

Chapter 18 - SIGN REGULATIONS<sup>11</sup>

Footnotes:

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**Editor's note**— Ordinance No. 0-9192-37, § 1, adopted August 11, 1992, amended Ch. 18, §§ 18-101—18-902, to read as set out herein. Formerly, such sections pertained to sign regulations and derived from the following ordinances:

Ord. No.	Ord. No.
0-7879-10	0-8485-11
0-7879-81	0-8586-05
0-8182-67	0-8586-20
0-8283-05	0-8586-61
0-8283-08	0-8990-38
0-8283-09	0-8990-47
0-8283-54	0-9091-24

**Cross reference**— Code enforcement department to enforce this chapter, § 2-201; building construction, Ch. 5; bonding and licensing of sign contractors, §§ 13-2601—13-2605; use of signs to advertise garage sales, § 13-903; sign requirements for oil, gas or mineral production sites, § 13-1517; restrictions on use of signs at retail liquor store, § 13-2109; zoning, Ch. 22.

ARTICLE I. - ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Sec. 18-101. - Title.

This chapter shall be known and cited as the "City of Norman Sign Code."

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-102. - Purpose and intent.

- (a) *Purpose.* It is the purpose of this chapter to establish effective sign regulations which recognize the public as well as private interest and investment in our environment, and which regulate the number, size and location of signs; relate signs to the individual use, site and structure; prohibit unsafe signs;

cause removal of abandoned and nonconforming signs; and promote and protect the health, safety, welfare, convenience and enjoyment of the City for its residents and visitors.

- (b) *Intent.* It is the intent of this chapter to promote more effective signing practices which will be compatible with their surroundings and appropriate to the type of activity to which they pertain; to encourage greater consideration of influencing factors and thoughtful design of signs; to promote economic and business development; to protect property values; to reduce distractions and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents; and to enhance and protect the physical appearance and natural beauty of the City.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-103. - Scope and application of this code [chapter].

The provisions of this code [chapter] shall apply to the display, construction, erection, alteration, use, location and maintenance of all signs within the City, including any sign erected or constructed prior to the enactment of this code [chapter]. (See article VIII.)

This chapter does not regulate in any manner the written or depicted copy on any sign, but only the height, area, location and similar aspects of signs and sign structures. Nor does this chapter regulate in any manner pure graphic material, noncommercial holiday signs and decorations, public informational and safety signs, or signs required by local, state or federal law.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-103.1. - Exemptions.

Except as specifically provided, the following shall be exempt from the provisions of this code [chapter]:

- (1) Signs which are not visible beyond the boundaries of the lot or parcel upon which they are located or from any public right-of-way, except that such signs shall be subject to the safety regulations of the Building Code and the Electric Code of the City.
- (2) Official governmental notices and notices posted by governmental officers in the performance of their duties, governmental signs to control traffic or for other regulatory purposes, or to identify streets, or to warn of danger.
- (3) The flag, pennant or insignia of any nation, organization of nations, state, county or city, any religious, civic, fraternal organization, or any educational institution. Additionally, one (1) corporate name or logo-bearing flag not exceeding twenty-four (24) square feet in size will be permitted.
- (4) Temporary decorations or displays, when such are clearly incidental to and are customarily and commonly associated with any national, local or religious holiday or celebration.
- (5) Temporary or permanent signs erected by public utility companies or construction companies to warn of danger or hazardous conditions, including signs indicating the presence of underground cables, gas lines and similar devices.
- (6) Merchandise, pictures or models of products or services which are incorporated as an integral part of a window display.
- (7) Signs displayed on trucks, buses, trailers or other vehicles which are being operated or stored in the normal course of a business, such as signs indicating the name of the owner or business which are located on moving vans, delivery trucks, rental trucks and trailers and the like; provided that the primary purpose of such vehicles is not for the display of signs, and provided that they are parked or stored in areas appropriate to their use as vehicles.

- (8) Directional signs located in the street right-of-way; provided such signs are approved by the Director of Public Works or his designee.
- (9) Political signs may be placed within the right-of-way (the area between the property line and the curb or edge of the public street) in front of or along the side of any single-family dwelling, provided that the permission of the property owner has been obtained and such signs are no wider than thirty (30) inches or taller than twenty (20) inches in height. Political signs may not be placed in the right-of-way abutting the rear or side yard of the dwelling when that portion of the lot abuts a section line road or an arterial roadway. If the dwelling has a fence or wall along the rear or side of the lot which separates the dwelling from the arterial or section line road, no sign may be placed either on or outside of that fence adjacent to the roadway.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-0304-48, § 1)

Sec. 18-104. - Enforcement.

The Code Compliance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to enforce all provisions of this code [chapter]. He shall appear for and on behalf of the City in all matters regarding the interpretation and application of this code [chapter], and shall resist and oppose any deviations from the provisions of this code [chapter]. Upon presentation of proper credentials, the Code Compliance Officer or his authorized representative may enter at reasonable times the public areas of any building, structure or premises in the City to perform any duty imposed upon him by this code [chapter]. Upon presentation of a warrant, the Code Compliance Officer or his authorized representative may enter at reasonable times any area of any building, structure or premises in the City to perform any duty imposed upon him by this code [chapter].

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

Sec. 18-105. - Violations.

It shall be a violation of this code [chapter] for any person to perform, or order the performance of, any act which is contrary to the provisions of this code [chapter], or to fail to perform any act which is required by the provisions of this code [chapter]. In the case of a continuing violation, each twenty-four-hour period in which the violation exists shall constitute a separate violation.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-106. - Application of other laws.

If any of the provisions of this code [chapter] are inconsistent with the provisions of any other law or laws, presently existing or enacted in the future, of the City in that the requirements regarding signs of the respective provisions differ, the provision containing the more restrictive requirements will apply.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

ARTICLE II. - DEFINITIONS

Sec. 18-201. - Words and terms.

The following are definitions of words and terms as they are used in this chapter. Any term not contained within this list shall be construed to be used in this chapter as defined in the latest edition of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

*Accessory:* Subordinate or incidental to, and on the same lot or on a contiguous lot in the same ownership, as the building or use being identified or advertised.

*Animation:* Any visible mechanical movement in any sign, or apparent movement achieved by electrical pulsations or by other means, such as sequential light phasing.

*Architectural projection:* Any projection, excluding signs, which is not intended for occupancy and which extends beyond the face of an exterior wall of a building, including, but not limited to, roof overhangings, wing walls, mansards, unenclosed exterior balconies, marquees, canopies (whether attached or detached), pilasters, fascias and awnings.

*Awning:* A movable shelter supported entirely from the exterior wall of a building and of a type which can be retracted, folded or collapsed against the face of the supporting building.

*Building code:* The latest building code as amended and adopted by the City.

*Canopy:* A permanently roofed shelter covering a sidewalk, driveway, service area or other similar area, which is usually supported by the building to which it is attached.

*Code Compliance Officer:* The person charged with the administration and enforcement of this chapter, or his duly authorized deputy.

*Days:* Shall mean consecutive working days exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and recognized City legal holidays.

*Designated mile:* That distance along the center line of a street measured between the center lines of two (2) section lines intersecting such street.

*Display face:* See "sign side."

*Electric code:* As adopted by the City.

*Electric sign:* Any sign containing electrical wiring, but not including signs illuminated solely by exterior light sources, such as floodlights.

*Feather flag:* A freestanding sign typically constructed with a plastic or metal shaft driven in the ground and an attached pennant typically in the shape of a feather, teardrop or rectangle that is vertically elongated and attached to the shaft.

*Fence signs:* Signs displayed on any structure used as a fence.

*Flare:* Any torch, fuse, wick or other illuminating device utilizing open flames to attract attention to an establishment.

*Footlambert:* The average brightness of any surface, or the uniform brightness of a perfectly diffusing surface, emitting or reflecting one (1) lumen per square foot. Footlamberts are measured with an exposure meter equipped with a footlambert scale.

*Frontage, building:* The horizontal, lineal dimension of that side of a building which abuts a street, a parking area, a mall or other circulation area open to the general public; and having either a main window display of the enterprise or a public entrance to the building. (In industrial districts, a building side with an entrance open to industrial employees shall also qualify as a building frontage.) Where more than one (1) use occupies a building, each such use having a public entrance or main window display for its exclusive use shall be considered to have its own building frontage, which shall be the front width of the portion of the building occupied by that use.

*Frontage road:* A local service road constructed as part of the interstate highway system, which lies within the Interstate 35 right-of-way, including any on- or off-ramps.

*Frontage, street:* The lineal frontage (or frontages) of a lot or parcel abutting on a private or public street which provides principal access to, or visibility of, the premises.

*Height:* The vertical distance measured from the elevation of the nearest sidewalks, (or, in the absence of a sidewalk within twenty-five (25) feet, then from the lowest point of finished grade on the lot

upon which the sign is located and within twenty-five (25) feet of the sign) to the uppermost point on the sign or sign structure.

*Illumination, direct:* Lighting by means of an unshielded light source (including neon tubing) which is effectively visible as a part of the sign, where light travels directly from the source to the viewer's eye.

*Illumination, indirect:* Lighting by means of a light source, not itself visible, which is directed at a reflecting surface in such a way as to illuminate the sign, or a light source which is primarily designed to illuminate the entire building facade upon which a sign is displayed. Indirect illumination does not include lighting which is primarily used for purposes other than sign illumination; e.g., parking lot lights or lights inside a building which may silhouette a window sign, but which are primarily installed to serve as inside illumination.

*Illumination, internal:* Lighting by means of a light source which is within a sign having a translucent background, silhouetting opaque letters or designs, or which is within letters or designs which are themselves made of a translucent material.

*Interstate 35 corridor:* That area which lies within one thousand three hundred twenty (1320) feet of the center line of the I-35 right-of-way. For purposes of measurement, the center line is in the middle of the typical cross-section of the highway pavement, excluding any acceleration or deceleration lanes, or on- or off-ramps such that it is between and equidistant from the opposing main travel lanes.

*Kiosk:* A small structure, typically located within a pedestrian walkway or similar circulation area, and intended for use as a key, magazine or similar type of small shop, or for use as display space for posters, notices and exhibits.

*Leading edge:* That portion of the sign structure projecting the farthest from the building.

*Light source:* Includes neon lights, fluorescent lights, incandescent lights and any reflecting surface which, by reason of its construction and/or placement, becomes, in effect, the light source.

*Lot:* A portion or parcel of land, whether part of a platted subdivision or otherwise, occupied or intended to be occupied by a building or use and its accessories, together with such yards as are required under the provisions of the zoning ordinance. A lot must be an integral unit of land held under unified ownership in fee or in co-tenancy, or under legal control tantamount to such ownership.

*Maintenance:* The replacing, repairing or repainting of a sign structure made necessary by ordinary wear and tear, weather or accident. All such work shall be performed so as to conform with all applicable code [chapter] provisions.

*Marquee:* A permanently roofed structure attached to and supported by a building and projecting from the building.

*Multiple-unit sign:* A single sign which uses more than one (1) separate component to convey its advertising message.

*Owner:* That person who owns a sign, and who either owns the property on which the sign is located or is the owner of the business being conducted on the premises to which the sign pertains.

*Political sign:* All signs concerning the candidacy of an individual or individuals for public office or concerning support or opposition to any public issue.

*Public entrance:* An entrance to a building or premises which is customarily used or intended for use by the general public. Fire exits, special employee entrances, loading dock entrances not generally used by the public, and the like, shall not be considered as public entrances.

*Roof:* The cover of any building, including the eaves and similar projections.

*Roof line:* The highest point on any building where an exterior wall encloses usable floor space, including floor area for housing mechanical equipment. The term "roof line" shall also include the highest point on any parapet wall, providing said parapet wall extends around the entire perimeter of the building.

*Setback line:* A line or lines designating the yard requirements established for the particular zoning district classification of a tract, parcel, or lot.

*Sight triangle:* As defined by the zoning ordinance of the City.

*Sign:* Any writing, pictorial representation, decoration (including any material used to differentiate sign copy from its background), form, emblem, or trademark, flag or banner, or any other figure of similar character which:

- (1) Is a structure or any part thereof (including the roof or wall of a building); or
- (2) Is written, printed, projected, painted, constructed or otherwise placed or displayed upon or designed into a building, board, plate, canopy, awning, vehicle or upon any material object or device whatsoever; and
- (3) Is designed to attract attention to the subject thereof or is used as a means of identification, advertisement or announcement by means of its form, color, wording, symbol, design, illumination or motion.

*Sign, classes of:*

*Bench sign, courtesy:* Any bench or seat placed at an approved bus stop for the convenience of the public and which may contain advertising matter. Their specific location must be approved by an agreement between the transit provider and the City Council.

*Bulletin board sign:* A sign used for the purpose of notification to the public of an event or occurrence of public interest, such as a church service, political rally, civic meeting or other similar events or occurrences.

*Bus shelter:* A roofed, partially enclosed structure erected at an approved bus stop for the convenience of the public which may have advertising matter affixed to it. Their specific location must be approved by an agreement between the transit provider and the City Council.

*Grand opening sign:* Any temporary sign which calls attention to a new business.

*Ground sign:* A sign which is supported by one (1) or more columns, uprights, poles or braces extended from the ground or from an object on the ground, or a sign which is erected on the ground; providing that no part of the sign is attached to any part of any building structure or other sign.

*Identification sign:* The term "identification sign" shall include the following:

- (1) A sign which establishes the identity of a building or building complex by name or symbol only;
- (2) A sign which indicates street address or combines name plate and street address;
- (3) A sign which identifies an area in the city which, by reason of development, natural features, historical occurrences or common references, has or will become a landmark in the City;
- (4) A commemorative sign, such as a cornerstone, memorial or plaque, when such is cut into a masonry surface or constructed of bronze or other incombustible material and is made an integral part of the structure.

*Joint identification sign:* A sign which serves a common or collective identification for two (2) or more commercial or industrial uses on the same lot. Such sign may contain a directory to said uses as an integral part thereof or may serve as general identification only for developments such as shopping centers and industrial parks.

*Marquee sign:* A sign depicted upon, attached to or supported by a marquee as herein defined.

*Model home sign:* Any temporary sign which calls attention to a model home offered for sale in a subdivision, that is staffed by a salesperson during normal business hours.

*Off-premise sign:* Any sign, including a billboard or general outdoor advertising device, which advertises or directs attention to a business, commodity, service or activity conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than on the same lot or within the same building upon which such sign is located.

*Open house sign:* Any temporary sign which calls attention to a home for sale or rent which is temporarily open to the public and staffed during the "open house" event.

*Permanent sign:* Any sign which is not a temporary sign as defined herein.

