

SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE NO. 706

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTERS 18A.50.600-680 RELATED TO SIGNS.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, in 2015 *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*, 135 S.Ct. 2218, 576 U.S. the United States Supreme Court clarified when municipalities may impose content-based restrictions on signage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood's existing sign code, LMC 18A.50.600 was most recently amended in 2011; and

WHEREAS, content-based regulations are found throughout LMC 18A.50.600-680; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for local governments to adopt needed amendments to ensure standards and regulations provide policy and regulatory guidance for growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood's insurance carrier, Washington Cities Insurance Association (WCIA) has strongly encouraged the City of Lakewood to amend its current sign code ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in April 2018 the City of Lakewood Planning Commission began to review the existing sign code and proposed amendments; and,

WHEREAS, in order to increase public participation, the Planning Commission requested that a public task force be formed to review the existing sign code and propose necessary changes that comply with *Reed v. Gilbert* and support local economic development; and,

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2018 an invitation to join the task force was posted on the City of Lakewood's website, social media page and emailed to twenty identified stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the sign code task force met on three occasions in May, 2018 to create a draft sign code to be presented to the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed amendments beginning in July, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist was prepared; and

WHEREAS, the Responsible Official on behalf of the City of Lakewood has made a determination that this project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, on August 27, 2018, the DNS was published on the Washington State SEPA Register (SEPA # 201804710); and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2018, the DNS was published in *The News Tribune*; and

WHEREAS, a 60-day notice has been provided to state agencies prior to adoption of this ordinance resolution, and state agencies have been afforded the opportunity to comment per RCW 36.70A.106(1); and

WHEREAS, under LMC 18A.02.565, a Public Hearing is required; and

WHEREAS, the notice of the Public Hearing was published in *The News Tribune* on August 28, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the notice of the Public Hearing was placed on the City's website on August 28, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2018, the City of Lakewood Planning Commission conducted an advertised public hearing; and

WHEREAS, one written comment and no oral comments were received at the September 19, 2018 public hearing;

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2018 the City of Lakewood Planning Commission closed the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission considered the public testimony received through the public hearing process, and deliberated on the proposed amendments and updates;

WHEREAS, after required public notice, on March 18, 2019 the City Council held a public hearing on proposed amendments to LMC Chapters 18A.50.600-680 related to signs; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2019 the City Council closed the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council considered the public testimony received through the public hearing process, and deliberated on the proposed amendments and updates;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that adopting this Ordinance is in the public interest and will advance the public health, safety, and welfare.

II. FINDINGS

The procedural and substantive requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C) have been complied with.

The procedural requirements of the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) have been complied with.

The proposed action is consistent with the requirements of Revised Code of Washington, and the Washington Administrative Code.

The proposed action is consistent with the City of Lakewood Comprehensive Plan.

The proposed amendments have been reviewed and processed in accordance with the requirements of Title 14 Environmental Protection, Title 14A Critical Areas, and Title 18A Land Use and Development of the City of Lakewood Municipal Code.

All of the facts set forth in the Recitals are true and correct, and are incorporated herein by reference.

All necessary public meetings and opportunities for public testimony and comment have been conducted in compliance with State law and the City's municipal code.

The Lakewood City Council finds and determines that regulation of land use and development is subject to the authority and general police power of the City, and the City reserves its powers and authority to appropriately amend, modify and revise such land use controls in accordance with applicable law.

The Lakewood City Council finds and determines that approval of such amendments to the Land Use and Development Code is in the best interests of the residents of Lakewood, and will promote the general health, safety and welfare.

The documents and other materials that constitute the record of the proceedings upon which the Council's recommendations are based are located in the City of Lakewood, Community and Economic

Development Department at 6000 Main Street SW, Lakewood, Washington, 98499-5027. The custodian of these documents is the Assistant City Manager for Development Services of the City of Lakewood.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as Follows:

Section 1. Adoption of City Council Findings. The Findings of the City Council are adopted as part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. Adoption of Amendments. Amendments to LMC 18A are adopted as follows:

18A.50.605_Purpose - Sign Regulations.

The purpose of this section is to further the City's efforts to foster an attractive City, which in turn encourages people to do business and live in Lakewood. This section is also intended to protect public safety through sign regulation. These goals are balanced with the business interest of attracting customers and public interest in free speech.

With these purposes in mind, it is the intent of this Chapter to ensure that the use and regulation of signage is consistent with the public interest as follows:

A. Balance multiple goals including promoting economic development by enhancing the City's appearance and creating an attractive community;

B. Provide minimum standards to safeguard life, health, property and the general welfare by regulating and controlling the design, quality of materials, construction, location, electrification and maintenance of all signs and sign structures;

C. Protect the public from hazardous conditions resulting from signs that are structurally unsafe, obscure vision of motorists, distract motorists, or interfere with traffic signs and signals;

D. Minimize overhead clutter for drivers and pedestrians;

E. Provide for types and sizes of signs appropriate to the land uses and zoning districts of the City;

F. Encourage well-designed and properly maintained signs that are compatible both with surrounding land uses and the buildings to which they are appurtenant;

G. Provide the public with reasonable means to help them easily and safely locate businesses and other locations in Lakewood;

H. Recognize free speech rights by regulating signs in a content-neutral manner.

~~The purpose of this section is to control and manage signs by establishing a common framework for the balanced regulation of signage in the city of Lakewood that protects the right of free speech and freedom of expression, while allowing for fair and appropriate utilization of the public landscape and "viewshed." This section recognizes that signs serve a number of valuable public and private functions, including providing effective communication between people, wayfinding information, commercial images, marketing, advertising, and education; and creating a visually stimulating retail environment. However, the City also finds that unregulated signage can be detrimental to the promotion of the safety, well being, and comfort of the users of streets, reduce the effectiveness of individual signs, have a significant negative impact on the aesthetic quality of the City's streetscapes, negatively impact property values and~~

~~can result in dangerous conflicts between traffic control signs and other signs. This section balances the community's interest in traffic safety, aesthetics, potential negative consequences of unregulated signage, with the community's desire to realize the public and private benefits of private signage. These regulations strive to achieve this balance by limiting the number, type, size and location of signs in order to minimize visual blight, clutter and traffic hazards while at the same time providing opportunities for free speech, freedom of expression, and the realization of the benefits of private signage. This section reduces distractions and obstructions from signs that would adversely affect traffic safety; and reduces hazards caused by signs encroaching upon public ways. The City's visual character is enhanced by promoting new and replacement signage which is creative and distinctive, compatible with the surroundings, and responsive to the public need to locate a business establishment by identification, address, and product and/or service information.~~

~~With these purposes in mind, it is the intent of this Chapter to ensure that the use and regulation of signage is consistent with the public interest as follows:~~

- ~~1. Provide functional flexibility and accommodate signage that follows basic principles of good contextual design;~~
- ~~2. Ensure legibility of signage in the circumstances in which it is seen;~~
- ~~3. Assure that public benefits derived from expenditures of public funds for the improvement and beautification of streets, other public structures, and spaces are not obviated by overly aggressive signage that results in a negative impact on the visual and aesthetic cohesiveness of the streetscape. (Ord. 534 § 1, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.607 Sign Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

A. ABANDONED SIGN. Any sign which is no longer standing erect, is not adequately maintained and/or may be deemed hazardous or unsafe by the City Engineer.

B. A-FRAME SIGN. A temporary, portable, freestanding, and self-supporting sign which may be either single- or double-faced, forming an "A" shape, or on a pole attached to a flat base.

C. ALTERATION OF SIGN. Any change in size, shape, position, location, construction, or supporting structure of a sign.

D. ANIMATED SIGN. A sign which has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means. Animated signs include, but are not limited to, changing or moving pictures, drawings, and designs regardless of the means and mechanisms of the animation; and message display changes at intervals.

E. AWNING SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by an awning.

F. BALLOON. A decorative inflatable device with a diameter of less than eighteen (18) inches, generally composed of a thin layer of latex or mylar. The tether of a balloon is less than twelve (12) feet in length (see "blimp").

- G. BANNER SIGN. Any cloth, bunting, plastic, paper or similar non-rigid material attached to any structure, staff, pole, rope, wire or framing which is anchored on two or more edges or at all four corners. Banners are temporary in nature and do not include flags.
- H. BILLBOARD SIGN. A large outdoor board.
- I. BILLBOARD SIGN FACE. That portion of a billboard, exclusive of its structural support, on which changeable copy is displayed either by affixing pre-printed poster panels or by painted copy.
- J. BLIMP. A decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of eighteen (18) inches or larger that is inflated. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected to create a larger display. A balloon with a tether longer than twelve (12) feet is considered a blimp.
- K. CANOPY SIGN. A sign attached to the underside of a canopy.
- L. EMITTING SIGN. A sign which emits sound, odor, or visible matter such as smoke or steam.
- M. FEATHER BANNERS. A sign attached to a support post with or without characters, letters, illustrations or ornamentations applied to cloth, paper, flexible plastic, or fabric of any kind with only such material for backing.
- N. FLAG. Any sign printed or painted on cloth, plastic, canvas, or other like material with distinctive colors, patterns, or symbols attached to a pole or staff and anchored along only one edge or supported or anchored at only two corners.
- O. FLASHING SIGN. An illuminated sign using action or motion, or light or color.
- P. FREESTANDING SIGN. A sign that is self-supported on a structure used exclusively or primarily for the support of the sign or for a group of signs and detached from any building or structure.
- Q. GATEWAY. A location featuring a structure and landscaping constructed by the City of Lakewood on City property or public easement. Gateways are found along arterial and collector streets with high traffic counts. Gateway locations often contain underground facilities including water lines, electrical conduit to support traffic and street lighting, and irrigation systems. Gateway locations are identified in the Parks Capital Improvement Plan, which is updated annually and available upon request.
- R. INFLATABLES. A decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of 18 inches or larger that is inflated. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected to create a larger display. Blimps are not considered inflatables.
- S. ILLUMINATED SIGN. A sign designed to give forth artificial light or reflect such light from an artificial source.
- T. INDIRECTLY ILLUMINATED SIGN. An illuminated non- flashing sign whose illumination is derived entirely from an external artificial source and which is arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such source into residences or the street.
- U. INTEGRATED SIGN PLAN. A special sign entitlement available to Major Commercial or Employment Centers as defined in this Code. An integrated sign plan is subject to review and approval by the Hearing Examiner using the procedures provided for conditional use permits.
- V. MAJOR EMPLOYMENT CENTER. An integrated development with contiguous ownership larger than 10 (ten) acres in size. Contiguous properties under separate control, but which function as an integrated center and when combined are larger than 10 (ten) acres in size, may be considered a major center.

