights, displays, and decorations, from the third Thursday in November through January 9. Holiday decorations clearly incidental and customary, and commonly associated with any national, local, or religious holiday are exempt within seven days before and after such holiday.
- (14) Handicapped parking signs erected in accordance with the city building code.
- (15) Parking lot directional and instructional signs.
 - a. *Directional signs.* Signs designating parking area entrances and exits bearing no advertising copy, limited to one sign for each entrance or exit, with a sign face area not exceeding one square foot and a height not exceeding three feet.
 - b. *Instructional signs.* Signs designating the conditions of use or identity of parking areas, bearing no advertising copy that is visible from a public access area or adjoining property. Such signs shall have a sign face area not exceeding one square foot and a height not exceeding six feet.
- (16) Other directional or instructional signs. Signs with a sign face area not exceeding one square foot and a height not exceeding six feet, which provide direction or instruction to guide persons to facilities intended to serve the public, providing that such signs contain no advertising copy of any kind. Such signs include those identifying restrooms, accessory uses at resort housing, public telephones, public walkways, and other similar signs, but not including those signs accessory to parking areas.
- (17) Statutory signs. Statutory signs, provided the sign face area does not exceed one square foot, unless:
 - a. The law requiring the sign expressly requires a larger sign face area; or
 - b. The copy required by the law would not be legible within the required context.
- (18) Signs on benches. Signs on public benches, provided such signs bear no advertising copy, identify only the entity furnishing the bench, are a maximum of 72 square inches in area, and number only one per bench.
- (19) Signs carried by an individual bearing no advertising.
- (20) Symbols or insignia. Religious symbols, or identification emblems of religious orders not exceeding two square feet in sign face area. (See article III, division 5, Flags of this chapter.)
- (21) Temporary signs. Signs erected on a temporary basis of which comply with article III, division 3, Temporary Signs of this chapter, except for those temporary signs associated with a one-time event, pursuant to section 110-82, Associated signs.
- (22) Utility signs. Public utility signs that identify the location of underground utility lines and facilities, high voltage lines and facilities, and other utility facilities and appurtenances are permitted so long as they do not exceed three feet in height, and so long as the sign face area does not exceed one-half square foot.

(23) Murals. A sign that does not satisfy the definition for mural provided in section 106-1 due to commercial advertisement is considered a billboard and is, therefore, a prohibited sign.

(24) International maritime signal flags. Various flags used to communicate with ships using the International Code of Signals at marinas or associated special use districts.

(Ord. No. 85-26, § 1(I.E.18(c)), 11-27-1985; Ord. No. 87-18, § 2, 7-7-1987; Ord. No. 93-15, § 1, 8-3-1993; Ord. No. 22-005, § 2, 7-19-2022)