*Portable trailer sign:* A sign so designated as to be removable from one (1) location to another and not permanently attached to the ground or to any immobile structure, whose primary function during a specific time is to provide advertisement of products or directing people to a business or activity located on the premises.

*Projecting sign:* A sign attached to a building or extending in whole or in part fifteen (15) inches or more horizontally beyond the surface of the building to which the sign is attached and where the face of the sign is not in a plane parallel to the wall to which it is attached, but not including a "marquee sign" as herein defined.

*Real estate sign:* A sign indicating the availability for sale, rent or lease of the specific lot, building or portion of a building upon which the sign is erected or displayed.

*Roof sign:* A sign painted on the roof of a building, supported by poles, uprights or braces extending from the roof of a building; or projecting above the roof line of a building, but not including a sign projecting from or attached to a wall as permitted by this code [chapter].

*Suspended sign:* A sign suspended from the ceiling of an arcade, marquee, canopy or other architectural projection as herein defined.

*Temporary sign:* A sign, banner, pennant, balloon or similar device or display for short-term display (not exceeding ninety (90) days, except where specified elsewhere in this section) to announce a special event. A lot where a temporary sign was permitted shall be eligible for another temporary sign permit only after said permit expires and all temporary signs have been completely removed for a like period. Said sign may be constructed of cloth, canvas, cardboard, or other material, with or without a structural frame.

*Temporary window sign:* A sign which is affixed or displayed on the inside of a window, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days. It shall not require any permit or any fee.

*Time-temperature-date sign:* A sign which displays the time, outdoor temperature and/or date of the month.

*Vehicle-mounted sign:* A sign displayed upon a trailer, van, truck, automobile, bus, railroad car, tractor, semi-trailer or other vehicle, whether or not such vehicle is in operating condition.

*Wall sign:* A sign attached flat to any wall of an enclosed building, where the exposed face of the sign is in a plane parallel to the plane of said wall and extends not more than fifteen (15) inches horizontally from the face of said wall. A sign erected upon or against the side of a roof having an angle of forty-five (45) degrees or less from the vertical shall be considered to be a wall sign and shall be regulated as such. A sign painted directly on the surface of the building.

*Wind sign:* A sign consisting of one (1) or more banners, flags, pennants, ribbons, spinners, streamers or captive balloons, or other objects or material fastened in such a manner as to move upon being subjected to pressure by wind or breeze. A banner anchored securely, so as to restrict movement to a minimum, is not a wind sign.

*Window sign:* A sign which is painted on, applied or attached to or located within three (3) feet of the interior of a window, which sign can be seen through the window from the exterior of the structure. Merchandise which is included in a window display shall not be included as part of a window sign.

*Sign, illegal nonconforming:* A sign which was in violation of any of the laws of the City governing the erection or construction of such sign at the time of its erection, and which has never been erected or displayed in conformance with all such laws, including this code [chapter], and which shall include signs which are pasted, nailed, painted on or otherwise unlawfully displayed upon structures, utility poles, trees, fences or other signs.

*Sign, legal nonconforming:* Any sign which was lawfully erected and maintained prior to the enactment of this code [chapter] and any amendments thereto, and which does not conform to all the applicable regulations and restrictions of this code [chapter].

*Sign side:* The surface of a sign upon, against or through which the message is displayed or illustrated.

*Sign structure:* A sign including any supports, uprights, braces or framework of a sign.

*Structure:* Anything constructed or erected with a fixed location on the ground above grade, but not including poles, lines, cables or other transmission or distribution facilities of public utilities.

*Subdivision:* As defined in the subdivision regulations of the City.

*Vertical surface:* That wall area of a single building elevation which encompasses all of such elevation from ground or grade level to the top of all sides.

*Zoning ordinance:* The City Zoning Ordinance, together with all amendments thereto.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9293-24; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-9900-50; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 1)

### ARTICLE III. - PERMITS, PLANS, FEES AND INSPECTIONS

#### Sec. 18-301. - Permits.

Except as provided in section 18-401.1 of this code [chapter], it shall be unlawful to display, erect, relocate or alter any sign without first filing with the Code Compliance Officer an application in writing, and obtaining a sign permit. When a sign permit has been issued by the Code Compliance Officer, it shall be unlawful to change, modify, alter or otherwise deviate from the terms or conditions of said permit without prior approval of the Code Compliance Officer. A written record of such approval shall be entered upon the original permit application and maintained in the files of the Code Compliance Officer.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

#### Sec. 18-301.1. - Application for permit.

The application for a sign permit shall be made by the owner or a sign contractor licensed by the City. Such applications shall be made in writing on forms furnished by the Code Compliance Officer and shall be signed by the applicant.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

#### Sec. 18-301.2. - Revocation of permits.

If the Code Compliance Officer finds that work under any permit issued is not in accordance with the information supplied in the permit application and/or is in violation of this chapter or any other pertinent ordinance, or should he find that there has been any misrepresentation in connection with the application for the permit, he shall notify the owner or sign contractor of such findings and that the violation must be corrected without delay. If such correction is not made, the Code Compliance Officer shall revoke the permit and serve written notice thereof upon the owner or sign contractor. No person shall proceed with any part of such work after such notice is received. The owner or sign contractor shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Code Compliance Officer in the manner provided for in article IX herein.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)



Sec. 18-301.3. - Revocation of permits for nonuse.

- (a) If substantial actual work either on- or off-site is not commenced under any permit issued within sixty (60) days from the date of such permit, and/or if substantial building operations under any permit issued under this article are suspended for a period of sixty (60) consecutive days, the permit shall automatically become null and void.
- (b) Delays which are not a result of willful acts or neglect of the contractor, owner or person obtaining the permit may be excluded from the terms of paragraph (a) above, and the Code Compliance Officer may grant an extension of time in which to start or resume operations. All requests for extension and approval thereof shall be in writing.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

Sec. 18-301.4. - Forfeiture of fees.

When any permit has been revoked under the terms of section 18-301.2 or 18-301.3, permit fees shall not be refunded.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-302. - Plans, specifications and other data required.

The application for a sign permit shall be accompanied by the following plans and other information:

- (1) The name, address and telephone number of the owner or persons entitled to possession of the sign and of the sign contractor or erector.
- (2) The location by street address of the site of the proposed sign structure.
- (3) Complete information as required on application forms provided by the Department of Planning and Community Development, including a site plan and elevation drawings and precise location of the proposed sign, caption of the proposed sign, and such other data as is pertinent to the application.
- (4) Plans indicating the scope and structural detail of the work to be done, including details of all connections, guy lines, supports and footings, and material to be used.
- (5) Application for an electrical permit, and required information for such application, for all electric signs if the person building the sign is to make the electrical connection.
- (6) A statement of valuation.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

Sec. 18-303. - Permit fees.

A permit fee shall be paid to the City for each sign permit issued under this code [chapter]. The permit fee shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

Bench or bus shelter signs: Ten dollars (\$10.00) per year

Temporary signs (31—90 days): Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)

Temporary signs (1—30 days): Fifteen dollars (\$15.00)

Temporary window signs, as defined in section 18-201: No permit

Permanent ground signs, on-premise: Thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)

Permanent signs other than ground signs, on-premise: Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)

Permanent signs, off-premise: Fifty dollars (\$50.00). Renewal: Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year

Electronic digital sign, new construction or conversion (one-time fee): on-premise sign: Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), off-premise sign: Five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

The above fees do not include electrical permit fees, which shall be in addition to the above. If any person installs or commences work on a sign for which a permit is required before obtaining the necessary permit, the permit fee shall automatically be doubled.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-1112-32, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1213-6, § 1)

#### Sec. 18-304. - Identification and marking.

Each permanent sign hereafter erected or remodeled shall bear thereon a clearly legible identification plate not exceeding fifteen (15) square inches in area stating the name of the person, firm or corporation responsible for its construction and erection, with installation date and permit number thereon. Electrical signs shall be marked with input amperes at full load input.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

#### Sec. 18-305. - Inspections.

All signs shall be subject to inspections by the Code Compliance Officer. Footing inspections shall be required on the day of excavation for all ground signs. The Code Compliance Officer shall, within forty-eight (48) hours after being notified that the sign is ready for inspection, also require inspection of electrical signs before erection. The permit holder or his agent shall notify the Code Compliance Officer when signs are complete and ready for final inspection.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

#### Sec. 18-306. - Sign contractor's license.

No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of installing, erecting, moving or maintaining signs in the City unless said person, firm or corporation has been issued a sign contractor's license, in accordance with section 13-2601 of the Code, which license is in effect at the time of said work.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

#### Sec. 18-307. - Courtesy bench signs or bus shelters.

Bus stops are designated by an annual contract between the transit provider (CART) and the City of Norman. This section only allows one (1) bench or shelter per designated bus stop. Shelters are allowed in areas zoned for industrial, commercial, office, institutional, or multi-family use, while benches are more appropriate in low-density residential or agricultural areas. Benches or shelters, with advertising, shall not be located in front of a single-family or two-family dwelling, but may be erected adjacent to a neighborhood comprised of such dwellings, provided the bench/shelter is located on an arterial roadway at the perimeter of the subdivision. Once designated, a construction permit must be approved by the Public Works Department and Planning Department, subject to compliance with this section and the Administrative Guidelines approved with the annual contract. Advertising on benches or shelters is allowed after an annually renewable sign permit is issued at locations which have received a construction permit issued by the Public Works Department.

- (a) One (1) bench or bus shelter may be constructed at each designated bus stop indicated by contract with the City. It must be a minimum of six (6) feet away from the curb or edge of pavement, and must be within one (1) foot to three (3) feet of a public sidewalk (if present). It may not be placed within any sight triangle, nor restrict access to aboveground or underground utilities.
- (b) All signage for benches must be contained within one (1) single-faced area no larger than two (2) feet high by six (6) feet long. All signage for shelters must be contained within one (1) double-faced area no larger than fifty (50) inches wide by seventy (70) inches high, with no projections or space extensions allowed on either benches or shelters.
- (c) Such signs may be on benches or shelters located within the public right-of-way, or on private property, subject to the issuance of a construction permit issued by the Public Works Department. The written consent of the abutting property owner shall be obtained when the proposed bench or shelter is located within an area that is zoned R-1, Single-Family Dwelling District.
- (d) All construction must comply with either the "Prototype Bench Design," dated January, 1993, or the "Prototype Shelter Design," dated January, 1993, or an alternate design approved by the Public Works Director. An emergency phone number must be submitted indicating the individual or agency responsible for maintenance of the bench, shelter, and advertisements. Bus shelters may be lighted from within providing that all lighting and electrical connections are made in accordance with all construction requirements as approved by the Public Works Director.

(Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1)

Sec. 18-308. - Festival or public event banners.

Signs announcing specific events or promotions that are of a legitimate public benefit to the community at large may be erected within the public right-of-way when authorized by a "limited license" approved by the City Manager or designee. The size, number, type, and wording of such signs must be specified in the license, as well as their location and duration of use. Because of their unique location within the public right-of-way, such banners shall not be placed so as to interfere with legitimate traffic and safety concerns.

If such a limited license is denied by the City Manager or his designee on the grounds that the sign to be licensed does not announce an event or promotion that is of legitimate public benefit to the community at large, the applicant for the license shall have the right to appeal to the Council of the City of Norman. Such appeal shall be taken by filing with the City Clerk within ten (10) working days after denial of a license by the City Manager or his designee a written statement setting forth fully the grounds for the appeal. After receipt of the written statement, the City Clerk shall schedule the appeal for hearing by the City Council on the next available agenda. The applicant shall be notified of the time of the hearing at least seven (7) days prior to such hearing. Proper mailing to the address shown on the application shall be adequate notification. The decision and order of the Council on such appeal shall be final and conclusive.

(Ord. No. 0-9596-6; Ord. No. 0-1415-35, § 1)

#### ARTICLE IV. - GENERAL REGULATIONS

Sec. 18-401. - Scope.

The provisions and requirements of this article shall apply to all signs erected or maintained in the City.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-401.1. - Permits not required for certain signs.

All applicable provisions of this Code [chapter] shall apply, except that setback requirements shall not apply, nor shall a sign permit or a sign permit fee be required for the following signs in all zoning districts:

- (1) Nonilluminated identification signs which do not exceed two (2) square feet per face or four (4) square feet in total surface area; provided such signs are limited to six (6) feet or less in height and limited to one (1) such sign per use or per building, whichever is the greater number.
- (2) Temporary, nonilluminated real estate signs, including "model home" and "open house" signs, which do not exceed six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet in total area and six (6) feet in height limited to one (1) such sign per street frontage. Such signs shall not remain in place more than seven (7) days after the occupancy of the subject property.
- (3) Signs in the nature of cornerstones, commemorative tablets and historical signs which do not exceed four (4) square feet per face in area and six (6) feet in height, and which are nonilluminated or indirectly illuminated.
- (4) Private traffic directional signs guiding or directing vehicular or pedestrian traffic onto or off of a lot or within a lot, when such do not exceed the limitations set forth below for the respective zone and eight (8) feet in height, do not contain any advertising or trade name identification.

Zone	Square Feet Per Face
Industrial	8
Commercial	4
Medium Density	3
Low Density	Not allowed

- (5) Signs required or specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute or ordinance may be of any type, number, area, height above grade, location or illumination authorized by the law, statute or ordinance under which such signs are required or authorized. No such sign shall be placed in the public right-of-way unless specifically authorized or required by law, statute or ordinance; and, except for warning signs or barricades of a temporary nature, such signs shall be permanently affixed to the ground, a building or other structure.
- (6) Temporary nonilluminated political signs.
- (7) Temporary window sign. On-premise sign which complies with the definition contained in section 18-201.
- (8) Signs described in subsections (1) through (7) above shall not be counted against total allowable sign area, unless such signs exceed the limitations specified.
- (9) No permit shall be required for maintenance or for copy changes of a legal conforming sign. No permit shall be required for maintenance of a legal, nonconforming sign.

- (10) No permit shall be required for notices posted on bulletin board signs authorized as per section 18-905(d).
- (11) Each school, whether public or private, may erect one (1) free-standing, internally illuminated, ground sign on the school property. Such sign shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet in height nor forty-eight (48) square feet per face. In addition to the name or address of the school, one-half (½) of the sign area may contain a changeable copy portion for public announcements. Such sign shall substitute for any ground sign allowed by other sections of this chapter, but shall not count against allowable wall signage. Wall signage denoting the name or address of the school may not exceed fifty-five (55) square feet. Although a permit fee is not required, such sign shall be reviewed and inspected for compliance with this chapter.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9495-6; Ord. No. 0-9596-6; Ord. No. 0-0102-35)

Sec. 18-402. - Prohibited signs.