W. MARQUEE SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a roof like projection over the entrance to a theater, hotel or other building.

X. MONUMENT SIGN. A freestanding sign which is affixed in or upon the ground with no air space between the ground and the sign face.

Y. NONCONFORMING SIGN. Any sign legally established prior to the effective date of this title or subsequent amendments thereto, which is not in full compliance with the regulations of this title.

Z. POLE SIGN. A freestanding sign where the sign face is elevated above the site grade by structural supports, and includes the supports.

AA. PORTABLE SIGN. A sign that is not permanently affixed to the ground or to a building or structure and which may be easily moved.

BB. PROJECTING SIGN. A two-faced wall sign affixed to the exterior wall of a building or structure with the exposed faces perpendicular to the plane of such wall.

CC. ROOF SIGN. A sign or sign structure erected upon, against or directly above a roof or above the vertical parapet wall of a building, including a sign affixed to any structure erected upon a roof.

DD. ROUNDABOUT. An intersection that uses a circular junction instead of stoplights or stop signs to manage traffic flow; a traffic circle.

EE. SIGN. Any structure, device, letter, figure, character, poster, picture, logo, trademark or reading matter which is used or designed to announce, declare, demonstrate, display or otherwise identify or advertise, or attract the attention of the public. Including, but not limited to every device, frame, letter, figure, character, mark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, or reading matter, which is used or intended to be used to attract attention or convey information when the same is placed visible from a public right-of-way or public property; and shall include all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof.

FF. SIGN AREA. The total area of all sign faces expressed in square feet.

GG. SIGN FACE. The total area of one sign face expressed in square feet. Area is measured from the outside perimeter, including backup, molding, framing, but excluding structural supports, architectural details, decorative scrollwork, etc. The area of a group of individual mounted letters or figures shall be the area of the smallest single geometric form necessary to enclose the entire group of letters or figures.

HH. SIGN HEIGHT. The distance from ground level to the highest point on the sign structure.

II. STRING PENNANT. A series of shapes, signs, streamers, or other similar devices made of fabric, plastic or other material which are connected together or attached to a cord to create a rope-like device that is typically displayed between poles or buildings.

JJ. TEMPORARY SIGN. A portable structure that is not permanently mounted and would not require a building permit to be attached to a permanent structure.

KK. TRAFFIC ISLAND. A solid or painted object in a road which marks a division between two opposing streams of traffic.

LL. WALL SIGN. Any sign painted on or attached directly to or erected against and supported by a building wall, or facade, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the portion of the structure to which it is attached and projecting no more than one foot.

18A.50.610 Administration - Sign Regulations.

A. ~~Permitted Zones. Only signs of the type or types as designated by this section shall be permitted in approved zoning districts that allow their use. This section shall be enforced pursuant to the procedures established in LMC 18A.02.460, Enforcement.~~ A sign permit is required for all new signs or structural modifications to any existing sign visible from the public right-of-way except:

1. Signs visible from the public right-of-way that are under (2) square feet and total less than 1% of the individual building facade.
2. Signs located inside of a building, painted on a window, or hanging inside of a window, provided that window signs shall be limited to forty (40) percent of the window area.
3. Temporary signs as outlined in LMC 18A.50.665

BG. Each individual permanent sign shall require a separate sign permit, except as specifically exempted in this section. Any sign for which a building permit is required under the International Building Code shall also obtain a building permit.

CD. The Community Development Director shall not issue a sign permit for a freestanding sign or modification of a freestanding sign if a nonconforming freestanding sign exists on the subject property or contiguously owned properties; nor issue a sign permit for a wall sign or modification of a wall sign if a nonconforming wall or roof sign exists on the subject property or contiguously owned properties, except as provided in LMC 18A.50.675, Nonconforming Signs.

DE. Application for a Permit.

1. An application for a sign permit must be filed with the Community Development Department on forms furnished by that department. The applicant must provide sufficient information to determine if the proposed sign is allowed under this code and all other applicable laws, including the international building code, regulations and ordinances.
2. Review and time limits. The Community Development Director shall promptly review the application upon the receipt of a completed permit application and payment of the permit fee by the applicant. The Community Development Director shall grant or deny the permit application within twenty (20) days from the date the completed application and permit fee is filed with the Community Development Department.
3. If the application is rejected, the Community Development Department must provide a list of the reasons for the rejection in writing. An application may only be rejected for non-compliance with the terms of this code, the building code, or other applicable law, regulation or ordinance.

EF. Permit Fee. A nonrefundable fee as set forth in the fee schedule adopted by the City of Lakewood City Council must accompany all sign permit applications.

FG. Duration and Revocation of permit. If a sign is not installed and a use permit issued within six months following the issuance of a sign permit (or within 30 days for temporary signs), the permit shall be void. The City of Lakewood may revoke a sign permit under any of the following circumstances:

1. The City of Lakewood determines that information in the application was materially false.
2. The sign as installed does not conform to the sign permit application;
3. The sign violates this code, building code, or other application law, regulations or ordinance; or
4. The Community Development Department Director determines that the sign is not being properly maintained.

~~B. Review and time limits.~~ The Community Development Director shall promptly review the application upon the receipt of a completed permit application and payment of the permit fee by the applicant. The Community Development Director shall grant or deny the permit application within twenty (20) days from the date the completed application and permit fee was filed with the Community Development Department.

~~C. Approval or denial.~~ The Community Development Director shall approve a permit for the sign if it complies with all applicable laws, including the building, electrical or other adopted codes of the City of Lakewood; the regulations for signs contained in this Chapter; and any variances granted from this Chapter. If the Community Development Director does not approve a permit for the sign, he/she shall state the reasons for the denial in writing, and shall mail a certified copy of the reasons for denial to the address of the applicant stated on the application.

~~DGH.~~ Appeal of sign permit determinations. Final ~~D~~Decisions regarding issuance of ~~a~~an sign permit applications may be appealed to the City's hearing examiner pursuant to LMC Section 18A.02.740. An appeal hearing regarding the issuance of a sign permit shall be conducted within 30 days of the receipt of the appeal petition and appeal fee. ~~(Ord. 534 § 2, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

H. Enforcement. This section shall be enforced pursuant to the procedures established in LMC 18A.02.460, Enforcement.

I. Signs placed in round-a-bouts. A right-of-way permit shall be required for any sign located in a roundabout.

~~18A.50.615~~ **Permanent Sign Permits.**

~~New sign or sign modification permit.~~ A permit is required for any new sign or modification of any existing sign, except as provided for in 18A.50.625.

~~A.~~ Each individual permanent or temporary sign shall require a separate sign permit, except as specifically exempted in this section. Any sign for which a building permit is required under the Uniform Building Code shall also obtain a building permit.

~~B.~~ No sign shall hereafter be erected, re-erected, constructed, installed, or altered except as provided by this Chapter. For the purposes of this Chapter "altered sign," as defined in LMC 18A.50.680 shall not include maintenance as that term is used in LMC 18A.50.680, Definitions.

~~C. Any alteration or change to a sign or any change in the sign copy requires a sign permit, except for a change in the sign copy where the sign copy is contained within a permanent framework and designed to be periodically replaced, or a message which changes on a changeable copy readerboard or a billboard.~~

~~D. A new sign or sign modification permit shall become null and void if the work for which the permit was issued has not been completed within six (6) months of issuance.~~

~~E. The Community Development Director shall not issue a sign permit for a freestanding sign or modification of a freestanding sign if a nonconforming freestanding sign exists on the subject property or contiguously owned properties; nor issue a sign permit for a wall sign or modification of a wall sign if a nonconforming wall or roof sign exists on the subject property or contiguously owned properties, except as provided in LMC 18A.50.675, Nonconforming Signs. (Ord. 534 § 3, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.620 Prohibited Signs.

The following signs are prohibited in all zoning districts:

~~A. Mobile readerboards.~~

~~AB. Roof signs.~~

~~B. Signs posted upon utility poles, traffic control devices, or other public utility devices.~~

~~C. Non-utility and non-governmental signs on utility poles or traffic control devices, public sign posts, or other public utility devices.~~

~~CD. Signs which, by virtue of their size, location, movement, **content**, coloring or manner of illumination, may be confused with traffic control signs or signals, including but not limited to signs containing words such as "stop," "look," and "danger," and directional features such as lighted arrows.~~

~~DE. Posters, pennants, banners, streamers, string pennants, blinking or flashing or strobe lights, **balloons**, searchlights, strings, twirlers, propellers, flares, and other displays of a carnival nature, blimps, or inflatables except as permitted in conjunction with a temporary sign pursuant to LMC 18A.50.665, Signs for Temporary Display.~~

~~EF. Animated, emitting, moving, rotating, or visually projecting signs.~~

~~G. Vehicle signs, except as allowed pursuant to LMC 18A.50.625(B)(21)-(22), Sign Permit Exceptions.~~

~~H. Parking lot, curb or wheelstop painting, or advertising which is not restrictive or cautionary in nature.~~

~~F. Signs affixed to a tree, shrub, rock or other natural object.~~

~~GI. Public address systems or sound devices used in conjunction with any sign or advertising device.~~

~~J. Obscenity. No sign shall bear or contain statements, words, or pictures in which the dominant theme appeals to the prurient interest in sex or is patently offensive because it affronts the contemporary community standard relating to the description or representation of sexual material, that is utterly without redeeming social value.~~

~~HK. Abandoned signs.~~

~~L. Off-premise signs, except as specifically permitted within this section.~~

~~I.M. Billboard signs, except as provided for in LMC 18A.50.635. (Ord. 534 § 4, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.) LMC 18A.50.675 "non-conforming signs".~~

~~J. Temporary signs installed at Gateway locations or traffic islands located within the public right-of-way.~~

~~K. Signs installed in roundabouts, except when expressly allowed by the City Engineer via a right-of-way permit approved by the City of Lakewood Public Works Engineering Department.~~

~~L. Feather Banners.~~

~~18A.50.625 Sign Permit Exemptions:~~

~~A. Exemption from the sign permit requirements of this Chapter shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any sign constructed, erected or located in any manner in violation of the provisions of this Chapter or any other laws or Ordinances of the City or the State of Washington.~~

~~B. A sign permit shall not be required for the following:~~

~~1. Professional nameplates not exceeding two (2) square feet of sign area.~~

~~2. Plaques, tablets, or inscriptions indicating the name of a building, date of erection, commemorative information, or historic designation provided it is:~~

~~a. non-illuminated; and~~

~~b. no more than two signs per site; and~~

~~c. a maximum twelve (12) square feet of sign area.~~

~~3. Signs owned and/or required by the State, City, or public utility entities indicating or warning of danger, aids to safety, traffic control, or traffic direction signs.~~

~~4. Tourist-related business signs associated with those highway tourist-related signs regulated by the Washington State Department of Transportation.~~

~~5. City sponsored or co-sponsored signs, banners, decorations or displays subject to approval of the Community Development Director. These signs, banners, and displays may be located on or over public rights-of-way with approval of the sign placement by the City Engineer.~~

~~6. Temporary signs for the purpose of announcing or promoting a City-sponsored or promoted community fair, festival, or event. Such decorations and signs may be displayed no more than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to and during the fair, festival, or event. All decorations and signs must be removed within five (5) calendar days following the end of the fair, festival or event. Temporary signs may be located on or over public rights-of-way with approval of the sign placement by the City Engineer.~~

~~7. Public art including sculptures, wall paintings, murals, collages, and other design features that do not incorporate advertising or identification.~~

~~8. "No soliciting," "no trespassing," tow-away zone," or indications of danger or warning signs less than four (4) square feet in sign face size.~~

~~9. Maintenance of a legal sign in accordance with this section.~~

~~10. Signs intended to notify the public of public meetings or hearings and official or legal notices required, issued, sponsored, or posted by any public agency or court.~~

~~11. Incidental signs, provided for in LMC 18A.50.640~~

~~12. Religious symbols, when not included in a sign.~~

~~13. Decorative flags in commercial zones, on private property, within the confines of parking lots, landscape areas and on building frontages, which do not incorporate advertising, logos, or business identification; provided, that each individual flag does not exceed eighteen (18) square feet in sign area.~~

~~14. Identification signs installed on and pertaining to structures or improvements such as phone booths, charitable donation containers, and recycling boxes. Signs may not exceed ten (10) percent of the area of the structure's facade or surface elevation upon which they are installed.~~

~~15. Building addresses with numbers and letters which comply with the requirements of the Uniform Building Code and the Uniform Fire Code.~~

~~16. Signs located inside of a building, painted on a window, or hanging inside of a window, provided that window signs shall be limited to forty (40) percent of the window area.~~

~~17. Strings of incandescent lights where the lights do not flash or blink in any way and do not unreasonably impact adjacent properties or street with excessive illumination or glare.~~

~~18. Reasonable seasonal and holiday decorations within the appropriate season. Such displays shall be removed within ten (10) calendar days following the end of such season or holiday.~~

~~19. Non-illuminated signs not exceeding four (4) square feet of sign area placed on lawns or buildings or in windows and containing a noncommercial political, religious, or personal message (subject to LMC 18A.50.665).~~

~~20. Gravestones or other memorial displays associated with cemeteries and mausoleums.~~

~~21. Vehicle signs painted or adhered directly and permanently on the vehicle, such as vinyl letters and logos, adhered magnetically, or inside a vehicle window, subject to the requirements of LMC 18A.50.630, General Sign Standards.~~

~~22. Public transit buses and taxis bearing rental advertising, subject to the requirements of LMC 18A.50.630, General Sign Standards.~~

~~23. Public Service directional signs, subject to the requirements of LMC 18A.50.630.~~

~~24. On-site directional signs that do not contain a business name or advertising. (Ord. 534 § 5, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.630 General Provisions.

The provisions of this section apply within all zoneing districts citywide and includes rules for signs that may be approved to benefit the general public interest as well as general rules for the placement and maintenance of all signs.

A. General Sign Requirements.

1. No permanent sign shall be constructed, erected, or retained unless the sign and sign structure is constructed, erected, and as specified in the International Building Code or other applicable regulations.

2. Area of Signs.

a. The area of a sign means the area within a continuous perimeter enclosing the outer limits of the sign face, but not including structural elements which are not a part of the display.

b. When two identical sign faces are placed back to back, the sign area shall be computed by the measurement of one of the sign faces. No more than two faces are permitted per freestanding sign. The area of a spherical, cubical or polyhedral sign equals one-half the total surface area.

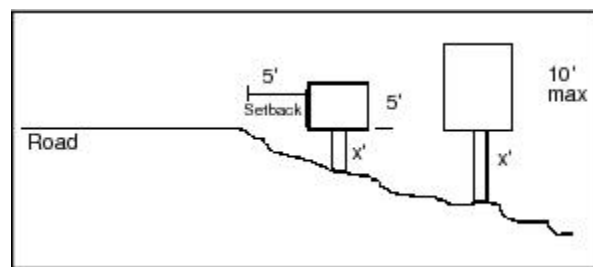
3. Area of Freestanding Letters. Freestanding letters and/or characters forming a sign or message shall be considered to occupy two-thirds of the combined overall background area.

4. Height of Signs. Maximum height of all freestanding signs or any part of the freestanding sign structure shall be 10 feet above average finished grade. Sign height shall be measured from the average finished grade at the sign foundation. The average finished grade for signs on grades lower than the adjacent right-of-way shall be considered the same as the average grade of the adjacent right-of-way. See the diagram following subsection (A)(8) of this section for grade exceptions.

5. Width of Signs. The maximum width of a freestanding sign structure shall be 12 feet. Sign width shall be measured on the face side of the sign from one side of the face or any part of the sign structure to the farthest point on the opposite side of the face or part of the sign structure.

7. Illumination. External sign illumination shall be directed only towards the sign face or freestanding letters and shall be shielded in ways to prevent light and glare on adjacent properties.

8. Grade Exception. When the elevation at the base of a freestanding sign is at least five feet below the elevation of the adjacent road, a single pole may be used to support the sign provided the portion of the sign above the elevation of the adjacent roadway has the appearance of a monument sign. See figure below.



9. Maintenance of Signs.

a. All signs shall be maintained in a safe condition and in good repair per the Community Development Director or designee. Any sign that is damaged shall be restored to a safe condition immediately. Failure to maintain a sign in a safe condition and in good repair shall be grounds for revocation of a sign permit. Any temporary sign that is poorly maintained must be replaced or is subject to removal.

i. All signs shall be free of tears, holes, chipping, cracking, peeling, fading or discoloration, graffiti, rust on any functional or non-functional component, and must not be battered, shredded or damaged.

ii. Any sign that has fallen is subject to removal.

iii. All illuminated sign faces must be maintain a consistent level of illumination

10. Unsafe Signs. No sign or sign structure shall be constructed in such a manner or at such a location that it will obstruct access to any fire escape or other means of ingress or egress from a building or any exit corridor, exit hallway, or exit doorway. No sign or supporting structure shall cover, wholly or partially, any window or doorway in any manner that will substantially limit access to the building in case of fire.