The following signs shall not be permitted, erected or maintain in the City:

- (1) Signs with visible moving, revolving, flashing, blinking, rotating parts or visible mechanical movement of any description, except for time-temperature-date signs.
- (2) Signs with optical illusion of movement by means of a design which presents a pattern capable of reversible perspective, giving the illusion of motion or changing of copy, except for electronic digital signs, as regulated by this chapter.
- (3) Animated signs.
- (4) Flares as herein defined.
- (5) Strings of light bulbs, greater than four (4) watts per bulb, used in connection with commercial premises for commercial purposes, other than traditional holiday decorations.
- (6) Wind signs as herein defined, except for wind signs which are otherwise permitted in other sections of this Code.
- (7) Signs which incorporate projected images or emit any sound which is intended to attract attention.
- (8) Any sign (together with its supporting structure) now or hereafter existing which, ninety (90) days or more after the premises have been vacated, advertises an activity, business, product or service no longer produced or conducted upon the premises upon which such sign is located.
- (9) Any sign which is installed or erected in or projects into or over any public right-of-way, except in the case of a sign for which a permit has been issued in conformance with the requirements of this code [chapter].
- (10) Signs attached or otherwise applied to trees or utility poles.
- (11) Signs not permanently affixed or attached to the ground or to any structure, including A-frame type signs, except for real estate signs attached to posts driven into the ground, window signs and temporary barriers.
- (12) Portable trailer signs.
- (13) Any sign or sign structure which:
  - a. Is structurally unsafe;
  - b. Constitutes a hazard to safety or health by reason of inadequate maintenance or dilapidation;
  - c. Is not kept in good repair;
  - d. Is abandoned; or

- e. Is capable of causing electrical shocks to persons likely to come in contact with it.
- (14) Any sign or sign structure which:
- a. In any way obstructs the view of, may be confused with, or purports to be an official traffic sign, signal or device or any other official sign;
  - b. Uses words, phrases, symbols or characters implying the existence of danger or the need for stopping or maneuvering of a motor vehicle;
  - c. Creates in any other way an unsafe distraction for motor vehicle operators; or
  - d. Obstructs the view of motor vehicle operators entering a public roadway from any parking area, service drive, private driveway, alley or other thoroughfare.
- (15) Any sign which obstructs free ingress to or egress from a required door, window, fire escape or other required exit way.
- (16) Illegal nonconforming signs, as defined herein.
- (17) Roof signs.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9596-6; Ord. No. 0-1112-32, § 2; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 2)

Sec. 18-403. - Computation of sign area.

The area of a sign shall be measured in conformance with the following regulations:

- (1) In computing the area of a sign, standard mathematical formulas for common regular geometric shapes (triangle, parallelogram, circle and ellipse, or combinations thereof) shall be used.
- (2) In the case of an irregularly shaped sign or a sign with letters and/or symbols directly affixed to the wall of a building, the area of the sign shall be the entire area within a single continuous rectilinear perimeter of not more than eight (8) straight lines enclosing the extreme limits or writing, representation, emblem or any figure of similar character, together with any material or color forming an integral part or background of the display or used to differentiate such sign from the backdrop or structure against which it is placed.
- (3) That portion of the sign structure which is visible and viewed in the same plane as the sign face, and which is made an integral part or background of the display, shall be included in computing the total sign area.
- (4) Where a sign has two (2) or more display faces, the area of all faces shall be included in determining sign area.
- (5) The total surface area of multiple-unit signs shall include the vertical and horizontal spacing between the letters which comprise the word or words that convey the sign's message.
- (6) Where three-dimensional figures are used as signs, the area shall be the total area, as projected on a vertical plane, of each side of the figure. For purposes of this regulation, a figure shall be considered to have not less than one (1), nor more than four (4), sides and be determined by the intended location and visibility of the figure.
- (7) Street or building frontage used as the basis of determining permitted sign area for one (1) building or use shall not be used again as the basis for determining the permitted sign area for another building or use.
- (8) All riders or attachments to signs or sign structures (whether temporary or permanent) shall be included as part of the total sign area for the sign to which they are attached.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-404. - Signs at street intersections.

On any corner lot, no sign shall be permitted in the sight triangle.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-405. - Illumination.

Illuminated signs shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Any light used for the illumination of a sign shall be shielded so that the beams or rays of light will not shine directly onto surrounding areas.
- (2) Neither the direct nor the reflected light from any light source shall create a traffic hazard or distraction to operators of motor vehicles on public thoroughfares.
- (3) Signs in residential and agricultural zoning districts shall be either nonilluminated, internally or indirectly illuminated, but may not be directly illuminated.
- (4) Signs in commercial and industrial zoning districts may be indirectly, directly or internally illuminated.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9596-6; Ord. No. 0-1213-6, § 2)

Sec. 18-406. - Permanent identification signs for specific areas.

- (a) Permanent, ornamental identification signs for specific areas within the City such as residential subdivisions shall be permitted in all zoning districts as special exceptions subject to the provisions of article IX and the following requirements:
  - (1) Such signs shall be constructed of a permanent maintenance-free material and located at the major entrances to such areas.
  - (2) Information contained on such signs shall be limited to the name and/or address of the area being identified.
  - (3) Such signs may be indirectly illuminated, but shall not have direct or internal illumination.
  - (4) Such signs shall be limited to five (5) feet in height and sixty (60) square feet per sign side. The number of such signs shall be limited to two (2) signs for each major entrance to the area being identified.
- (b) Permanent, ornamental identification signs for specific areas, such as subdivisions, may be approved administratively without Board of Adjustment review if the following additional requirements are complied with:
  - (1) One (1) such sign may be erected at the intersection of a primary arterial and collector street entrance to any subdivision.
  - (2) Such sign(s) shall be single-faced, limited to five (5) feet in height and thirty-two (32) square feet in area. Two (2) such signs may be erected, provided they are limited to thirty-two (32) square feet in total area.
  - (3) Such sign shall be located on private property, with an easement dedicated to the owner of said sign. Such sign may be attached to a permanent perimeter fence which was a subdivision requirement, provided that the fence is predominantly constructed of masonry or rock.
  - (4) Such sign shall be limited in copy to the official name of the subdivision.
- (c) Any administrative denial of a permanent identification sign may be taken to the Board of Adjustment as a special exception.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-407. - Signs accessory to nonconforming uses.

Signs accessory to legal nonconforming uses shall be permitted, subject to all regulations of the zoning district wherein such signs and uses are located. Wall signs for buildings which do not meet setback requirements shall be permitted, provided the signs comply with all other requirements of the zoning district wherein such signs and uses are located.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-408. - Signs in planned unit developments.

Signs located in planned unit developments shall conform to all regulations of this chapter, including those specifically exempted therefrom as a part of the site development plan approval.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-409. - Signs accessory to uses permissible on review.

Signs which are accessory to those uses specified in the zoning ordinance as "uses permissible on review" shall conform to all regulations of this code [chapter], including those of the district in which the use is to be located.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-410. - Signs on scenic highways.

- (a) Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall construct or install any sign, for any purpose, within one-half (½) mile on either side of any street or highway designated a "scenic highway" by an ordinance of the City.
- (b) The following signs are excepted from the operation and effect of the above subsection:
  - (1) Signs located or placed in commercially or industrially zoned districts which:
    - a. Advertise the sale, rental or lease of the premises upon which said signs are located and will be removed as soon as the premises are leased, hired or sold;
    - b. Advertise goods, merchandise or services which are available for sale on the premises; or
    - c. Advertise the name of the place of business located on the premises.
  - (2) Reserved.
- (c) Signs which become nonconforming on the effective date of an ordinance designating a street or highway as a "scenic highway" may be amortized by the owner by use of the following time periods; and at the expiration of said time periods, the signs shall be removed at the owner's sole cost and expense:
  - (1) Signs of less than forty (40) square feet in area shall be removed within one (1) year of the effective date of any ordinance designating the street or highway to be a "scenic highway."
  - (2) Signs forty (40) square feet or more in area shall be removed within three (3) years of the effective date of any ordinance designating the street or highway to be a "scenic highway."
- (d) State Highway 9 from Interstate 35 to the eastern limits of the City is designated a "scenic highway."



- (e) Model home directional signs are permitted on "scenic highways", as provided in section 18-411.
- (f) Signs attached to bus benches or shelters approved by annual contract with the City of Norman, as provided in section 18-307.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1)

Sec. 18-411. - Model home directional signs.

Model home or open house directional signs are permitted under the following conditions:

- (1) A five hundred dollar (\$500.00) cash deposit, per permittee, must be posted with City;
- (2) Can be installed only after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, and must be picked up by 7:00 a.m. on Monday;
- (3) Fifteen dollar (\$15.00) penalty per sign, to be deducted from cash deposit, will be imposed for any sign that violates this section of the Code. Whenever the amount of deposit falls below a minimum balance of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), it must be replenished to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) before additional signs are placed;
- (4) Each builder has a maximum limit of two (2) signs per subdivision with a maximum of four (4) signs per section line intersection;
- (5) The sign cannot be located within the sight triangle nor in the public right-of-way;
- (6) Each sign cannot exceed two (2) feet by three feet (3) and top of sign must be within forty-two (42) inches of ground;
- (7) Two (2) such signs are allowed in front of a subdivision, if a model home is manned daily; and
- (8) Sign owner is responsible for obtaining written permission of land owner to erect sign.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9900-50)

Sec. 18-412. - Electronic digital signs—On premise.

This section outlines the requirements for on-premise signs which utilize electronic digital technology to create a static sign which can have changeable copy or display a variable message and/or feature a graphic display. Such signs may be all or a portion of an allowed ground sign or wall sign, provided that the following conditions are met:

- (1) Digital signs are only allowed in areas that are classified within this chapter as commercial or industrial.
- (2) One digital sign is allowed per business, and may be all or part of any allowed ground or wall sign (but not both). However, a business located on a lot which shares common facilities, such as parking or buildings, may utilize an electronic digital wall sign even when there is a digital Joint ID sign on the same lot.
- (3) No digital sign shall be located within fifty (50) feet of the driving surface of a signalized intersection, measured in a straight line from the leading edge of the sign structure to the nearest edge of pavement. Such sign may not be located closer than twenty (20) feet from the edge of any other street. Such signs must also comply with the setback provisions of this ordinance [chapter], which may result in a greater setback.
- (4) Digital signs shall only display a static message or messages. There shall be no effects of movement, blinking, animation, scrolling, flashing, or similar effects in the individual images.
- (5) Digital signs which display more than one (1) static message shall do so sequentially, with each static message having a dwell time of no less than twelve (12) seconds and a transition

time between static messages of no more than one (1) second. Changes of image shall be instantaneous as seen by the human eye, and shall not use blinking, fading, rolling, shading, dissolving, or similar effects as part of the change.

- (6) Digital signs shall not display an illuminative brightness exceeding three hundred (300) NITs at any time between one-half (½) hour before sunset until sunrise of the next day or five thousand (5,000) NITs between sunrise until one-half (½) hour before sunset.
- (7) Digital signs shall not display an illuminative brightness of such intensity or brilliance that they impair the vision or endanger the safety and welfare of any cyclist or person operating a motor vehicle.
- (8) Digital signs shall not resemble or simulate any warning or danger signal, or any official traffic control device, sign, signal, or light.
- (9) All digital signs shall have installed ambient light monitors or photo cells, and shall at all times allow such devices to automatically adjust the brightness level of the sign based on ambient light conditions. Each sign shall be equipped with a default mechanism that will automatically freeze the sign in one position or display a static message if a malfunction occurs.
- (10) If a digital sign is visible from a nearby residential zoning district, it shall be located no closer than two hundred (200) feet from the closest point of that residential zoning district, measured in a straight line from the nearest point of the sign structure to the nearest point of the residential district.

(Ord. No. 0-1213-6, § 2)

#### ARTICLE V. - DISTRICT SIGN REGULATIONS

##### Sec. 18-501. - Zoning districts.

The zoning districts as set forth in the City Zoning Ordinance, and amendments thereto, shall apply to this code [chapter]. The boundaries of these districts shall be determined by reference to the zoning map of the City, and amendments thereto. By utilizing zoning districts, the public must be aware that identical businesses, located in different zoning districts, may not be allowed to have identical signs.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

##### Sec. 18-502. - Establishment of district regulations.

The type of signs permitted and the regulation of the number, placement, area and use of signs is hereby established. No sign shall be erected except as herein provided and in the district in which it is permitted, nor shall any sign be used for any purpose or in any manner except as allowed by the regulations for the district in which such sign is proposed or maintained.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

##### Sec. 18-503. - On-premise sign standards.

- (a) Sign standards for five (5) classifications of zone groupings are listed herein and for the purpose of this chapter, all uses that may be made of land under the City Zoning Ordinance shall be considered to be contained in one (1) of the five (5) classifications. The following zone groupings contain all the zoning districts:

- (1) Industrial: I-1, I-2.

- (2) Commercial: C-1, C-2, C-3, T-C, M-1; C-R.
  - (3) Office: C-O, R-O, O-1.
  - (4) Medium density residential: R-2, RM-2, R-3, RM-4, RM-6.
  - (5) Low density residential: R-1, R-1-A, RE, A-1, A-2, PL.
- (b) Sign standards for uses not specifically mentioned shall be the same for the most similar use mentioned.
- (c) Regulations for each sign are set forth in the particular zone classification.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-503.1. - Industrial zone sign standards.

(a) *General regulations.*

- (1) *Setback lines:* Setback lines for signs in the I-1 and I-2 zones shall be zero (0) feet.
- (2) *Illumination:* Allowed but not greater than three hundred (300) total footlamberts of luminance.
- (3) *Animation:* Prohibited except for time-temperature signs.
- (4) *Maximum area allowable:*
  - a. For lots less than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, or lots having less than ten (10) acres, the total area for all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed seven hundred eighty (780) square feet.
  - b. For lots greater than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, containing more than ten (10) acres, the total area for all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed eighteen hundred (1,800) square feet.
  - c. For lots greater than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, containing more than forty (40) acres, the total area for all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed three thousand (3,000) square feet.

(b) *Specific regulations.*

(1) *Ground signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet, or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of total street frontage up to fifty (50) square feet per side and one hundred (100) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* For lots less than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, for every foot that a sign sits behind the setback line add to area allowable one (1) square foot per side up to fifty (50) square feet per side and one hundred (100) square feet total for all sides.  
  