~~A. Public Service Directional Signs. Non-advertising and non-promotional directional or informational signs of a public or quasi-public nature, such as religious, educational, medical and emergency facilities, citizen recognition signs, neighborhood welcome signs, signs indicating scenic or historic points of interest may be erected or maintained by an official or civic body. Tourist related highway business signs are subject to WSDOT rules and are not included here as public service directional signs. Public service directional signs may be located in any zone with the approval of the Community Development Director if all of the following standards are met:~~

~~1. The sign shall not exceed a nine (9) square foot sign face.~~

~~2. Such signs shall be directional or informational in nature only (no advertising other than name of the use and location allowed).~~

~~3. Signs are of a consistent size, color and style as established by the City.~~

~~4. No more than four (4) such signs for each use or occupancy shall be approved.~~

~~5. Such a sign shall meet all other applicable provisions of this section.~~

~~6. These signs may be located within the public rights-of-way with approval of the sign placement by the City Engineer.~~

~~7. Signs shall be located on arterial streets nearest the location unless otherwise approved by the Community Development Director.~~

~~B. Maintenance of Signs. All signs, including signs heretofore installed, shall be maintained in a constant state of security, safety, and repair. Signs which are allowed to fall into a state of disrepair to the extent they are unsightly, broken, or hazardous may be declared a nuisance by the Community Development Director and abated pursuant to LMC 18A.02.460, Enforcement.~~

~~C. No permanent sign shall be constructed, erected, or retained unless the sign and sign structure is constructed, erected, and maintained so as to be able to withstand the wind, seismic, and other regulations as specified in the Uniform Building Code or other applicable regulations.~~

~~D. Fire Safety Obstructing Signs. No sign or sign structure shall be constructed in such a manner or at such a location that it will obstruct access to any fire escape or other means of ingress or egress from a building or any exit corridor, exit hallway, or exit doorway. No sign or supporting structure shall cover, wholly or partially, any window or doorway in any manner that will substantially limit access to the building in case of fire.~~

~~E. Visibility. No sign or sign structure shall be placed or erected in any place or manner where by reason of its position it will obstruct the visibility of any vehicular, mobile, or pedestrian traffic or be hazardous to motorists' ingress and egress from parking areas.~~

~~F. Illumination. Illumination from or upon any sign shall be shaded, shielded, directed or reduced so as to avoid undue brightness, glare, reflection of light skyward, or onto private or public property in the surrounding area and so as not to unreasonably distract pedestrians and motorists. Illumination in excess of that which is reasonably necessary to make the sign visible from an adjacent street shall be prohibited.~~

BG. Placement.

1. Setbacks for Signs. All signs are permitted a zero-foot setback, except as provided in this chapter, provided the owner demonstrates to the City by reasonable evidence that the sign will not obstruct the clear sight zone as determined by the City Engineer.

2. Establishment of Property Lines. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner or an authorized representative to establish and clearly mark out any property line from which a sign setback measurement shall be taken. In the event of a dispute or discrepancy the Director may order an independent survey to ensure compliance with this chapter. The survey cost shall be charged to the sign applicant.

3. A sign shall not be affixed to a tree, shrub, rock or other natural object.

4. No sign may be affixed to a utility pole, or other public structure.

5. Signs shall not be mounted on any portion of the roof or extend above the roof line unless mounted on a parapet wall. Signs shall not extend above the top edge of the parapet wall.

6. No sign shall project into the vehicular or pedestrian public way, or be less than nine (9) feet above a pedestrian way.

7. No sign together with any supporting framework shall extend to a height above the maximum building height allowed in a zone.

8. Signs shall not cover architectural details such as, but not limited to, arches, sills, moldings, cornices, and transom windows.

9. Signs shall not obstruct traffic signals. The issuance of a sign permit as regulated by this code shall not relieve the permit holder from fully complying with the State of Washington or any other law governing the obstruction of any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.

10. Signs shall not obstruct vision clearance as determined by the City Engineer.

11. Unauthorized signs in the public right-of-way that the City Engineer determines to be located so as to present a hazard to the public health or safety may be immediately removed without prior notice.

12. Transmission Lines - Clearance. Horizontal and vertical clearance of signs or sign structures from power and communication transmission lines shall not be less than twelve (12) feet.

C. Flagpoles. No flagpole shall extend to a height above the maximum building height allowed in the zone. A flagpole greater than six (6) feet in height shall require a building permit. All flagpoles shall be

set back eight (8) feet from all property lines. Flagpoles greater than twenty-five (25) feet in height shall be set back an additional foot for each foot in height above twenty-five (25) feet.

D. Digital Signs. The purpose of this section is to regulate how digital signage technology might be applied to sign types otherwise permitted by this chapter. It is not intended to allow more signs or larger signs than otherwise permitted by this chapter.

1. One digital sign is allowed per one hundred (100) feet of street frontage in non-residential zones.

2. Maximum luminance of not more than 0.2 foot-candles over ambient lighting conditions. All permitted digital signs shall be equipped with a sensor or other device that automatically determines ambient illumination and is programmed to automatically dim according to ambient light conditions. Digital sign illumination shall be measured in accordance with Night-time Brightness Level Recommendations for On-Premise Electronic Message Centers. (International Sign Association, August 2016).

3. No motion allowed except for instantaneous change of message or image.

4. Minimum hold between messages: eight (8) seconds plus 1.5 second transition fade.

5. Programming. To ensure that digital signs are programmed and continue to operate according to local standards, digital signs shall be designed for local on-site control and programming only.

~~1. A sign shall not be affixed to a tree, shrub, rock or other natural object.~~

~~2. No unauthorized sign may be affixed to a utility pole, or other public structure.~~

~~3. Signs shall not be mounted on any portion of the roof or extend above the roof line unless mounted on a parapet wall. Signs shall not extend above the top edge of the parapet wall.~~

~~4. No sign shall project into a vehicular public way or be less than nine (9) feet above a pedestrian way.~~

~~5. No sign together with any supporting framework shall extend to a height above the maximum building height allowed in a zone.~~

~~6. Signs shall not cover architectural details such as, but not limited to, arches, sills, moldings, cornices, and transom windows.~~

~~7. Signs shall not obstruct traffic signals. The issuance of a sign permit as regulated by this code shall not relieve the permit holder from fully complying with the State of Washington or any other law governing the obstruction of any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.~~

~~8. Signs shall not obstruct vision clearance as determined by the City Engineer.~~

~~9. Signs shall not be placed within the public right-of-way except as specifically allowed in this section. No person, organization, or agency shall place any signs, indicators, advertisements, stakes, posts or any other foreign object or objects within a public street or the right-of-way of any public street in the City of Lakewood without the express permission, in writing, of the City Engineer. Any such objects now upon the public rights-of-way are hereby declared illegal, except for those now in place with written permission of the City Engineer and except for mailboxes or newspaper delivery tubes placed on the public right-of-way, with the approval of the City Engineer.~~

~~10. Unauthorized signs in the public right-of-way that the City Engineer determines to be located so as to present a hazard to the public health or safety may be immediately removed without prior notice.~~

~~11. Signs in or on vehicles, as allowed in LMC 18A.50.625(B)(21)-(22), shall be subject to the following requirements:~~

~~a. Graphics and letters identifying a business or its principal product, painted or adhered directly and permanently on the vehicle, such as vinyl letters and logos, adhered magnetically, placed inside a window, or otherwise securely mounted to a vehicle which is routinely operated in the normal course of business for delivery, pickup, or transportation.~~

~~b. Signs permanently adhered on rental vehicles, such as U-haul rental trucks, identifying the name of the rental company;~~

~~c. Private "for sale" signs placed in the windows of vehicles being sold by their owners, and~~

~~d. Signs depicting the price and model year of vehicles for sale at motor vehicle sales lots.~~

~~H. Identification. Any sign constructed or erected after the effective date of this Chapter that identifies a business must contain within its text an identification of the business name in the English language in order to aid public safety and emergency responses in locating the advertised business.~~

~~I. Transmission Lines—Clearance. Horizontal and vertical clearance of signs or sign structures from power and communication transmission lines shall not be less than twelve (12) feet.~~

~~J. Flagpoles. No flagpole shall extend to a height above the maximum building height allowed in the zone. A flagpole greater than six (6) feet in height shall require a building permit. All flagpoles shall be set back eight (8) feet from all property lines. Flagpoles greater than twenty-five (25) feet in height shall be set back an additional foot for each foot in height above twenty-five (25) feet.~~

~~K. Entrance and Exit Signs. Entrance and exit signs and/or other similarly worded directional signs, used for the purpose of controlling traffic, shall be limited to the following:~~

~~1. One (1) sign per entrance or exit.~~

~~2. Sign height shall not exceed thirty (30) inches.~~

~~3. Sign width shall not exceed sixteen (16) inches.~~

~~4. The maximum area of a sign face shall be four (4) square feet.~~

~~5. Advertisements shall not constitute more than twenty-five (25) percent of the total face area of the sign, and shall not distract the reader from the primary directional and traffic control function of the sign.~~

EL. Bus Shelter Signs. To support the provision of transit bus shelters in Lakewood, signs are permitted when provided in conjunction with the City-approved Pierce Transit Lakewood Bus Shelter Program, subject to the following requirements:

1. A bus shelter sign is an accessory sign that is structurally integrated into a bus shelter approved for design, construction, and location by Pierce Transit and the City of Lakewood.

a. The maximum sign area is forty-eight (48) square feet for the entire shelter structure.

- b. Sign setback requirements are waived.
- c. Sign separation requirements are waived.
- d. Bus shelter signage is exclusive of signage limits of the lot on which it is located.