For lots two hundred fifty (250) feet wide or greater, add one (1) square foot for each lineal foot over two hundred fifty (250) feet and each lineal foot that a sign sits behind the setback line, up to one hundred (100) square feet per side and two hundred (200) square feet for all sides.
- c. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage on lots less than two hundred fifty (250) front feet. On lots of two hundred fifty (250) or more front feet, a second sign is permitted so long as it is an identification sign, and the total area allowable is not exceeded.
- d. *Height allowable:* Twenty-five (25) feet at setback line.
- e. *Height allowable increase:* For every six (6) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to allowable one (1) foot in height up to thirty-five (35) feet.

- f. *Additional sign:* For lots which are zoned Industrial, and lie within one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet of the center line of the I-35 right-of-way, one (1) additional ground sign may be erected. Such sign must be located as near to the interstate highway as practicable, and must be oriented for interstate traffic. The extra sign can have a maximum height of eighty (80) feet and the bottom of the sign must be a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from the ground. No such sign may be constructed closer to the boundary line of any residentially zoned property than a distance equal to four (4) times the height of the sign. The size of the sign shall be as follows:

Bottom of sign between twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) feet: Seventy-five (75) square feet per side (one hundred fifty (150) square feet total).

Bottom of sign above fifty (50) feet but below sixty-five (65) feet: One hundred (100) square feet per side (two hundred (200) square feet total).

Bottom of sign above sixty-five (65) feet: One hundred fifty (150) square feet per side (three hundred (300) square feet total).

The total amount of all signage, including this additional sign, shall not exceed the maximum area allowable specified in section I8-503.1(a)(4).

(2) *Wall signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of total building frontage up to one hundred (100) square feet.

For lots greater than ten (10) acres: The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of total building frontage up to five hundred (500) square feet.

For lots greater than forty (40) acres: The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of total building frontage up to one thousand (1,000) square feet.

- b. *Area allowable increase:* For every foot the sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable one (1) square foot up to five hundred (500) square feet.
- c. *Height allowable:* The minimum height for wall signs which exceed two and one-half (2½) inches in thickness is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height allowable shall not be higher than the eave or rafter line (top) of the wall on which the sign is located, whichever is higher.
- d. *Location:* Wall signs shall be located on a vertical surface of the building (including other architectural projections).
- e. *Projection:* Maximum projection of wall signs from the building shall be no greater than fifteen (15) inches. The end panels of such signs shall contain no item of information and shall not be counted in the computed sign area.

(3) *Projecting signs.* Only allowed if front of structure is within four (4) feet or less of right-of-way. They are not allowed if a wall sign is used.

- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of frontage up to one hundred (100) square feet per side and two hundred (200) square feet total for all sides.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* None.
- c. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage per business.
- d. *Height allowable:* The minimum height for projecting signs is ten (10) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height allowable shall not be higher than the eave or rafter line, whichever is greater.

- e. *Maximum projection allowable:* Fifteen (15) inches from the face of the structure to the sign. The leading edge of the sign shall be no greater than eight (8) feet from the face of the structure and no less than two (2) feet from the face of the street curb.
  - f. *Thickness limitation:* The distance measured between the principal sides of the sign shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches.
- (4) *Suspended signs allowed.*
- a. *Area allowable:* One (1) square foot per lineal foot of street frontage up to twenty (20) square feet per side, each sign having no more than two (2) sides.
  - b. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage per business.
  - c. *Height allowable:* Minimum height is eight (8) feet above a walkway. Maximum height shall be no higher than marquee, canopy, or architectural projection soffits to which they are attached.
  - d. *Projection allowable:* Leading edge shall not project beyond object to which the sign is attached.
  - e. *Location:* The face of suspended signs shall be perpendicular to the face of the structure to which it is attached, and the minimum horizontal distance between such signs shall be ten (10) feet. Must be located under marquees, canopies or other architectural projections.
- (5) *Window signs allowed.*
- a. *Illumination:* Allowed, but not greater than one hundred (100) footlamberts of luminance.
  - b. *Area allowable:* Thirty-five (35) percent of total window area, not to exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the maximum sign area allowable.
  - c. *Exemptions:* Temporary posters announcing or advertising events sponsored by noncommercial organizations shall be exempt from limitations for window signs.
- (6) *Directional signs allowed.* Private traffic directional signs guiding or directing vehicular or pedestrian traffic onto or off a lot or within a lot, when such signs do not contain any advertising other than trade name identification or logo. One (1) sign allowed per curb cut, plus one (1) additional sign on lot interior. Such signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet per face and eight (8) square feet total, and may be illuminated.
- (7) *Joint identification ground signs.* Allowed for businesses which use common facilities including, but not limited to, parking lots and buildings. When structures are platted under a single ownership, only the owner can request a joint identification ground sign and each lessee shall decide whether to use it. If a joint identification ground sign is used, there shall be no other ground signs permitted on the premises.
- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or two (2) square feet per lineal foot of frontage, up to one hundred (100) square feet per side and two hundred (200) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.
  - b. *Area allowable increase:* For lots less than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, for every three (3) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable five (5) square feet per side up to one hundred (100) square feet per side and two hundred (200) square feet total for all sides.  
  
For lots two hundred fifty (250) feet wide or greater, add three and thirty-four one-hundredths (3.34) square feet for each lineal foot over two hundred fifty (250) feet and each lineal foot that sign sits behind setback line, up to two hundred (200) square feet per side and four hundred (400) square feet for all sides.
  - c. *Maximum area allowable:* For lots less than two hundred fifty (250) feet wide, the total area of joint identification signs shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet. The sign area included in the joint identification sign shall be in addition to the maximum allowable area

under wall signs, suspended signs, window signs, time-temperature-date signs, grand opening signs and address identification signs.

For lots two hundred fifty (250) feet or greater, the total area of joint identification signs shall not exceed six hundred (600) square feet. The sign area included in the joint identification sign shall be in addition to the maximum allowable area under wall signs, suspended signs, window signs, time-temperature-date signs, grand opening signs, and address identification signs.

- d. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage, on lots less than two hundred fifty (250) feet. On lots two hundred fifty (250) feet wide or greater, a second sign is permitted, so long as it is an identification sign, and the total area allowable is not exceeded.
- e. *Height allowable*: Twenty-five (25) feet at setback line.
- f. *Height allowable increase*: For every six (6) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to allowable one (1) foot in height up to thirty-five (35) feet.

(8) *Temporary signs allowed; specific requirements.*

- a. *Construction signs*: Signs advertising subdivision, development, construction or other improvements of a property shall be permitted in any zoning district and shall comply with the following:

- 1. Such signs shall be limited to ground, wall or window signs, shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet per side on ten (10) acres or less, and up to one hundred (100) square feet per side on tracts greater than ten (10) acres, with the top of the sign no more than ten (10) feet off the ground.
- 2. Construction signs shall be displayed only on the property to which the sign pertains. One (1) such sign shall be permitted per street upon which the property either has frontage or has an entrance from a major thoroughfare; provided that the minimum distance between signs on any singly development shall be on thousand (1,000) frontage feet.
- 3. In the case of a subdivision, construction signs shall not be displayed prior to the date of official filing of the subdivision, and shall be removed within four (4) years from the date of issuance of the first building permit in the project, or within thirty (30) days from the time that seventy-five (75) percent of the lots or buildings in the pertinent subdivision or filing thereof have been sold, whichever time period is the least.
- 4. In other cases, such signs may be displayed for the duration of construction, until issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

- b. *Real estate signs allowed.*

- 1. *Area allowable*: Thirty-two (32) square feet per side; sixty-four (64) square feet total.
- 2. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage.
- 3. *Height allowable*: Ten (10) feet. Must be removed within seven (7) days after the premises are rented, leased or sold.

- c. *Grand opening signs allowed.*

- 1. The sign or signs shall not be displayed more than ten (10) days.
- 2. There shall be only one (1) grand opening allowed per business, and this grand opening must occur in conjunction with the time the business first opens to the public at a particular location.
- 3. Signs otherwise prohibited may be allowed as temporary signs as long as they do not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare, subject to the approval of the Code Compliance Officer.

- d. *Other temporary signs:* Temporary signs not specifically regulated shall be displayed only in accordance with the following conditions:
1. Such signs shall be limited to ground, window or wall signs only, shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in total surface area per lot, shall be comprised of no more than two (2) temporary signs (of the type which require permits) per frontage, and shall comply with the applicable height and setback regulations for the zoning district in which they are located. (Ord. No. 0-0001-22)
  2. Such signs shall remain in place no longer than sixty (60) days.
  3. In lieu of (1) and (2), a property owner may elect to erect a banner in a permanent location subject to the following restrictions:
    - [a] The number of signs will be limited to two (2) per lot;
    - [b] No single banner may be larger than thirty (30) square feet;
    - [c] The banner must be contained in a permanent, noncorrosive aluminum or steel frame, and securely mounted onto the wall of the building or the framed affixed to the ground;
    - [d] The sign may only advertise the business which occupies the lot;
    - [e] The annual permit will cost one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each sign; and,
    - [f] No other temporary signs may be erected on the premises.

(9) *Time-temperature-date signs allowed:*

- a. Ten (10) square feet or less per side, in addition to the area otherwise allowable, if no advertising or identification is attached.
- b. All such signs must be maintained so as to ensure display of accurate time, temperature and date.
- c. Such signs may be either ground, wall or projecting signs. The area and height requirements are the same as whichever sign replaced. (See section 503.1(b)1 through 3.)

(10) *Roof signs:* Prohibited.

(11) *Wind signs:* Prohibited, except:

- a. Balloons up to a six-foot maximum diameter and pennants with no words or graphics be allowed for thirty (30) days as temporary signs with a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) permit;
- b. One (1) balloon, flag, or pennant may be attached to each vehicle offered for sale, provided the vehicle is legally parked on the property to which the permit is issued;
  1. Balloons, flags or pennants must be attached to the vehicle, and may not exceed eighteen (18) inches in greatest dimension, not extend more than seven (7) feet above ground level;
  2. May be displayed after 5:00 p.m. on Thursday and must be removed by close of business day on Saturday;
  3. An annual permit will cost fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate lot.
- c. Feather flags may be permitted in lieu of temporary or annual banner signs for six (6) months with a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee per sign in accordance with the following:
  1. Location—Feather flags may only be on-premise signs. Must not be placed in the public right-of-way or in sight triangles. May not extend over public sidewalks, alleys, streets, obstruct the view of traffic signals or otherwise endanger the public.
  2. Size—Maximum height fifteen (15) feet. Maximum area thirty-two (32) square feet per face.

3. Spacing—Minimum of fifteen (15) feet between feather flags.
  4. Setback—Must meet the setback of all signs in their zoning district. Minimum side yard setback shall be eight (8) feet.
  5. Illumination—Feather flags shall not be illuminated.
  6. Feather flags shall be secured in the ground.
  7. Number—No more than four feather flags allowed per tenant per street frontage.
  8. Maintenance—Feather flags are subject to the maintenance requirements of Section 18-708 and shall be removed as soon as torn or damaged.
- (12) *Bulletin board signs*: Prohibited.
  - (13) *Fence signs*: Prohibited.
  - (14) *Off-premise signs*: Allowed in I-2 zoning district only (see section 18-601).
  - (15) *Address identification signs allowed*: Two (2) square feet per side or four (4) square feet total, one (1) per use.
  - (16) *Political signs allowed*.
    - a. *Area allowable*: Not regulated.
    - b. *Duration*: Must be removed ten (10) days after election to which they pertain.
    - c. *Location*: Not regulated when on private property. Political signs shall not be placed within any park, boulevard, street, parkway, median, public right-of-way, or easement under the control of or maintained by the City of Norman.
    - d. *Removal*: Any political sign erected in violation of this section shall constitute a public nuisance endangering public safety and may be removed and disposed of by the City Manager or his designee.
  - (17) *Standard brand name signs allowed*. Not more than twenty (20) percent of the total allowable sign area for any permitted use may be devoted to the advertising of a standard brand name commodity or service which is not the principal commodity or service being sold or rendered on the premises, or is not a part of the name of the business concern involved.
  - (18) *Buildings which constitute signs allowed*: Any building or portion of a building which is proposed to be erected in an industrial zoning district and which is classified as a "sign" as defined herein shall be permitted only upon application for, and approval of, a special exception therefor in accordance with the procedure in article IX.

It shall be the responsibility of the Code Compliance Officer to determine whether or not such proposed building, or portion thereof, will be classified as a sign prior to the issuance of a building permit therefor, and to notify the owner or builder of the proposed building of such findings and of the provisions of article IX. No building permit shall be issued for any such building until approval for the building has been given in accordance with the provisions of article IX.

The owner or builder shall furnish, at the time of application for a building permit, building plans, elevations and details which are adequate to enable the Code Compliance Officer to make the necessary determination as to whether or not the building should be classified as a sign.

The owner or builder of any building which is classified as a sign by the Code Compliance Officer shall have the right to appeal such interpretation to the Board of Adjustment in the manner provided for in article IX.

- (19) *Reserved*.



(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-9798-61; Ord. No. 0-9899-13; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. 0-0102-49; Ord. No. O-0708-43, § 1; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 3)

Sec. 18-504. - Commercial zone sign standards.

(a) *General regulations.*

(1) *Setback lines:* Setback lines for signs in the following zones shall be as follows:

C-2, C-3 and C-1 where it abuts C-2 and does not abut residential zoning: Zero (0) feet.

CR, TC, M-1, and C-1, except as specified above: Twenty-five (25) feet.

(2) *Illumination:* Allowed, but not greater than three hundred (300) total footlamberts of luminance.

(3) *Animation:* Prohibited, except for time-temperature-date signs.

(4) *Maximum area allowable (except as provided in Section 18-504(b)(3)):*

a. For lots less than one hundred fifty (150) feet wide, the total area for all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed four hundred eighty (480) square feet.

b. For lots one hundred fifty (150) feet wide or greater, the total area of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed six hundred (600) square feet on lots greater than one hundred fifty (150) feet wide, but less than three hundred (300) feet wide.

c. For lots larger than five (5) acres with one (1) frontage greater than three hundred (300) feet, the total area of all signs on the premises pertaining to one (1) business shall not exceed one thousand (1,000) square feet.