~~e. A sign permit for a bus shelter sign may be issued where a nonconforming freestanding sign exists on the lot.~~

~~2. Signage shall only be permitted on shelters in accordance with the City-approved Pierce Transit Lakewood Bus Shelter Program.~~

~~M. Address Number Signs. Address number signs shall be provided for all properties as required by LMC 15A.14.030.Z (Ord. 536 § 1, 2011; Ord. 534 § 6, 2011; Ord. 483 § 28, 2008; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

~~**18A.50.635 Billboards.**~~ 

~~A. The total number of billboard faces within the City of Lakewood shall not exceed the total number of billboard faces existing on the date of incorporation of the City.~~

~~B. The demolition or removal of any billboard face reduces the number of allowable billboard faces by the number removed.~~

Sign Standards1

Zone-Districts	Sign-Type	Number-Allowed	-Sign-Size	Maximum-Total-Areaea	Maxim-um-Height	Permit-Rqd?
Residential (All R, MR, and MF Zones)						
Subdivision	Monument	1 per primary entrance	0 sf. / 32 sf.		7'	Y
Each residential lot	All	1 per streetfrontage	0 sf. / 4 sf.	4 sf.	3' for picket	N
MF with more than 6 units	Monument	1 per primary entrance	0 sf. / 32 sf.		7'	Y
Schools, churches and other permitted non-residential	Monument	1 per primary entrance	0 / 32 sf.		7'	Y
	Wall2	Number limited by Total Area	0 / 50 sf.	5% of facade up to 50 sf		Y
Commercial / Industrial						
All (excluding Freeway)						
	Monument (by frontage)					Y
	50' or less	1	16 sf. / 24 sf.	24 sf.	7'	Y
	More than 50'	Number limited by Total Area	24 sf. / 40 sf.	24 sf. plus 0.17 for each frontage foot over 50 sf.	7'	Y
		A monument sign shall be separated from any other monument sign on the same property by a minimum 200'				
	Pole (by frontage)					
	Less than 250'	None				
	250' to 500'	1 in trade for any 2 permitted Monument	24 sf. / 40 sf.		20'	Y
	Over 500'		24 sf. / 48 sf.		20'	Y
	Wall2		200 per sign or group	10% of facade		Y

	Window		40% of the window area on each wall.			N
	Sale / Lease	1 per streetfrontage	16 sf. for ARC, TOC, NC; 32 sf. for others		10'	Y
	Incidental	See Note #3 below				N
	Portable	See Subsection #C.4 below				N
Freeway* (Select TOC, G1, G2, IBP, I1)						
	Pole/Monument-Surface Streetfrontage	Same as Non-Freeway Commercial / Industrial				Y
	Pole-Freeway Frontage	1 additional pole sign per freeway frontage. Min 60 l.f. surface streetfrontage req'd.	60 s.f. min/ 200 s.f. max. Must be within 50' of freeway r.o.w.)	1 sq. ft. per lineal foot arterial frontage (min. 60 linear feet of surface streetfrontage to qualify for freeway pole sign)	35' w/in 50' of freeway	Y
	Wall, Window, Sale / Lease, Incidental, Portable	Same as Non-Freeway Commercial / Industrial				
Open Space, Public, and Institutional (OSR1, OSR2, P1)	The Director shall review any request for signs in these districts and consider the type, size and location of the proposed signage in respect to the type and intensity of the use, and make a determination to approve, deny or modify the proposed sign(s) consistent with the intent of this chapter and the applicable zone district regulations.					

~~C. In the event that the City of Lakewood annexes areas containing billboards after the date of incorporation, the total number of allowable billboard faces shall be increased by the number of faces existing in such areas on the effective date of annexation.~~

~~D. Any billboard sign in existence on the date of incorporation, or on the effective date of annexation, shall be considered nonconforming.~~

~~E. Removal or demolition of a billboard shall require the issuance of a demolition permit for the removal of the existing billboard. Billboard removal or demolition shall be completed within ninety (90) days of permit issuance.~~

~~F. Billboards shall not be altered or modified, except as provided in subsections "G," "H," and "I" below.~~

~~G. Ordinary and necessary maintenance and repairs that do not change the size, shape, orientation, height, or location of billboards shall not require a zoning certification, but may require a building permit. Billboard copy replacement may occur at any time and is exempt from the requirement for permits.~~

~~H. Billboards that have any projections that extend more than three (3) feet out from the surface of the billboard face shall not be modified, except to remove or reduce such projections.~~

~~I. Billboards that contain, include, or are illuminated by any flashing, intermittent, or moving lights shall not be altered or modified, except to remove or reduce such lights. Billboards shall not include lighting unless it is effectively shielded so that the light is directed to the billboard face and prevents beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled ways of the highway or airways, or is of such low intensity or brilliance as not to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle. Billboards found to have excessive illumination, at the sole discretion of the City, shall be modified in accordance with the City's instructions.~~

~~J. Amortization of billboards shall be fulfilled as required in LMC 18A.50.675, Nonconforming Signs. (Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.640 Provisions for Signs That are for Permanent Signs or Continuous Displays.



A. The permanent sign standards table presents the dimensional standards and permit requirements by zoning district for signs that are permanently installed or otherwise permitted for display without time restriction.

Zone Districts	Permanent Sign Standards					
	Sign Type	Number Allowed	Sign Size (Min/Max)	Maximum Total Area	Maximum Height	Permit Rqd?
Residential (All R, MR, and MF Zones)						
<u>Subdivision</u>	<u>Monument</u>	<u>1 per primary entrance</u>	<u>0 sf. / 32 sf.</u>	-	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Each residential lot</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>1 per street frontage</u>	<u>0 sf. / 4 sf.</u>	<u>4 sf.</u>	<u>4' for picket</u>	<u>N</u>
<u>MF with more than 6 units</u>	<u>Monument</u>	<u>1 per primary entrance</u>	<u>0 sf. / 32 sf.</u>	-	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>All other permitted non-residential</u>	<u>Monument</u>	<u>1 per primary entrance</u>	<u>0 / 32 sf.</u>	-	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
	<u>Wall</u>	<u>Number limited by Total Area</u>	<u>0 / 50 sf.</u>	<u>5% of façade up to 50 sf</u>	-	<u>Y</u>
Commercial / Industrial (Excluding Freeway)						
-		-	-	-	-	<u>Y</u>

	<u>Monument (by frontage)</u>					
-	<u>50' or less</u>	1	<u>16 sf. / 24 sf.</u>	<u>24 sf.</u>	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>More than 50'</u>	<u>Number limited by Total Area</u>	<u>24 sf. / 40 sf.</u>	<u>24 sf. plus 0.17 for each frontage foot over 50 sf.</u>	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	-	<u>A monument sign shall be separated from any other monument sign on the same property by a minimum 200'</u>				
-	<u>Pole (by frontage)</u>	-	-	-	-	-
-	<u>Less than 250'</u>	<u>None</u>	-	-	-	-
-	<u>250' to 500'</u>	<u>1 in trade for any 2 permitted Monument</u>	<u>24 sf. / 40 sf.</u>	-	<u>20'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>Over 500'</u>	<u>24 sf. / 48 sf.</u>	-	-	<u>20'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	-	<u>A pole sign shall be separated from any other monument and/or pole sign on the same property by a minimum 200'</u>				
-	<u>Wall</u>	-	<u>200 sfsf per sign or group</u>	<u>10% of facade</u>	-	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>Window</u>	-	<u>40% of the window area on each wall.</u>	-	-	<u>N</u>
<u>Freeway (Select TOC, C1, C2, IBP, I1)</u>						
-	<u>Pole/Monument-Surface Street frontage</u>	<u>Same as Non-Freeway Commercial / Industrial</u>				<u>Y</u>
-	<u>Pole- Freeway Frontage</u>	<u>1 additional pole sign per freeway frontage. Min 60 l.f. surface street frontage req'd.</u>	<u>60 s.f. min/ 200 s.f. max. Must be within 50' of freeway r.o.w.)</u>	<u>1 sq. ft. per lineal foot arterial frontage (min. 60 linear feet of surface street frontage to qualify for freeway pole sign)</u>	-	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>Wall, Window</u>	<u>Same as Non-Freeway Commercial / Industrial</u>				
<u>Open Space, Public, and Institutional (OSR1, OSR2, P1)</u>						
-		-	-	-	-	<u>Y</u>

	<u>Monument (by frontage)</u>					
-	<u>50' or less</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>16 sf. / 24 sf.</u>	<u>24 sf.</u>	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>More than 50'</u>	<u>Number limited by Total Area</u>	<u>24 sf. / 40 sf.</u>	<u>24 sf. plus 0.17 for each frontage foot over 50 sf.</u>	<u>7'</u>	<u>Y</u>
-	-	<u>A monument sign shall be separated from any other monument sign on the same property by a minimum 200'</u>				
-	<u>Wall</u>	-	<u>200 per sign or group</u>	<u>10% of facade</u>	-	<u>Y</u>
-	<u>Window</u>	-	<u>40% of the window area on each wall.</u>	-	-	<u>N</u>

B. Notes for ~~Figure 18A.50.640~~Table 1

1. The following abbreviations are used in the Table:

Min. / Max. = Minimum / Maximum; sf = square foot or feet; Y = Yes; N = No; Rqd. = Required; r.o.w. = right-of-way.

2. Wall sign includes Projecting, Canopy, Awning, and Marquee signs.

~~3. Incidental signs are defined in LMC 18A.50.680. Incidental signs shall not be readily visible or legible from a public right-of-way. Incidental signs shall not individually exceed two (2) square feet or, cumulatively, one-half of one (1/2 of 1) percent of the building facade; provided, said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings or information when established, authorized, or maintained by a public agency.~~

~~34.~~ Freeway Commercial / Industrial. TOC, C1, C2, IBP, NC2 and I1 zoning districts which abut I-5, SR 512, Tacoma Mall Boulevard, or the BNSF rail-road right-of-way in Tillicum.

C. Additional requirements and explanations for specific Sign Types and situations:

1. Wall signs shall not project more than 18 (eighteen) inches from the façade of the supporting structure.

2. Projecting signs shall not extend more than 6 (six) feet from the attached building.

3. Freestanding signage for landlocked parcels.

a. For purposes of this section:

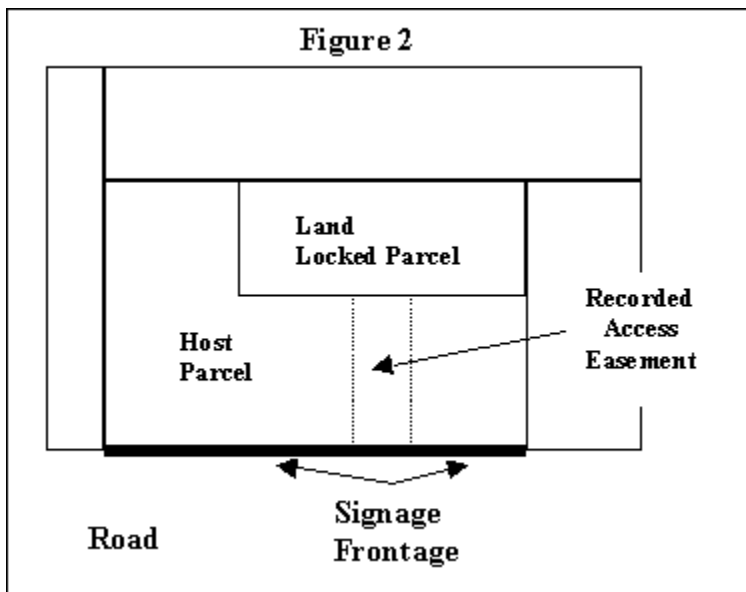
(1) A landlocked parcel is a parcel which does not have frontage on a public street and access to the parcel is provided through an adjacent parcel via a recorded access easement, or is a parcel that has less than 30 (thirty) feet on a public street and may or may not have access on that street.

(2) A host parcel is the parcel which provides the access to a landlocked parcel, via an easement.

b. A host parcel may share its allocation of freestanding signage with the landlocked parcel. The host parcel is under no obligation to grant the landlocked parcel use of its property for an easement or to grant part of its signage allotment.

c. Freestanding signage for the landlocked parcel shall be placed adjacent to the recorded access easement and shall only advertise those businesses located on the landlocked parcel and/or the host parcel.

d. In the case of landlocked parcels utilizing a host parcel for signage, the signage for the landlocked parcel shall not be considered to be off-premise signage.



[Added]

~~4. Standards for Portable Signs Intended for Continuous Display:~~

~~Any business may display one portable sign, either a freestanding sign such as an A-Frame or a T-Frame, or a banner, on a continuous basis under the terms of this subsection. Portable signs permitted under this subsection are in addition to any permanent or temporary signs otherwise permitted by this Chapter. No permit is required if the portable sign complies with the following standards:-~~

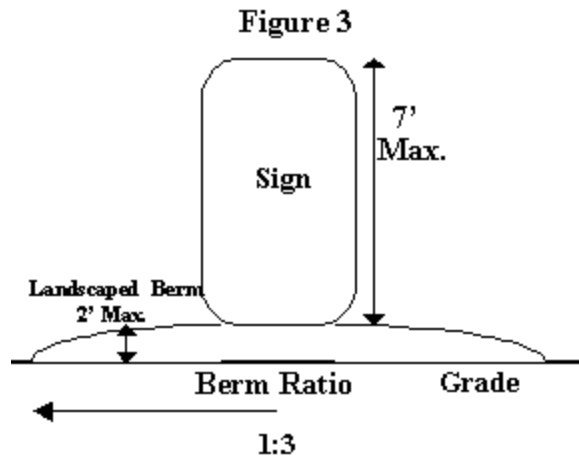
~~a. The sign must be located on private property on which the business is located (with the permission of the property owner) and shall not be located within the public right-of-way. On-site portable signs that are not generally visible from the public right-of-way or property are not considered signs under this Chapter.~~

~~b. The sign shall not block critical sight distances for the adjacent roadway, or for vehicles entering or exiting the roadway to or from a lawfully established driveway.~~

- ~~e. The sign may not block any pedestrian way. A minimum of 48 (forty-eight) inches clearance shall be provided.~~
- ~~d. The sign shall not block or interfere with any vehicular circulation, maneuvering or parking areas.~~
- ~~e. The maximum size for an A-Frame or T-Frame sign displayed under this subsection shall be 36 (thirty-six) inches wide and 48 (forty-eight) inches high.~~
- ~~f. The maximum size of a banner allowed under this subsection shall be 40 (forty) square feet.~~
- ~~g. Banners shall be displayed against a building wall, and shall be maintained in good condition. Torn, faded, dirty, dingy, or shredded banners shall be removed immediately. Banners displayed on a continuous basis are in addition to the allotment of permanent wall signs for the business.~~
- ~~h. Freestanding portable signs shall be separated from each other by a minimum of 50 (fifty) feet.~~
- ~~i. Only one portable sign per business may be displayed on a permanent basis under the terms of this section. A business may display a freestanding portable sign (A-Frame/ T-Frame) or a banner, but not both, under the terms of this subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, separate business entities occupying one tenant space shall be considered a single business. Additional portable signs may only be displayed on a temporary basis subject to the provisions of Section 18A.50.665, Signs for Temporary Display.~~
- ~~j. Freestanding portable signs permitted under this section shall be displayed only during regular business hours when the business is open, and shall be removed during those times when the business is closed.~~
- ~~k. No balloons, streamers, stringer pennants, festoons, or other similar devices are permitted in conjunction with signs displayed under this subsection. Such devices may be allowed on a temporary basis as permitted under Section 18A.50.665, Signs for Temporary Display.~~
- ~~l. Preference shall be given to conventional, non-portable signs lawfully erected and intended for display on a permanent basis. Signs displayed under this subsection shall be subject to all applicable standards and provisions of this Chapter.~~

45. Landscaped berm and decorative block edged berm alternatives for a monument sign.

- a. Landscaped berms or decorative block edged berms of 2 (two) feet or less in height shall not be included in the height calculations of a ground sign. Berms of more than 2 (two) feet in height shall be counted toward the sign height calculation. Landscaped berms shall have a slope ratio of not more than 1:3 height-to-width, from the center of the berm to be considered a landscaped berm.



{Added}

D. Integrated Sign Plans.

1. Major Employment Centers within the NC1, NC2, CBD, TOC, C1, C2, IBP, I1 and I2 zoning districts may vary from the development standards of this section by obtaining approval of an Integrated Sign Plan for the center.

a. The sign plan for the center shall be reviewed either separately or as part of the conditional use permit for the project.

b. In approving the sign plan for the center, the Hearing Examiner shall make a finding that the sign plan is proportionate to the intensity of the major commercial or employment center and consistent with the intent of this code. (Ord. 534 § 7, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)

~~6. Major Commercial or Employment Centers within the NC1, NC2, CBD, TOC, C1, C2, IBP, I1 and I2 zoning districts:~~

~~(a) A major commercial center or employment center is an integrated development with contiguous ownership larger than 10 (ten) acres in size. Contiguous properties under separate control, but which function as an integrated center and when combined are larger than 10 (ten) acres in size, may be considered a major center.~~

~~(b) Major commercial and employment centers may vary from the development standards of this section by obtaining approval of an Integrated Sign Plan for the center:~~

~~(1) The sign plan for the center shall be reviewed either separately or as part of the conditional use permit for the project.~~

~~(2) In approving the sign plan for the center, the Hearing Examiner shall make a finding that the sign plan is proportionate to the intensity of the major commercial or employment center and consistent with the intent of this code. (Ord. 534 § 7, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.645 Signs in the Single-Family and Mixed Residential 1 Zoning Districts. (Repealed)
 (Repealed Ord. 534 § 8, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)

18A.50.650 Signs in the Mixed Residential 2 and Multifamily Zoning Districts. (Repealed)

(Repealed Ord. 534 § 9, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)

18A.50.655 Signs in the Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts. (Repealed)

(Repealed Ord. 534 § 10, 2011; Ord. 277 § 1 (part), 2002; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)

18A.50.660 Special Use Signs. (Repealed)

(Repealed Ord. 534 § 11, 2011; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)

18A.50.665 Provisions for Temporary Signs ~~Signs for Temporary Display.~~

~~A. A. Table 2. presents the dimensional standards and permit requirements by zone district for temporary signs.~~

~~Signs for temporary display are allowed according to the standards and permit requirements of Table 18A.50.665 below. There are five (5) activity categories of temporary signs: Real Estate/Development, Political, Special Event, Private Sales and Temporary Use.~~