(b) *Specific regulations.*

(1) *Ground signs allowed.*

a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of street frontage up to fifty (50) square feet per side and one hundred (100) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.

b. *Area allowable increase:* For every one (1) foot that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable one (1) square foot per side up to sixty (60) square feet per side and one hundred twenty (120) square feet total for all sides.

c. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage.

d. *Height allowable:* Twenty-five (25) feet at setback line.

e. *Height allowable increase:* For every six (6) feet that sign sits behind setback line, add to allowable one (1) foot in height up to thirty-five (35) feet.

f. *Additional sign:* For lots which are zoned Commercial, and lie within one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet of the center line of the I-35 right-of-way, one (1) additional ground sign may be erected. Such sign must be located as near to the interstate highway as practicable, and must be oriented for interstate traffic. The extra sign can have a maximum height of eighty (80) feet, and the bottom of the sign must be a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from the ground. No such sign may be constructed closer to the boundary line of any residentially zoned property than a distance equal to four (4) times the height of the sign. The size of the sign shall be as follows:

Bottom of sign between twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) feet: Seventy-five (75) square feet per side (one hundred fifty (150) square feet total).

Bottom of sign above fifty (50) feet but below sixty-five (65) feet: One hundred (100) square feet per side (two hundred (200) square feet total).

Bottom of sign above sixty-five (65) feet: One hundred fifty (150) square feet per side (three hundred (300) square feet total).

The total amount of all signage, including this additional sign, shall not exceed the maximum area allowable specified in section 18-504(a)(4).

(2) *Wall signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of frontage up to one hundred (100) square feet. For one (1) business in a building larger than thirty thousand (30,000) square feet on a lot greater than five (5) acres, the allowable wall signage for each building frontage shall be one (1) square foot per linear foot of building frontage up to four hundred (400) square feet.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* For every one (1) foot that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable one (1) square foot, up to one hundred (100) square feet.
- c. *Height allowable:* The minimum height for wall signs is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway.

The maximum height allowable shall not be higher than the eave or rafter line (top) of the wall on which the sign is located, whichever is higher.

No part of a wall sign shall be located more than twenty-five (25) feet above grade level.

- d. *Location:* Wall signs shall be located on a vertical surface of the building (including other architectural projections).
  - e. *Projection:* Maximum projection of wall signs from building shall be no greater than fifteen (15) inches. The end panels of such signs shall contain no item of information and shall not be counted in the computed sign area.
- (3) *Projecting signs.* Allowed if front of structure is within four (4) feet or less of right-of-way. They are not allowed if a ground sign is used.

- a. *Area allowable:* The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of frontage up to sixty (60) square feet per side and one hundred twenty (120) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* None.
- c. *Maximum area allowable:*
  1. For lots less than one hundred fifty (150) feet wide, the total area of one (1) side of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business using a projecting sign shall not exceed two hundred (200) square feet.
  2. For lots one hundred fifty (150) feet wide or greater, the total area of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business using a projecting sign shall not exceed three hundred twenty (320) square feet.
- d. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage per business.
- e. *Height allowable:* The minimum height for projecting signs is ten (10) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height allowable shall not be higher than the eave or rafter line, whichever is greater.
- f. *Maximum projection allowable:* Fifteen (15) inches from the face of the structure to the sign. The leading edge of the sign shall be no greater than eight (8) feet from the face of the structure and no less than two (2) feet from the face of the street curb.

- g. *Thickness limitation:* The distance measured between the principal sides of the sign shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches.
- (4) *Marquee signs.* Allowed, but must be parallel to marquee facing.
- a. *Area allowable:* Three-tenths (0.3) square feet per lineal foot of frontage up to fifty (50) square feet at setback line.
  - b. *Area allowable increase:* For every three (3) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable an additional two and five-tenths (2.5) square feet up to fifty (50) square feet.
  - c. *Height allowable:* Minimum height is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. Maximum height shall be no higher than top of marquee rafter or eave line, whichever is greater.
  - d. *Maximum projection:* Shall be no more than fifteen (15) inches from the face of the structure.
  - e. *Drainage:* The roofs of all canopies or marquees exceeding forty (40) square feet shall be properly guttered and connected so that water will not drip or flow onto public sidewalks.
- (5) *Suspended signs allowed.*
- a. *Area allowable:* One (1) square foot per lineal foot of street frontage up to five (5) square feet per side, each sign having no more than two (2) sides.
  - b. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage per business.
  - c. *Height allowable:* Minimum height is eight (8) feet above a walkway. Maximum height shall be no higher than marquee, canopy or architectural projection soffits to which they are attached.
  - d. *Projection allowable:* Leading edge shall not project beyond object to which they are attached.
  - e. *Location:* The face of suspended signs shall be perpendicular to the face of the structure to which it is attached, and the minimum horizontal distance between such signs shall be ten (10) feet. Must be located under marquees, canopies or other architectural projections.
- (6) *Window signs allowed.*
- a. *Illumination:* Allowed, but not greater than one hundred (100) footlamberts of luminance.
  - b. *Area allowable:* Thirty-five (35) percent of total window area at street floor level, not to exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the maximum sign area allowable.
  - c. No sign shall exceed nine (9) square feet in total surface area per sign when placed in windows above the ground floor level.
  - d. No signs shall be placed in windows above the second floor level.
  - e. Temporary posters announcing or advertising events sponsored by noncommercial organizations shall be exempt from limitations for window signs.
- (7) *Directional signs allowed.* Private traffic directional signs guiding or directing vehicular or pedestrian traffic onto or off a lot or within a lot, when such signs do not contain any advertising other than trade name identification or logo. One (1) sign allowed per curb cut, plus one (1) additional sign on lot interior. Such signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet per face and eight (8) square feet total, and may be illuminated.
- (8) *Joint identification ground signs.* Allowed for businesses which use common facilities including, but not limited to, parking lots and buildings. When structures are platted under a single ownership, only the owner can request a joint identification ground sign and each lessee shall

decide whether to use it. If a joint identification ground sign is used, there shall be no other ground signs permitted on the premises.

- a. *Area allowable*: The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or two (2) square feet per lineal foot of frontage, up to one hundred (100) square feet per side and two hundred (200) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase*: For every three (3) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable five (5) square feet per side up to two hundred (200) square feet total for all sides; in addition, for lots one hundred and fifty (150) feet or more wide, add two (2) square feet to area allowable for each lineal foot over one hundred and fifty (150) feet, and for each lineal foot that a sign sits behind the setback line:
  1. Up to sixty (60) square feet per side and one hundred and twenty (120) square feet total for all sides, on lots of less than three-hundred-foot width; or
  2. Up to three hundred and twenty (320) square feet per side and six hundred and forty (640) square feet total for all sides, on lots three hundred (300) feet or more wide.
- c. *Maximum area allowable*: Subject to the foregoing, the maximum area allowable for joint identification ground signs depends on the width of the lot:

For lots less than one hundred fifty (150) feet wide, the total area of joint identification signs shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet. The sign area included in the joint identification sign shall be in addition to the maximum area allowable under wall signs, marquee signs, suspended signs, window signs, time-temperature-date signs, grand opening signs and address identification signs.

For lots one hundred fifty (150) feet or greater, the total area of joint identification signs shall not exceed five hundred twenty (520) square feet.

For lots greater than three hundred (300) feet wide, the total area of joint identification signs shall not exceed one thousand forty (1,040) feet.

The sign area included in the joint identification sign shall be in addition to the maximum allowable area under wall signs, marquee signs, suspended signs, window signs, time-temperature-date signs, grand opening signs and address identification signs.

- d. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage.
  - e. *Height allowable*: Twenty-five (25) feet at setback line.
  - f. *Height allowable increase*: For every six (6) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to allowable one (1) foot in height up to thirty-five (35) feet.
- (9) *Building identification sign*. Allowed for buildings which contain several different businesses, and are in addition to individual commercial wall signs. Only the owner of a building may request a building identification sign. Such sign shall establish the identity of a building by name or symbol only, but may include the street address.
- a. *Area allowable*: The greater of forty-eight (48) square feet or one (1) square foot per lineal foot of building frontage, up to one hundred (100) square feet per building.
  - b. *Height*: The minimum height for a building identification sign is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height allowable shall not be higher than the eave or rafter line of the wall on which the sign is located. For one-story buildings, such sign shall not be located more than twenty-five (25) feet above grade level.
  - c. *Number*: One (1) sign per each building face which contains a public entrance.
  - d. *Illumination*: Allowed, but not greater than one hundred (100) footlamberts of luminance.

(10) *Temporary signs.* Allowed. Specific requirements:

- a. *Construction signs:* Signs advertising subdivision, development, construction or other improvements of a property shall be permitted in any zoning district and shall comply with the following:
  1. Such signs shall be limited to ground, wall or window signs, shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in total area nor thirty-two (32) square feet per side and shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height on lots less than five (5) acres but less than ten (10) acres, such signs shall not exceed one hundred twenty-eight (128) square feet in total area nor one hundred (100) square feet per side. No riders or attachments to such signs shall be permitted. For residential developments consisting of five (5) dwelling units or less, the maximum are permitted for a construction sign shall be six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet total for each dwelling unit being constructed.
  2. Construction signs shall be displayed only on the property to which the sign pertains. One (1) such sign shall be permitted per street upon which the property either has frontage or has an entrance from major thoroughfare, provided that the minimum distance between signs on any single development shall be one thousand (1,000) frontage feet.
  3. In the case of a subdivision, construction signs shall not be displayed prior to the date of official filing of the subdivision, and shall be removed within four (4) years from the date of issuance of the first building permit in the project, or within thirty (30) days from the time that seventy-five (75) percent of the lots or dwellings in the pertinent subdivision or filing thereof have been sold, whichever time period is the least.
  4. In other cases, such signs may be displayed for the duration of construction until issuance of certificate of occupancy.
- b. *Real estate signs:*
  1. Area allowable: Thirty-two (32) square feet per side. Thirty-two (32) square feet total.
  2. Frontage: One (1) sign per street frontage.
  3. Height allowable: Ten (10) feet.
  4. Must be removed within seven (7) days after the premises are rented, leased or sold.
- c. *Grand opening signs allowed:*
  1. The sign or signs shall not be displayed more than ten (10) days.
  2. There shall be only one (1) grand opening allowed per business, and this grand opening must occur in conjunction with the time the business first opens to the public at a particular location.
  3. Signs otherwise prohibited may be allowed as temporary signs as long as they do not endanger the public health, safety or welfare, subject to the approval of the Code Compliance Officer.
- d. *Other temporary signs:* Temporary signs not specifically regulated shall be displayed only in accordance with the following conditions:
  1. Such signs shall be limited to ground, window or wall signs only, shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in total surface area per lot, shall be comprised of no more than two (2) temporary signs (of the type which require permits) per frontage, and shall comply with the applicable height and setback regulations for the zoning district in which they are located. (Ord. No. 0-0001-22)
  2. Such signs shall remain in place no longer than sixty (60) days.

3. In lieu of (1) and (2), a property owner may elect to erect a banner in a permanent location subject to the following restrictions:
  - [a] The number of signs will be limited to two per lot;
  - [b] No single banner may be larger than thirty (30) square feet;
  - [c] The banner must be contained in a permanent, non-corrosive aluminum or steel frame, and securely mounted onto the wall of the building or the frame affixed to the ground;
  - [d] The sign may only advertise the business which occupies the lot;
  - [e] The annual permit will cost one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each sign; and,
  - [f] No other temporary signs may be erected on the premises.

(11) *Time-temperature-date signs allowed.*

- a. Ten (10) square feet or less per side in addition to the area otherwise allowable, if no advertising or identification is attached.
- b. All such signs must be maintained so as to insure display of accurate time, temperature and date.
- c. Such signs may be either ground, wall or projecting signs. The area and height requirements are the same as whichever sign replaced. (See section 18-504(b)1 through 3.)

(12) *Roof signs:* Prohibited.

(13) *Wind signs:* Prohibited, except

- a. Balloons up to a six-foot maximum diameter and pennants with no words or graphics be allowed for thirty (30) days as temporary signs with a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) permit in the C-1 and C-2 Districts;
- b. One (1) balloon, flag, or pennant may be attached to each vehicle offered for sale, provided the vehicle is legally parked on the property to which the permit is issued;
  1. Balloons, flags, or pennants must be attached to the vehicle, and may not exceed eighteen (18) inches in greatest dimension, nor extend more than seven (7) feet above ground level;
  2. May be installed after 5:00 p.m. on Thursday and must be removed by close of business on Saturday;
  3. An annual permit will cost fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate lot.
- c. Feather flags may be permitted in lieu of temporary or annual banner signs for six (6) months with a twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) fee per sign in accordance with the following:
  1. Location—Feather flags may only be on-premise signs. May not be placed in the public right-of-way or in sight triangles. May not extend over public sidewalks, alleys, streets, obstruct the view of traffic signals or otherwise endanger the public.
  2. Size—Maximum height fifteen (15) feet. Maximum sign area thirty-two (32) square feet per face.
  3. Spacing—Minimum of fifteen (15) feet between feather flags.
  4. Setback—Must meet sign setback of all signs in their zoning district. Minimum side yard setback shall be eight (8) feet.
  5. Illumination—Feather flags shall not be illuminated.
  6. Feather flags shall be secured in the ground.
  7. Number—No more than four (4) feather flags allowed per tenant per street frontage.

8. Maintenance—Feather flags are subject to the maintenance requirements of Section 18-708 and shall be removed as soon as torn or damaged.
- (14) *Bulletin board signs*: Prohibited.
- (15) *Fence signs*: Prohibited; however, advertising signs may be permitted at athletic fields owned and operated by tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations, as follows: At baseball fields, signs may be hung or painted on the outfield fences, so that the signs face only inward toward the playing field; at soccer, football and other athletic fields, signs may be displayed so long as the sign content cannot be discerned by persons passing by the outside of the stadium or field. No such sign shall extend beyond the dimensions of the fence to which it is attached.
- (16) *Off-premise signs*: Allowed in C-2 zoning districts (see section 18-601).
- (17) *Address identification signs allowed*. Four (4) square feet per side or eight (8) square feet total, one (1) per street entrance per use.
- (18) *Political signs allowed*.
- a. *Area allowable*: Not regulated.
  - b. *Duration*: Must be removed ten (10) days after election to which they pertain.
  - c. *Location*: Not regulated when on private property. Political signs shall not be placed within any park, boulevard, street, parkway, median, public right-of-way, or easement under the control of or maintained by the City of Norman.
  - d. *Removal*: Any political sign erected in violation of this section shall constitute a public nuisance endangering public safety and may be removed and disposed of by the City Manager or his designee.
- (19) *Standard brand name signs allowed*. Not more than twenty (20) percent of the total allowable sign area for any permitted use may be devoted to the advertising of a standard brand name commodity or service which is not the principal commodity or service being sold or rendered on the premises, or is not a part of the name of the business concern involved.
- (20) *Buildings which constitute signs allowed*.
- a. Any building or portion of a building which is proposed to be erected in a commercial or industrial zoning district and which is classified as a "sign" as defined herein shall be permitted only upon application for, and approval of, a special exception therefor in accordance with the procedure in article IX.
  - b. It shall be the responsibility of the Code Compliance Officer to determine whether or not such proposed building, or portion thereof, will be classified as a sign prior to the issuance of a building permit therefor, and to notify the owner or builder of the proposed building of such findings and of the provisions of article IX. No building permit shall be issued for any such building until approval for the building has been given in accordance with the provisions of article IX.
  - c. The owner or builder shall furnish, at the time of the application for a building permit, building plans, elevations and details which are adequate to enable the Code Compliance Officer to make the necessary determination as to whether or not the building should be classified as a sign.
  - d. The owner or builder of any building which is classified as a sign by the Code Compliance Officer shall have the right to appeal such interpretation to the Board of Adjustment in the manner provided for in article IX.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-9798-61; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. 0-0102-49; Ord. No. 0-0607-23, § 1; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 3)

Sec. 18-504.1. - Office zone sign standards.