Temporary Sign Activity		Temporary Sign Standards				
		Number Allowed	Max Size per Sign (sq. feet)	Max Height (feet)	Other Provisions	Permit?
Apply to all Zones						
Real Estate / Development						
	Construction	4	32		Permit expires with project completion; signs may be freestanding or attached to site fencing or walls; signs shall be on premises only. Total area allowance is 128 sf per site.	Condition of Building Permit
	Subdivision & Condominium	4	16 for 8 or fewer lots / units; 32 for more than 8	7	Only one on-premise sign per street frontage; permit expires within 2 years of preliminary plat approval or sale of 75% of lots / units. No off-premise placement. Total area allowance is 128 sf per site.	Condition of Preliminary Plat
	Residential Sale or Rent	1 per street frontage	4 for 'R'; 8 for 'MR/MF'; 12 for other zones	4 in 'R' zones; 7 in other zones	Display only while property is actively for sale, rent, or lease; No off-premise display except for Open House (below).	N
	Residential Open House (Off-Premise)	4	4	3	Allowed only for single-family dwellings for sale. Display shall be only on open house days.	N
Political						

			4 per sign or aggregated display		Signs placed in the public right-of-way shall not impede public circulation or create a hazard to circulation and shall not be located within a vision clearance area. Signs may be placed on fences, buildings, or other structures, in windows, or on pickets. Signs may be placed on private property only with the permission of the property owner or occupant. Display is limited to 60 days before and 10 days after an election.	N
Special Events						
	Grand Opening; business closing		Poster / banner: 32 A-frame, T-frame or picket signs: 6	A-frame, T-frame or picket signs: 4	One 30-day display period per new business or organization opening or business closing. Two incidental signs / devices are also allowed. Total sign face area shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet.	Y
	City-sponsored Community Events	Signs, banners, or displays as approval by the Community Development Director.			Displays may be located on or over public rights-of-way with approval of the sign placement by the City Engineer	N

	Non-Profit Events	1 per arterial frontage (minimum 1)	Poster / banner: 32 A-frame, T-frame or picket signs: 6	A-frame, T-frame or picket signs: 4	Applicant must meet definition of Non-Profit Community Organization in LMC 18A.50.680-Definitions. Maximum of one 15-day event per calendar quarter. Total sign face area shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet.	Y
Private Sales (Garage / Estate)						
	Residential Uses Only	1 on-premise; 4 off-premise	4 per sign face	3	Display only on days of sale and not to exceed 12 continuous days in any 90-day period. A-frame, T-frame or picket style freestanding sign only; signs shall be located within 1/2 mile of the sale site, except that (1) sign may be placed at the nearest arterial street; signs may be placed on private property only with the permission of the owner or occupant.	N
Temporary Use						

			50		Only issued in association with and as a condition of a Temporary Use permit; not issued if another temporary sign permit is active; on-premise only; total allowed area not exceed 50 square feet. (Also see LMC 18A.10.520)	Condition of Temporary Use Permit
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Temporary Sign Standards

Residential (All R, MR, and MF Zones)

Sign Type	Sign Size	Maximum Height	Duration
<u>Temporary Sign</u>	<u>24 sf for banners and flags, 12 sf for all other signs</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 ft. • Banners shall be hung <24 ft 	=
<u>Sandwich Board or A-frame signs</u>	<u>7 sf per sign face</u>	<u>3.5 ft</u>	<u>6:00 AM -10:00 PM, daily</u>

Non Residential Zones

<u>Temporary Sign</u>	<u>32 sf for banners and flags, 12 sf for all other signs</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 ft. • Banners shall be hung <24 ft 	=
<u>Sandwich Board or A-frame signs</u>	<u>7 sf per sign face</u>	<u>3.5 ft</u>	<u>6:00 AM -10:00 PM, daily</u>

Open Space, Public, and Institutional (OSR1, OSR2, P1)

<u>Large Banner Sign</u>	<u>32-80 sf*</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banners shall be hung <24 ft 	=
<u>Temporary Sign</u>	<u>12 sf</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 ft. • Banners shall be hung <24 ft 	=
<u>Sandwich Board or A-frame signs</u>	<u>7 sf per sign face</u>	<u>3.5 ft</u>	<u>6:00 AM -10:00 PM, daily</u>

* maximum banner size is calculated using 32 sf. plus 1 square foot for every 100f of over 400f of street frontage.

Notes regarding location/placement:

- 1) Portable signs may be located on sidewalks so long as a minimum of 48" unobstructed sidewalk is maintained.
- 2) Temporary sign types are **not exempt** from LMC 18A.50.620 "Prohibited signs"
- 3) Any sign located in the public right-of-way is subject to removal per LMC 18A.50.630.B.11
- 4) All temporary signs must meet the maintenance standards identified in LMC 18A.50.630.A.9

B. Notes for Table 2.

1. The following abbreviations are used in the Table:

Min. / Max. = Minimum / Maximum; sf = square foot or feet; Y = Yes; N = No; Rqd. = Required; r.o.w. = right-of-way.

C. Additional requirements and explanations for specific Sign Types and situations:

1. Temporary signs:

- a. Temporary signs, as defined by this section, are exempt from standard permit requirements. Temporary signs that comply with the requirements of this sub-section shall not be included in the determination of the type, number, or area of permanent signs allowed on a property.
- b. Permission: The party posting the temporary sign is solely responsible for obtaining the permission of the property owner before posting their temporary sign. The property owner is able to remove any unauthorized sign on their property.
- c. Illumination: Illumination of any temporary sign is prohibited.

2. Sandwich Board or A-frame Signs. Sandwich board signs that comply with the requirements in this sub-section shall not be included in the determination of the type, number, or area of permanent signs allowed on a property.

a. Hours of Display

- i. Signs shall not be displayed on any premises before 6:00 AM and shall be removed each day at or before 10:00 PM.

b. Sign Placement

- i. If a sign is located on a public or private sidewalk, a minimum of 4 ft of unobstructed sidewalk clearance must be maintained between the sign and any building or other obstruction.
- ii. A sign may not be placed on a sidewalk less than 4 ft. wide.
- iii. Portable signs shall be weighted, temporarily secured, or strategically placed so as to avoid being carried away by high winds.

B. Notes for Table 18A.50.665

1. Temporary use sign permits shall not be issued for detached or attached dwellings.

2. Failure to comply with the conditions in this Chapter and the issued permit shall result in immediate enforcement pursuant to LMC 18A.02.460, Enforcement. In addition, the subject applicant, business, and location shall be ineligible for a temporary sign permit for a period of one (1) year.

~~3. Attachments to a temporary sign, including lighting, shall be prohibited~~

~~4. Alteration of required landscaping in any manner shall be prohibited.~~

~~5. Up to two (2) of the following types of devices and displays may be permitted as accessory to one (1) or more temporary signs if such devices are included in the special event temporary sign permit:~~

~~a. Streamers.~~

~~b. Stringer pennants.~~

~~c. Strings of twirlers or propellers.~~

~~d. Balloons. (Ord. 534 § 12, 2011; Ord. 317 § 10, 2003; Ord. 307 § 25, 2003; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.675 Nonconforming Signs.

A. Any sign which does not conform to the sign standards within this chapter, for which a permit was issued by Pierce County prior to February 28, 1996, and which was constructed, erected, and maintained in compliance with applicable Pierce County regulations shall be regarded as a legal non-conforming sign; excluding those signs that are prohibited under LMC 18A.50.620, Prohibited Signs.

B. Nonconforming Sign Permits.

~~1. A permit is required for each legal nonconforming sign within the city of Lakewood.~~

~~2. The permit shall include the necessary information pertaining to the nonconforming status of the sign for administrative tracking, public notice, amortization (if applicable), and removal of the sign in accordance with this title.~~

~~3. All property owners, lessors, or businesses with control of a nonconforming sign within the city shall obtain a nonconforming sign permit for each nonconforming sign within ninety (90) days of notification by the City of Lakewood.~~

~~4. No fee shall be charged for required nonconforming sign permits which are obtained within ninety (90) days of notification by the City of Lakewood. Owners of signs who have not obtained the required permit prior to the stated deadline shall be assessed a permit fee for administration of the permit.~~

~~15. Changes to nonconforming signs, as allowed pursuant to this title, shall be permitted by documenting the nature and extent of the change using a ~~nonconforming~~ sign permit.~~

C. Any legal nonconforming sign which is structurally altered, relocated, or replaced shall immediately be brought into compliance with all of the provisions of this title, excluding the, repair, and/or restoration of a sign to a safe condition. Normal maintenance shall be permitted on any part of a sign or sign structure without loss of nonconforming status. Sign face changes that do not result in an increase of the nonconformity shall be allowed, except as specifically prohibited in this chapter.

D. Billboards: The following requirements shall pertain to all billboards located within the City.

1. The total number of billboard faces within the City of Lakewood shall not exceed the total number of billboard faces existing on the date of incorporation of the City.

2. The demolition or removal of any billboard face reduces the number of allowable billboard faces by the number removed.

3. In the event that the City of Lakewood annexes areas containing billboards after the date of incorporation, the total number of allowable billboard faces shall be increased by the number of faces existing in such areas on the effective date of annexation.

4. Any billboard sign in existence on the date of incorporation, or on the effective date of annexation, shall be considered nonconforming.