(a) *General regulations.*

- (1) Only signs denoting the name and address of the complex or name and address of the occupants are allowed.
- (2) Setback lines for signs in the following zones shall be as follows:  
RO, O-1, C-O and Office Use granted as a use permitted on review or conditional use permit in residential districts: Ten (10) feet.
- (3) Illumination: Allowed, but not greater than one hundred (100) footlamberts of luminance.
- (4) Animation: Prohibited.

(b) *Specific regulations.*

(1) *Ground signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* Twenty (20) square feet per side of sign at setback line and forty (40) square feet total for all sides at the setback line.
- b. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage.
- c. *Height allowable:* Four (4) feet at setback line.

(2) *Wall signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* Forty (40) square feet at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* None.
- c. *Maximum area allowable:* The total area of all wall signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) use shall not exceed forty (40) square feet.
- d. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage per business.
- e. *Height allowable:* The minimum height is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height is no higher than eave line or rafter line, whichever is greater.
- f. *Locations:* Vertical surfaces, including other architectural projections.
- g. *Maximum projection:* Not greater than fifteen (15) inches from face of structure.

(3) *Projecting signs:* Prohibited.

(4) *Marquee signs:* Prohibited.

(5) *Suspended signs:* Prohibited.

(6) *Window signs allowed.*

- a. Illumination: Prohibited.
- b. *Area allowable:* Thirty-five (35) percent of total window area at street floor level, not to exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the maximum sign area allowable.
- c. No signs shall be placed in windows above the ground floor levels.

(7) *Joint identification ground signs:* Allowed for businesses which use common facilities including, but not limited to, parking lots and buildings. When structures are platted under a single ownership, only the owner can request a joint identification ground sign and each lessee shall decide whether to use it. If a joint identification ground sign is used, there shall be no other ground signs permitted on the premises.

- a. *Area allowable:* Forty-eight (48) square feet per side and ninety-six (96) square feet total for all sides at the setback line. The sign area included in the joint identification sign shall



be in addition to the maximum allowable area under wall signs, window signs, grand opening signs, and address identification signs.

- b. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage.
  - c. *Height allowable*: Six (6) feet at setback line.
- (8) *Temporary signs allowed*.
- a. *Real estate signs*:
    - 1. Area allowable: Eight (8) square feet per side and sixteen (16) square feet total.
    - 2. Frontage: One (1) sign per street frontage.
    - 3. Height allowable: Eight (8) feet.
    - 4. Must be removed within seven (7) days after the premises are rented, leased, or sold.
  - b. *Other temporary signs*: Other temporary signs are subject to the same restrictions found in the commercial/industrial zone sign standards (see section 18-504(b)(8)).
- (9) *Time-temperature-date signs*: Allowed, when property abuts an arterial road.
- a. Ten (10) square feet or less per side in addition to the area otherwise allowable, if no advertising or identification is attached.
  - b. All such signs must be maintained so as to insure display of accurate time, temperature and date.
  - c. Such signs may be either ground or wall signs. The height requirements are the same as whichever sign is replaced. (See section 18-504.1(b)(1) and (2)).
- (10) *Roof signs*: Prohibited.
- (11) *Wind signs*: Prohibited, except:
- a. Balloons up to a six-foot maximum diameter and pennants with no words or graphics be allowed for thirty (30) days as temporary signs for special events with a twenty-five-dollar (\$25.00) permit.
  - b. Feather flags may be permitted in lieu of temporary or annual banner signs for six (6) months with a twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) fee per sign in accordance with the following:
    - 1. Location—Feather flags may only be on-premise signs. May not be placed in the public right-of-way or in sight triangles. May not extend over public sidewalks, alleys, streets, obstruct the view of traffic signals or otherwise endanger the public.
    - 2. Size—Maximum height allowed shall be fifteen (15) feet. Maximum sign area allowed shall be thirty-two (32) square feet per face.
    - 3. Spacing—Minimum of fifteen (15) feet between feather flags.
    - 4. Setback—Must meet the setback of all signs in their zoning district. Minimum side yard setback shall be eight (8) feet.
    - 5. Illumination—Feather flags shall not be illuminated.
    - 6. Feather flags shall be secured in the ground.
    - 7. Number—No more than four (4) feather flags allowed per street frontage, except on street frontages adjacent to residentially zoned or used property there shall be no more than two (2) feather flags allowed on that street frontage.
    - 8. Maintenance—Feather flags are subject to the maintenance requirements of Section 18-708 and shall be removed as soon as torn or damaged.
- (12) *Bulletin board signs*: Prohibited.

- (13) *Fence signs*: Prohibited.
- (14) *Off-premise signs*: Prohibited.
- (15) *Address identification signs allowed*. Two (2) square feet per side or four (4) square feet total, one (1) per use.
- (16) *Political signs allowed*.
  - a. *Area allowable*: Not regulated.
  - b. *Duration*: Must be removed ten (10) days after election to which they pertain.
  - c. *Location*: Not regulated when on private property. Political signs shall not be placed within any park, boulevard, street, parkway, median, public right-of-way, or easement under the control of or maintained by the City of Norman.
  - d. *Removal*: Any political sign erected in violation of this section shall constitute a public nuisance endangering public safety and may be removed and disposed of by the City Manager or his designee.
- (17) *Reserved*.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9293-25; Ord. No. 0-9798-61; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 3)

Sec. 18-505. - Medium density residential sign standards.

(a) *General regulations*:

- (1) Only signs denoting the name and address of the complex or name and address of the occupants are allowed.
- (2) Setback lines for signs in the following zones shall be as follows: R-2, RM-2, R-3, RM-4, RM-6: Twenty-five (25) feet.
- (3) Illumination: Allowed, but not greater than one hundred (100) footlamberts of luminance.
- (4) Animation: Prohibited.

(b) *Specific regulations*.

(1) *Ground signs allowed*.

- a. *Area allowable* : Ten (10) square feet per side of double-faced sign at setback line or twenty (20) square feet total for all single-sided sign applications at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase*: For every six (6) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable three-tenths (0.3) square feet per side up to three (3) square feet per side and six (6) square feet total for all sides.
- c. *Maximum area allowable*: The total area of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) use shall not exceed twenty-six (26) square feet.
- d. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage.
- e. *Height allowable*: Six (6) feet at setback line.
- f. *Height allowable increase*: For every ten (10) feet that a sign sits behind the setback line, add to area allowable one (1) foot in height up to a maximum of twelve (12) feet.
- g. Churches, schools (public or private), and other institutional uses, may erect one (1) free-standing, internally illuminated, ground sign on their property. Such sign shall not exceed seventeen (17) feet in height nor forty-eight (48) square feet per face. For properties which have frontage on more than one (1) street, an additional sign may be erected on each such

frontage, but all such signage may not exceed ninety-six (96) square feet for all faces. In addition to the name or address of the facility, one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sign area may contain a changeable copy portion for public announcements. Such sign shall substitute for any ground sign allowed by other sections of this chapter, but shall not count against allowable wall signage. Wall signage denoting the name or address of the facility may not exceed fifty-five (55) square feet for each separate use.

(2) *Wall signs allowed.*

- a. *Area allowable:* Twenty (20) square feet at the setback line.
- b. *Area allowable increase:* None.
- c. *Maximum area allowable:* The total area of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) use shall not exceed twenty (20) square feet.
- d. *Frontage:* One (1) sign per street frontage.
- e. *Height allowable:* The minimum height is eight (8) feet above a walkway and fifteen (15) feet above an alleyway. The maximum height is no higher than eave line or rafter line, whichever is greater.
- f. *Locations:* Vertical surfaces (including other architectural projections).
- g. *Maximum projection:* Not greater than fifteen (15) inches from face of structure.

(3) *Projecting signs:* Prohibited.

(4) *Marquee signs:* Prohibited.

(5) *Suspended signs:* Prohibited.

(6) *Window signs:* Prohibited.

(7) *Joint identification ground signs:* Prohibited.

(8) *Temporary signs allowed.*

a. *Real estate signs:*

1. Area allowable: Six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet total.
2. Frontage: One (1) sign per street frontage.
3. Height allowable: Six (6) feet.
4. Must be removed within seven (7) days after the premises are rented, leased or sold.

b. *Model home signs allowed:*

1. Area allowable: Six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet total for each lot.
2. Height allowable: Six (6) feet.
3. One (1) sign permitted for each different model.
4. Must be removed at the time the unit ceases to be a model home.

c. *Open house signs allowed:*

1. Area allowable: Six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet total for each lot.
2. Height allowable: Six (6) feet.
3. One (1) sign permitted for each open house.
4. Must be removed when the salesperson is no longer on duty at the open house.

- d. Other temporary signs are subject to the same restrictions found in the commercial/industrial zone sign standards (See section 18-504(b)(8).)
- (9) *Time-temperature-date signs*: Prohibited.
- (10) *Roof signs*: Prohibited.
- (11) *Wind signs*: Prohibited, except balloons up to a six-foot maximum diameter and pennants with no words or graphics be allowed for thirty (30) days as temporary signs for special events with a twenty-five-dollar permit.
- (12) *Bulletin board signs*: Prohibited.
- (13) *Fence signs*: Prohibited; provided, however, advertising signs may be permitted at athletic fields owned and operated by tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations, as follows: At baseball fields, signs may be hung or painted on the outfield fences so that the signs face only inward toward the playing field; at soccer, football and other athletic fields, signs may be displayed so long as the sign content cannot be discerned by persons passing by the outside of the stadium or field. No such sign shall extend beyond the dimensions of the fence to which it is attached.
- (14) *Off-premise signs*: Prohibited.
- (15) *Address identification signs allowed*. A maximum of four (4) square feet per side, and eight (8) square feet total, one (1) per street entrance per business.
- (16) Political signs allowed.
- a. *Area allowable*: Not regulated.
- b. *Duration*: Must be removed ten (10) days after election to which they pertain.
- c. *Location*: Not regulated when on private property. Political signs shall not be placed within any park, boulevard, street, parkway, median, public right-of-way, or easement under the control of or maintained by the City of Norman.
- d. *Removal*: Any political sign erected in violation of this section shall constitute a public nuisance endangering public safety and may be removed and disposed of by the City Manager or his designee.
- (17) Feather flags may be permitted in lieu of temporary or annual banner signs for six (6) months with a twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) fee per sign in accordance with the following:
1. *Location*—Feather flags may only be on-premise signs. May not be placed in the public right-of-way or in sight triangles. May not extend over public sidewalks, alleys, streets, obstruct the view of traffic signals or otherwise endanger the public.
  2. *Size*—Maximum height allowed shall be fifteen (15) feet. Maximum sign area allowed shall be thirty-two (32) square feet per face.
  3. *Spacing*—Minimum of fifteen (15) feet between feather flags.
  4. *Setback*—Must meet the setback of all signs in their zoning district. Minimum side yard setback shall be eight (8) feet.
  5. *Illumination*—Feather flags shall not be illuminated.
  6. Feather flags shall be secured in the ground.
  7. *Number*—No more than two (2) feather flags allowed per street frontage.
  8. *Maintenance*—Feather flags are subject to the maintenance requirements of Section 18-708 and shall be removed as soon as torn or damaged.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-17; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9798-61; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. 0-0102-35; Ord. No. O-0809-43, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 3)

Sec. 18-506. - Low density residential zone sign standards.

(a) *General regulations.*

- (1) No commercial advertising is allowed. Only signs denoting the name and address of occupants are allowed.
- (2) Setback lines for signs in the following zones shall be as follows:
  - R-1, R-1-15, R-1-10, A-1: Twenty-five (25) feet.
  - R-E, A-2: Fifty (50) feet from property line or one hundred (100) feet from the center line of the abutting street, whichever is greater.
- (3) Illumination: Allowed; may be illuminated and not greater than fifty (50) footlamberts of luminance.
- (4) Animation: Prohibited.

(b) *Specific regulations.*

- (1) *Ground signs:* Allowed for address identification signs.
  - a. For residential "uses permitted" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    1. *Area allowable:* Two (2) square feet per side or four (4) square feet total.
    2. *Frontage allowed:* One (1) per family or use.
    3. *Height allowable:* Six (6) feet at setback line.
  - b. For nonresidential "uses permitted" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    1. *Area allowable:* Ten (10) square feet per side or twenty (20) square feet total.
    2. *Frontage allowed:* One (1) per lot.
    3. *Height allowable:* Six (6) feet at setback line.
  - c. For "uses permissible on review" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    1. *Area allowable:* Ten (10) square feet per side or twenty (20) square feet total.
    2. *Frontage allowed:* One (1) per lot.
    3. *Height allowable:* Six (6) feet at setback line.
  - d.
    1. Churches, schools (public or private), and other institutional uses, may erect one (1) freestanding, internally illuminated, ground sign on their property. Such sign shall not exceed seventeen (17) feet in height nor forty-eight (48) square feet per face. For properties which have frontage on more than one (1) street, an additional sign may be erected on each such frontage, but all such signage may not exceed ninety-six (96) square feet for all faces. In addition to the name or address of the facility, one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sign area may contain a changeable copy portion for public announcements. Such sign shall substitute for any ground sign allowed by other sections of this chapter, but shall not count against allowable wall signage. Wall signage denoting the name or address of the facility may not exceed fifty-five (55) square feet for each separate use.
    2. Churches and schools (public or private), and other institutional uses are allowed one (1) freestanding digital electronic ground sign on the primary frontage of the main building. Digital electronic wall signs are not permitted. Such freestanding sign shall substitute for any other sign allowed by any other section of this chapter. Such signs shall not exceed twelve (12) feet in height nor forty-eight (48) square feet per face and shall meet the regulations of subsections 18-412(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) of this chapter. Digital electronic signs must be turned off no later than 10:00 p.m.

- (2) *Wall signs*: Allowed for address identification signs.
  - a. For residential "uses permitted" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Two (2) square feet total.
    - 2. *Frontage allowed*: One (1) per family or use.
    - 3. *Height allowable*: No higher than the eave line or the rafter line, whichever is lower.
  - b. For nonresidential "uses permitted" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Twenty (20) square feet total.
    - 2. *Frontage allowed*: One (1) per use.
    - 3. *Height allowable*: No higher than the eave line or the rafter line, whichever is lower.
  - c. For "uses permissible on review" by ordinance in the specific zone:
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Twenty (20) square feet total.
    - 2. *Frontage allowed*: One (1) per lot.
    - 3. *Height allowable*: No higher than the eave line or the rafter line, whichever is lower.
- (3) *Projecting signs*: Prohibited.
- (4) *Marquee signs*: Prohibited.
- (5) *Suspended signs*: Prohibited.
- (6) *Window signs*: Prohibited.
- (7) *Temporary signs allowed*.
  - a. *Real estate signs*:
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Six (6) square feet per side, twelve (12) square feet total. Except, in A-1 and A-2 zones real estate signs may be thirty-two (32) square feet per side, thirty-two (32) square feet total.
    - 2. *Frontage*: One (1) sign per street frontage.
    - 3. *Height allowable*: Six (6) [feet].
    - 4. Must be removed within seven (7) days after the premises are rented, leased or sold.
  - b. *Model homes signs allowed*:
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Thirty-two (32) square feet per side and thirty-two (32) square feet total for each lot.
    - 2. *Height allowable*: Eight (8) feet.
    - 3. One (1) sign permitted for each different model.
    - 4. Must be removed at the time the unit ceases to be a model home.
  - c. *Open house signs allowed*.
    - 1. *Area allowable*: Six (6) square feet per side and twelve (12) square feet total for each lot.
    - 2. *Height allowable*: Six (6) feet.
    - 3. One (1) sign permitted for each open house.
    - 4. Must be removed when the salesperson is no longer on duty at the open house.
- (8) *Time-temperature-date signs*: Prohibited.

- (9) *Roof signs*: Prohibited.
- (10) *Wind signs*: Prohibited, except balloons up to a six-foot maximum diameter and pennants with no words or graphics be allowed for thirty (30) days as temporary signs for special events with a twenty-five-dollar permit.
- (11) *Bulletin board signs*: Prohibited.
- (12) *Fence signs*: Prohibited; provided, however, advertising signs may be permitted at athletic fields owned and operated by tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations, as follows: At baseball fields, signs may be hung or painted on the outfield fences so that the signs face only inward toward the playing field; at soccer, football and other athletic fields, signs may be displayed so long as the sign content cannot be discerned by persons passing by the outside of the stadium or field. No such sign shall extend beyond the dimensions of the fence to which it is attached.
- (13) *Home business signs*: Prohibited.
- (14) *Off-premise signs*: Prohibited.
- (15) *Political signs allowed*.
  - a. *Area allowable*: Not regulated.
  - b. *Duration*: Must be removed ten (10) days after election to which they pertain.
  - c. *Location*: Not regulated when on private property, although no sign can ever be placed within the sight triangle. Political signs shall not be placed within any public right-of-way except as provided for single-family homes under section 18-103.1(9)) that has been dedicated to the city by plat, easement, or statute, nor any median, boulevard, street, road, or parkway, nor any public or private park.
  - d. *Removal*: Any political sign erected in violation of this section shall constitute a public nuisance endangering public safety and may be removed and disposed of by the City Manager or his designee.
- (16) *Feather flags*: Prohibited.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9293-23; Ord. No. 0-9798-61; Ord. No. 0-0001-22; Ord. No. 0-0102-35; Ord. No. 0-0304-48, § 2; Ord. No. 0-0809-43, § 1; Ord. No. 0-1213-6, § 3; Ord. No. 0-1516-32, § 3)

#### ARTICLE VI. - OFF-PREMISE SIGNS

##### Sec. 18-601. - Standards.

- (a) Off-premise signs shall be permitted only on parcels abutting Interstate Highway 35, and when such sign is located within six hundred sixty (660) feet from the centerline of Interstate Highway 35. All such signs must be oriented towards such trafficway, and can be located only in C-2 and I-2 zones.
- (b) Off-premise signs shall meet the front setback requirements of the zoning, subdivision and "scenic highway" ordinances of the City. Signs must be set back at least twenty-five (25) feet from the street right-of-way. Side and rear yard setbacks shall not be less than fifty (50) feet.
- (c) General standards applying to all off-premise signs [are as follows]:
  - (1) Off-premise signs shall not be established on any property owned or used by churches, schools, and any municipal, county, state or federal facilities nor on any property within three hundred (300) feet of the perimeter of such public or quasi-public property.
  - (2) All off-premise signs shall be maintained in good and safe structural condition. The painted portions shall be periodically repainted and kept in good condition.

- (3) The general area of the vicinity of any off-premise signs must be kept free and clear of sign materials, weeds, debris, trash and other refuse.
  - (4) No off-premise sign shall be constructed with more than two (2) upright supports.
  - (5) No off-premise sign shall be erected within one hundred (100) feet of a residence or within fifty (50) feet of a residential zone.
  - (6) Flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights are prohibited except for time, temperature and date signs, and electronic digital signs as regulated by this chapter.
  - (7) An off-premise sign shall not be illuminated so that it interferes with the effectiveness or obscures an official traffic sign, device or signal; neither shall it be permitted to have beams or rays directed at any portion of the traveled ways and be of such intensity or brilliance to cause glare or impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle or which otherwise interferes with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle.
  - (8) Off-premise signs shall not be permitted on a lot that already has a total of two hundred (200) square feet of on-premise ground sign face, facing one (1) direction of travel.
  - (9) Setback regulations for off-premise signs if erected within seventy-five (75) feet of a building are:
    - a. No part of any off-premise sign structure shall be closer to any street right-of-way than the front line of the nearest building within seventy-five (75) feet.
    - b. When an off-premise sign is erected between two (2) buildings each of which is within seventy-five (75) feet of the structure, no part of said structure shall be erected closer to any street right-of-way than a straight line drawn between the nearest front corners of the two (2) buildings.
  - (10) Off-premise signs less than one hundred fifty (150) square feet shall not be higher than fourteen (14) feet including supports. (Ordinance No. O-9495-40—March 14, 1995)
  - (11) No such sign shall be erected closer than one thousand (1,000) feet to another off-premises sign. The one thousand (1,000) feet shall be measured in a straight line from the center of an off-premises advertising sign's structure, as located on the ground, to the center of any other off-premises advertising sign's structure, as located on the ground.
  - (12) Off-premise signs shall not be placed side by side or in a vertical position with one (1) structure atop the other. (Ord. No. O-9495-40—March 14, 1995)
  - (13) No off-premise sign abutting such trafficway shall have more than six hundred seventy-two (672) square feet of sign face, facing one (1) direction of travel, excluding space extensions which shall not total more than one hundred sixty (160) square feet facing one (1) direction of travel. Any trim around the outside of the sign face shall be included in the sign face square footage measurements. The base, structural members or supports and apron shall be excluded from these measurements. No such sign shall be more than sixty (60) feet in horizontal distance.
  - (14) The maximum size limitations shall apply to each facing of a sign structure, and signs may be placed back-to-back or in V-type construction. Each display area shall have no more than two (2) component parts.
  - (15) No off-premise sign on such trafficway shall be erected to a height of more than thirty-five (35) feet. The exception to this would be in the case of an elevated highway roadbed. In this event, the allowable height shall be no more than twenty (20) feet above the roadbed at the edge of the pavement or thirty-five (35) feet, whichever is greater. (Ord. No. O-9495-40—March 14, 1995)
- (d) In addition to all of the requirements for off-premise signs enumerated above, off-premise signs which utilize electronic digital technology shall also comply with the following provisions:



- (1) Digital outdoor advertising signs shall only display a static message or messages. There shall be no effects of movement, blinking, animation, scrolling, flashing, or similar effects in the individual images.
  - (2) Digital outdoor advertising signs which display more than one (1) static message shall do so sequentially, with each static message having a dwell time of no less than eight (8) seconds and a transition time between static messages of no more than one (1) second. Changes of image shall be instantaneous as seen by the human eye, and shall not use blinking, fading, rolling, shading, dissolving, or similar effects as part of the change.
  - (3) Digital outdoor advertising signs shall not display an illuminative brightness exceeding three hundred (300) NITs at any time between one-half (½) hour before sunset, as determined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce, for this specific geographic location and date, until sunrise or five thousand (5,000) NITs between sunrise until one-half (½) hour before sunset. The nighttime level may be increased to five hundred (500) NITS when the sign's location abuts other commercial or industrial property on the same side of the Interstate that is developed and brightly illuminated. The sign may not exceed five thousand (5,000) NITs between sunrise and one-half (½) hour before sunset.
  - (4) Digital outdoor advertising signs shall not display an illuminative brightness of such intensity or brilliance that they impair the vision or endanger the safety and welfare of any cyclist or person operating a motor vehicle.
  - (5) Digital outdoor advertising signs shall not resemble or simulate any warning or danger signal, or any official traffic control device, sign, signal, or light.
  - (6) All digital outdoor advertising signs shall have installed ambient light monitors or photo cells, and shall at all times allow such devices to automatically adjust the brightness level of the sign based on ambient light conditions. Each sign shall be equipped with a default mechanism that will automatically freeze the sign in one (1) position or display a static message if a malfunction occurs.
  - (7) Digital outdoor advertising signs shall not display consecutive messages facing the same traveled way, which constitute a substantially similar theme or story and is a continuation of any immediately preceding message, thereby creating a storyboarding effect when viewed by the person operating a motor vehicle. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prohibit the display of identical consecutive messages.
  - (8) Any existing outdoor advertising sign that conforms to the requirements of this code and is currently registered with the City of Norman may be converted to a digital outdoor advertising sign.
  - (9) A new or converted electronic digital sign shall be located no closer than two hundred (200) feet from the closest point of any residential zoning district, measured in a straight line from the center of the sign structure to the nearest point of the residential zoning district, measured in a straight line from the center of the sign structure to the nearest point of the residential zoning district, and in no event shall the digital side of the sign face toward the residential area.
  - (10) A new digital outdoor advertising sign can be erected at any site that complies with all of the current requirements for off-premise signs and the conditions of this section.
- (e) Off-premise signs in areas zoned C-2 and I-2 and abutting the right-of-way of such trafficway classified by the City's major streets and highways plan as a "controlled access arterial highway" shall meet the following conditions:
- (1) Shall be allowed only within six hundred sixty (660) feet from the edge of the right-of-way of such trafficway and shall be oriented towards such trafficway.
  - (2) No off-premise sign abutting such trafficway shall have more than six hundred seventy-two (672) square feet of sign face, facing one (1) direction of travel, excluding space extensions which shall not total more than one hundred sixty (160) square feet facing one (1) direction of travel. Any trim around the outside of the sign face shall be included in the sign face square

footage measurements. The base, structural members or supports and apron shall be excluded from these measurements.

- (3) The maximum size limitations shall apply to each facing of a sign structure, and signs may be placed back-to-back or in V-type construction. Each display area shall have no more than two (2) component parts.
  - (4) There shall not be more than four (4) off-premise signs in excess of six hundred (600) square feet facing one (1) direction of travel erected in any one (1) designated mile of such trafficway.
  - (5) No off-premise sign on such trafficway shall be erected to a height of more than thirty-five (35) feet. The exception to this would be in the case of an elevated highway roadbed. In this event, the allowable height shall be no more than twenty (20) feet above the roadbed at the edge of the pavement or thirty-five (35) feet, whichever is greater.
  - (6) No such structure shall be placed in a vertical position with one (1) structure atop another.
  - (7) No such sign shall be more than sixty (60) feet in horizontal distance.
- (f) Off-premise signs in C-2 and I-2 zones along scenic highways (Highway 9) and any future trafficway designated as a "scenic highway" in the City shall be in accordance with section 18-410 and section 18-601 (d) of this chapter.
- (g) In areas zoned C-2 and I-2, and abutting the right-of-way of major arterials, off-premise signs shall meet the following requirements:
- (1) No such sign shall exceed three hundred (300) square feet.
  - (2) No such sign shall be located within twenty-five (25) feet of any street right-of-way.
  - (3) No such sign shall exceed more than twenty-five (25) feet in height, including supports, at the twenty-five-foot setback line, except that for every foot such sign is set back it may have one (1) foot additional height up to thirty-five (35) feet maximum.
  - (4) There shall be no more than three (3) off-premise sign structures in excess of one hundred fifty (150) square feet located on the same side of the street and along the same street frontage in any one (1) designated mile.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9495-40; Ord. No. 0-0102-25; Ord. No. 0-1112-32, § 3)

#### Sec. 18-602. - Continuation of signs.

All existing, legally authorized off-premise signs, which by reason of the adoption of Ordinance No. 0-0102-25, become nonconforming, are declared legal, nonconforming signs, and are subject to the provisions of section 18-801.

(Ord. No. 0-0102-25)

### ARTICLE VII. - STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS

#### Sec. 18-701. - Design.

- (a) *General.* Signs and sign structures shall be designed and constructed to resist wind forces as specified in this section. All bracing systems shall be designed and constructed to transfer lateral forces to the foundations. For signs on buildings, the dead and lateral loads shall be transmitted through the structural frame of the building to the ground in such a manner as not to overstress any of the elements thereof.

The overturning moment produced from lateral forces shall in no case exceed two-thirds (  $2/3$  ) of the dead load resisting moment. Uplift due to overturning shall be adequately resisted by proper anchorage to

the ground or to the structural frame of the building. The weight of earth superimposed over footings may be used in determining the dead load resisting moment. Such earth shall be carefully placed and thoroughly compacted.

- (b) *Wind loads.* Signs and sign structures shall be designed and constructed to resist wind forces as specified in the building code.
- (c) *Allowable stresses.* The design of wood, concrete or steel members shall conform to the requirements of the building code. Loads, both vertical and horizontal, exerted on the soil shall not produce stresses exceeding those specified in the building code.

The working stresses of wire rope and its fastenings shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the ultimate strength of the rope or fasteners. Working stresses for wind loads combined with dead loads may be increased as specified in the building code.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-702. - Construction.

- (a) *General.* Signs and sign structures shall be securely built, constructed and erected in conformance with the requirements of this section.
- (b) *Location.* Supports for signs or sign structures shall not be placed in or upon public rights-of-way or public easements.
- (c) *Materials.* Materials of construction for signs and sign structures shall be of the quality and grade as specified for buildings in the building code.

Plastic materials shall be those specified in the building code standards, which have a flame spread rating of two hundred twenty-five (225) or less and a smoke density not greater than that obtained from the burning of untreated wood under similar conditions when tested in accordance with building code standards in the way intended for use. The products of combustion shall be no more toxic than the burning of untreated wood under similar conditions.

- (d) *Restrictions of combustible materials.* All sign structures (except for construction signs, those signs specifically excepted in section 18-401.1 of this Code, window signs and signs located inside buildings) which are erected in the fire limits shall have structural members of heavy timber or incombustible material. Wall signs and signs on arcades and marquees shall be constructed of incombustible material, except as provided in subsection (e) hereof or as specifically approved by the Building Official. No combustible materials other than approved plastic shall be used in construction of electric signs.
- (e) *Nonstructural trim.* Nonstructural trim may be of wood, metal, approved plastic or any combination thereof.
- (f) *Anchorage.* Members supporting unbraced signs shall be so proportioned that the bearing loads imposed on the soil in either direction, vertical or horizontal, shall not exceed safe values. Braced ground signs shall be anchored to resist specified wind loads acting in any direction. Anchors and supports shall be designed for safe bearing loads on the soil for effective resistance to a depth of not less than three (3) feet.

Anchors and supports shall be guarded and protected when near driveways, parking lots or similar locations where they could be damaged by moving vehicles.

Signs attached to masonry, concrete or steel shall be safely and securely fastened thereto by means of metal anchors, bolts or approved expansion screws of sufficient size and anchorage to support safely the loads applied. No anchor or support of any sign, except flat wall signs, shall be connected to or supported by an unbraced parapet wall.

- (g) *Display surfaces.* Display surfaces in all types of signs may be made of metal or other approved materials.
- (h) *Approved materials.* The Building Official shall require that sufficient technical data be submitted to substantiate the proposed use of any materials; and if it is determined that the evidence is satisfactory for the use intended, he shall approve its use.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-703. - Clearance.

- (a) Signs shall not be located with less than three (3) feet horizontal, nor eight (8) feet vertical, clearance from overhead electric conductors which are energized in excess of seven hundred fifty (750) volts.
- (b) No sign or sign structure shall be erected in such a manner that any portion of its surface or supports will interfere in any way with free use of any fire escape, exit or standpipe. No sign shall obstruct any window to such an extent that any light or ventilation is reduced to a point below that required by any law or ordinance of the City.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-704. - Ground signs.

- (a) Ground signs may be constructed of any material meeting the requirements of this code [chapter].
- (b) Supports for ground signs shall not be placed upon public rights-of-way or public easements and shall be designed in accordance with the requirements of this code [chapter]. Where such signs are located in vehicular parking and circulation areas, a base or barrier of concrete or steel, not less than thirty (30) inches high, shall be provided to protect the base of the sign from possible damage by vehicles.
- (c) Where any ground sign has a clearance of less than eight (8) feet from the ground, there shall be provided a barrier or other adequate protection to prevent hazard to pedestrians and motorists.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-705. - Wall signs.

Wall signs shall be constructed of incombustible material meeting the requirements of this code [chapter]. Signs painted on the surface of the wall shall be regularly maintained, including painting as needed.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-706. - Marquee signs.

Signs may be placed on, attached to or constructed on a marquee. Such signs shall, for the purpose of determining projection, clearance, height and materials, be considered a part of and shall meet the requirements for a marquee as specified in the building code.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-707. - Electric signs.

- (a) *General.* Electric signs shall be constructed of incombustible material meeting the requirements of this code [chapter]. Electric signs shall be rain-tight, except that service holes fitted with waterproof covers shall be provided to each compartment of such signs.
- (b) *Regulations.*
  - (1) *Installation.* No electric sign shall be erected or maintained which does not comply with the electric code.
  - (2) *Interference with radio or television.* No electric equipment or electrical apparatus of any kind which causes interference with radio or television reception shall be used in the operation of illuminated signs. Whenever interference is caused by an unfiltered or improperly filtered or otherwise defective sign, or by any other electrical device or apparatus connected to the sign, the Code Compliance Officer shall order the sign disconnected until repairs are made.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

Sec. 18-708. - Maintenance.

- (a) Every sign, including those specifically exempt from this code [chapter] in respect to permits and permit fees, shall be maintained in good structural condition at all times. All signs shall be kept neatly painted, including all metal parts and supports thereof that are not galvanized or of rust-resistant metals. The Code Compliance Officer or his authorized representative shall inspect and shall have the authority to order the painting, repair, alteration or removal of a sign which shall constitute a hazard to safety, health or public welfare by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation or obsolescence.
- (b) The replacing or repairing of a sign or sign structure which has been damaged to an extent exceeding fifty (50) percent of the appraised replacement cost (as determined by the Code Compliance Officer) shall be considered as "maintenance" only when said sign conforms to all of the applicable provisions of this chapter and when the damage has been caused by an act of God or violent accident.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

ARTICLE VIII. - LEGAL NONCONFORMING SIGNS

Sec. 18-801. - Continuation of legal nonconforming signs.

Subject to the provisions of sections 18-802 and 18-803, any sign presently located within the City on the date of the adoption of this chapter or located in an area annexed to the City thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this chapter, shall be considered as a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided that the sign was in all respects in compliance with applicable law on the date of adoption of this chapter. If such sign is not in conformance with the existing law, such sign must be brought into conformance or removed according to procedures established in this Code [chapter]. Such sign shall be maintained in a good condition and shall be allowed to remain in existence so long as, and only so long as, such sign is not:

- (1) Changed to another nonconforming sign, except that the colors and/or copy may be altered so long as the existing legal, nonconforming sign is not replaced with a new sign. An existing off-premise sign located within six-hundred sixty (660) feet of the centerline of I-35 which is registered with the State of Oklahoma and the City of Norman may be converted to a digital sign provided it complies with all of the requirements of Section 18-601, except for the one thousand-foot separation requirement contained in that section. A sign which does not meet the spacing requirement may be converted to a digital sign provided that it is located at least one thousand (1,000) feet from another electronic digital sign face which is facing the same traveled way.

- (2) Structurally altered (except to meet safety requirements) so as to prolong the life of the sign.
- (3) Expanded.
- (4) Re-established after its discontinuance for ninety (90) days.
- (5) Continued in use after cessation or change of ownership of the business or activity to which the sign pertains.
- (6) Re-established after damage or destruction if the estimated cost of reconstruction exceeds fifty (50) percent of appraised replacement cost (as determined by the Code Compliance Officer).

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-1112-32, § 4)

Sec. 18-802. - Discontinuance of prohibited signs.

Any nonconforming sign which is listed in section 18-402 as a "prohibited sign" shall be removed or brought in conformance with the provisions of this code [chapter].

- (1) Any sign in categories (1) through (18) of section 18-402 which is erected after the effective date of this code [chapter] shall be brought into compliance or removed within forty-eight (48) hours. Signs in categories (14) through (16) shall be brought into conformance within thirty (30) days unless said sign or structure is an immediate peril to person or property, in which case it is to be removed immediately by the person having the beneficial use of the building or structure upon which such sign or structure is located.
- (2) Any sign which is unlawfully placed in the right-of-way, or signs which are pasted, nailed, planted on or otherwise unlawfully displayed upon structures, utility poles, trees, fences or other signs, may be removed summarily by the Code Compliance Officer without notice.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

Sec. 18-803. - Notice to repair or remove prohibited signs.

If the Code Compliance Officer shall find that any sign is erected or maintained in violation of section 18-402, he shall give written notice, which may be served personally, to the owner or his agent, sign contractor or person having the beneficial use of the building or structure upon which such sign is located. If such person fails to alter or remove the sign so as to comply with section 18-402 within the time limit specified in section 18-802 after receipt of such notice, the Code Compliance Officer is hereby authorized to cause removal or obliteration of such sign. The City may institute any property action in a court of competent jurisdiction to prevent, enjoin, restrain, abate or otherwise to correct any violation of this code [chapter]. The Code Compliance Officer may cause any sign or other advertising structure which is an immediate peril to persons or property to be removed summarily without notice.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1)

ARTICLE IX. - APPEALS, SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS AND VARIANCES

Sec. 18-901. - Jurisdiction of Board of Adjustment.

Appeals, requests for special exceptions, and requests for variances relating to all other parts of this chapter shall be made to the Board of Adjustment according to the procedures set forth in chapter 22 of the Code. Appeals, special exceptions, and variances, as provided in other parts of this Code (chapter), shall be made to the Board of Adjustment prior to the erection or alteration of any sign. Violations of sections 18-301 and 18-402 shall not be appealed to the Board of Adjustment.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-0405-25, § 7)

Sec. 18-902. - Violations.

- (a) Any person who erects, alters, or maintains any sign in violation of this chapter shall be guilty of an offense. When a sign is erected or altered in violation of this Code (chapter), the Code Compliance Officer or his designee may issue a citation to the owner of said sign or his agent, sign contractor, or person having beneficial use or benefit of the building or structure on which such sign is located. Failure to remove the sign or come into compliance with the Code shall constitute an offense.
- (b) In any prosecution charging a violation of this chapter, proof that the sign described in the citation was erected or altered in violation of this section, together with proof that the defendant named in the citation was, at the time the citation was issued, the owner of the sign, or person having primary benefit, shall constitute in evidence a prima facie presumption that the owner of the sign was the person who erected or altered the sign at the point where, for the time during which, the violation occurred.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-9900-11; Ord. No. 0-0405-25, § 7)

Sec. 18-903. - Duties of Administrative Official, Board of Adjustment and Courts on matters of appeal.

It is the intent of this section that all questions of interpretation and enforcement shall be first presented to an administrative official, and that such questions shall be presented to the Board of Adjustment only on appeal from the decision of an administrative official, and that recourse from the decision of the Board of Adjustment shall be by appeal to the District Court as herein provided.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-904. - Special exceptions: Intent.

It is the stated intent of this article to encourage signs which are well designed and compatible with their surroundings. In particular, it is deemed desirable to promote and encourage the use of free-standing identification signs which are of a low profile, planter-type design when such signs are designed to complement the architectural style and design of the building to which they are appurtenant and to be compatible with the general area where the sign is to be located.

Additionally, it is recognized that signs are a necessary means of communication for the convenience of the public. There are certain types of signs which are not in common use throughout the City or are peculiar to a particular type of activity, and which are deemed to be desirable under controlled circumstances, for the public convenience. The general regulations of this chapter, however, are such that these signs (signs on theater marquees, collective identification or directory signs showing the names of various civic or religious organizations, bulletin boards, and kiosks located within pedestrian areas for the purpose of displaying posters and similar signs) are not generally permitted or are restricted in such a manner as to affect the utility of such signs.

Therefore, it is the intent of this article to provide a means of review and approval of special exceptions to the chapter provisions, whereby specified deviations from the general sign regulations may be allowed to permit the aforementioned types of signs, without need for proof of hardship; provided that the proposed size, location and design of such signs are compatible with their surroundings and consistent with the general intent of this chapter.

Furthermore, there may be occasions when a building or portion of a building proposed to be built in the City will, by virtue of its design, decoration, illumination or otherwise, exceed the maximum sign area permitted by this chapter. Therefore, it is the further intent of this article to provide a means for review and

evaluation of such proposals in order to insure that the resulting construction is compatible with the general intent of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-905. - Special exceptions: When allowed.

Special exceptions shall be allowed to the following:

- (1) The maximum allowable sign area for free-standing identification signs of a low profile, planter-type design, when such signs are designed to complement the architectural style of the building to which they are appurtenant; and when such signs contain no copy other than the name and/or street address of the use being identified and/or a logo-type symbol or trademark.
- (2) Exceptions to the maximum sign area permitted on theater marquees in cases where necessary copy and a standard changeable letter size clearly necessitate such an exception.
- (3) Exceptions to general sign regulations to permit the erection of collective identification or directory signs showing the names and locations of various civic or religious organizations in the community when such signs are not located on the premises of the uses being named; but rather are located in commercial or industrial zoning districts and are placed adjacent to major thoroughfares near entrances to the City.
- (4) Exceptions to general regulations to permit the erection of kiosks, bulletin boards or similar structures and the display thereon of signs, posters and notices, when such structures are located within primarily pedestrian-oriented circulation areas and when such structures have little or no street or building frontage upon which basis permitted sign areas can be calculated. In certain instances, such signs may be erected within the public right-of-way upon review and recommendation to the Board of Adjustment by the Director of Public Works. Such structures shall be maintained in such a manner that only current material is displayed in an orderly manner.
- (5) Proposals to erect buildings in commercial or industrial zoning districts which, by reason of design, decoration, illumination or otherwise, may be interpreted by the Code Compliance Officer to be signs.
- (6) Exceptions to allow the erection of permanent ornamental identification signs at the entrances to specific identifiable areas in the City, such as residential subdivisions.
- (7) The maximum allowable area for a free-standing ground sign for churches, schools (public or private), and other institutional uses that are located in low-density or medium-density residential zoning districts when (a) the size of the property exceeds forty (40) acres, (b) the sign will not be closer than two hundred (200) feet to the nearest property line of any single-family residence on the same side of the street, and (c) the sign is architecturally compatible with the principal building on the premises. In no case may the exception be granted for more than one hundred four (104) square feet (per face).

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9697-1; Ord. No. 0-0102-35)

#### ARTICLE X. - LEGAL ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 18-1001. - Provisions of Code [chapter] declared to be minimum requirements.

The provisions of this Code [chapter], in their interpretation and application, shall be held to be minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of public health, safety, morals or general welfare. Wherever the requirements of this Code [chapter] are at variance with the requirements of any of the



lawfully adopted rules, regulations, ordinances, deed restrictions or covenants, the most restrictive or that imposing the higher standard shall govern.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37)

Sec. 18-1002. - Penalties.

- (a) Any person, firm, corporation, or association of persons who violates any provision of this chapter or fails to comply with any requirements hereof, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) for each violation or failure to comply.
- (b) Each day that such violation exists shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to all other remedies for the enforcement of this Code [chapter] and its provisions, the City may institute any proper action in a court of competent jurisdiction to prevent, enjoin, restrain, abate, or otherwise to correct any violations of this Code [chapter].
- (c) In addition to penalties, any violation may also be considered to be a public nuisance and subject to abatement pursuant to section 10-201(c) and (d), 18-802 or 18-803 of the City Code when applicable.

(Ord. No. 0-9192-37; Ord. No. 0-9596-45; Ord. No. 0-9900-11; Ord. No. 0-0405-25; Ord. No. 0-0506-10)