5. Removal or demolition of a billboard shall require the issuance of a demolition permit for the removal of the existing billboard. Billboard removal or demolition shall be completed within ninety (90) days of demolition permit issuance.

6. Billboards shall not be altered or modified, except for the following:

a. Ordinary and necessary maintenance and repairs that do not change the size, shape, orientation, height, or location of billboards shall not require a zoning certification, but may require a building permit. Billboard copy replacement may occur at any time and is exempt from the requirement for permits.

b. Billboards that have any projections that extend more than three (3) feet out from the surface of the billboard face shall not be modified, except to remove or reduce such projections.

c. Billboards that contain, include, or are illuminated by any flashing, intermittent, or moving lights shall not be altered or modified, except to remove or reduce such lights. Billboards shall not include lighting unless it is effectively shielded so that the light is directed to the billboard face and prevents beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled ways of the highway or airways, or is of such low intensity or brilliance as not to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle. Billboards found to have excessive illumination, at the sole discretion of the City, shall be modified in accordance with the City's instructions.

~~D. All nonconforming signs not exempted by subsection E below shall be removed or modified to conform with current sign standards no later than December 31, 2006. A sign permit shall be obtained for any sign modifications necessary to bring signs into conformance. Pursuant to subsection C, all nonconforming signs required to be modified or replaced by this section shall be brought into full compliance with the provisions of this code.~~

~~E. Signs for which permits were issued by Pierce County prior to February 28, 1996, if they are within 25 percent of the height and area requirements of the current sign standards as of the effective date of this Ordinance, shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection D above. In addition, any sign erected pursuant to a valid sign permit issued by the City of Lakewood at any time since incorporation of the City shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection D above. These exemptions shall not apply to any sign listed as a prohibited sign. If the removal of a non-conforming sign is subject to compensation by the City pursuant to RCW 47.42, the Highway Scenic Control/Scenic Vistas Act, an exemption may be provided for said sign at the discretion of the City Manager.~~

~~F. In addition to the provisions of subsection D, all nonconforming signs not exempted by subsection E shall be removed or brought into conformance prior to December 31, 2006, under the following conditions:~~

E. Removal required for non-conforming signs

1. The following situations will require removal of existing non-conforming signs.

a1. In conjunction with any administrative use permit, conditional use permit, variance, subdivision, change in use, or building permit application for an expansion or alteration (including new structures) on the property on which the sign is located, where the cost of the expansion, alteration, or new construction is greater than twenty-five (25) percent of the value of the existing structure(s) on the site. This calculation shall include cumulative value, adjusted for inflation, of all expansions, alterations, and new construction initiated since incorporation of the City.

b2. Within ninety (90) days of the demolition or destruction of any portion of a building containing the use to which a non-conforming sign is accessory, where the value of that portion of the building is greater than fifty (50) percent of the appraised value of the entire building

c3. Within ninety (90) days of damage of the sign by catastrophic events, such as earthquakes, floods and wind, vandalism, fire or other casualty such that the cost of repair and restoration of the sign, to the same or a more conforming design, exceeds fifty (50) percent of the cost of replacing the sign with a conforming sign. The Building Official may require that such sign be removed or repaired in less than ninety (90) days if the sign is deemed to be an immediate danger to the public.

d4. Upon notice by the City that the sign is in a state of disrepair, is unsafe, or may become a danger to the public, providing the costs of repair and restoration of the sign exceeds fifty (50) percent of the cost of replacing the sign with a conforming sign.

e5. Upon notice by the City that the sign constitutes a traffic hazard, ~~not created by the relocation of streets or highways or the result of acts by the City.~~

F6. Any signs not removed within the time limit specified in Section E6 above, or as otherwise ordered by the City, shall be deemed a public nuisance, subject to the removal provisions of this chapter, and shall be removed by the City if the sign owner or property owner fails to do so after being so ordered by the Community Development Director. Costs, including administrative and indirect costs, of said removal, shall be borne by the sign and/or property owner and may be recovered by the City, if necessary, by placing a lien on the property from which the sign has been removed.

~~H. Amortization. To ease the economic impact of this code on businesses with legal nonconforming signs subject to removal under subsection D, this code has provided for a limited period of use for a nonconforming sign in its existing state. During this period, it is expected that the sign will be amortized on federal income taxes; however, whether it may be so amortized shall not affect the application of this section. Similar treatment shall be accorded signs in new areas annexed to the City. (Ord. 385 § 1, 2005; Ord. 317 § 11, 2003; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

~~18A.50.680 Sign Definitions.~~

~~For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:~~

~~A. ABANDONED SIGN. Any sign that has been deserted and its effective use terminated, and which no longer fulfills the purpose for which it was constructed.~~

~~B. A-FRAME OR T-FRAME SIGN. A temporary, portable, freestanding, and self-supporting sign which may be either single or double-faced, forming an "A" shape, or on a pole attached to a flat base.~~

~~G. ALTERATION SIGN. Any change in size, shape, position, location, construction, or supporting structure of a sign. A change in copy is not an alteration.~~

~~D. ANIMATED SIGN. A sign which has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means. Animated signs include, but are not limited to, changing or moving pictures, drawings, and designs regardless of the means and mechanisms of the animation; and message display changes at intervals of five seconds or less.~~

~~E. AWNING SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by an awning.~~

~~F. BALLOON. A decorative inflatable device with a diameter of less than eighteen (18) inches, generally composed of a thin layer of latex or mylar. The tether of a balloon is less than twelve (12) feet in length (see "blimp").~~

~~G. BANNER SIGN. A typically rectangular or square shaped sign, of cloth or other similar material, bearing a commercial message, motto, or slogan. A banner may have a message and/or display a commercial graphic or symbol. It can vary in size, color, and design.~~

~~H. BILLBOARD SIGN. A sign that contains a message or directs attention to a business, profession, product, activity, or service that is not related to a use or activity conducted or offered on the premises or at the location where the sign is located, excluding road directional signs, and which is generally available by means of rental or lease to persons other than the owner of the sign. A billboard sign includes the sign face(s) that contains the message or direction noted above, as well as the pole or other structure upon which the sign face is attached.~~

~~I. BILLBOARD SIGN FACE. That portion of a billboard, exclusive of its structural support, on which changeable advertising copy is displayed either by affixing pre-printed poster panels or by painted copy.~~

~~J. BLIMP. An advertising or decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of eighteen (18) inches or larger that is inflated by some means and is used to attract attention, advertise, promote, market or display goods and/or services. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected in some fashion to create a larger display. A balloon with a tether longer than twelve (12) feet is considered a blimp.~~

~~K. BUSINESS SIGN. A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, goods, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered on the premises.~~

~~L. CANOPY SIGN. A sign attached to the underside of a canopy.~~

~~M. CONSTRUCTION SIGN. A temporary sign placed in advance of occupancy of a building or structure indicating the name of the building or structure, the architects, the contractors and other information regarding the building or structure.~~

~~N. DIRECTIONAL OR INFORMATIONAL SIGN. A sign designated to guide or direct pedestrians or vehicles.~~

~~O. EMITTING SIGN. A sign which emits sound, odor, or visible matter such as smoke or steam.~~

~~P. FLAG. An individual piece of cloth or other similar material, varying in size, shape, color, and design, affixed to a staff or pole. A flag is used as a symbol of a nation, state, city, or organization; or it may be merely decorative. A "pennant" is a shape of flag, however one (1) "string pennant" is not a flag.~~

~~Q. FLASHING SIGN. Any illuminated sign on which the artificial light is not maintained in a stationary status and/or remain constant in intensity and color at all times when such sign is in use.~~

~~R. FLASHING SIGN. An illuminated sign may utilize action or motion, or light or color.~~

~~S. FREESTANDING SIGN. A sign that is self-supported on a structure used exclusively or primarily for the support of the sign or for a group of signs, being detached from any building or structure.~~

~~T. GATE OR ENTRANCE SIGN. A sign attached or adjacent to an entranceway of a residential site or subdivision, which identifies the site or subdivision.~~

~~U. GRAND OPENING. The celebration or promotional period beginning on or shortly after the date when a new, permanent business or use is first opened for business in a permanent, fixed building. A grand opening must occur at or near the beginning of a business operation and can only occur once during the lifetime of the operation. For the purposes of this definition, Grand Re-Opening, Under New Ownership, Under New Management, or similar type events shall be allowed for the following: a change of business location; construction of a new business structure; major remodeling or expansion valued at \$50,000 or more; change of ownership; change of general management; or change of name, provided that such event is for a permanent business in a permanent, fixed building and occurs on or about the date of the above changes in business.~~

~~V. IDENTIFICATION SIGN. A sign used only for the purpose of identifying the occupancy of a building, structure or property.~~

~~W. INFLATABLES. A decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of 18 inches or larger that is inflated by some means and is used to attract and/or promote attention to a site or service. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected in some fashion to create a larger display. Blimps are not considered inflatables.~~

~~X. ILLUMINATED SIGN. A sign designed to give forth artificial light or reflect such light from an artificial source.~~

~~Y. INCIDENTAL SIGN. Signs, emblems, and decals attached to a primary building which are designed to provide general building and limited non-advertising business information and may include but are not limited to signs designating restrooms, hours of operation, acceptable credit cards, property ownership or management, and phone booths. Incidental signs shall not be readily visible or legible from a public right-of-way. Incidental signs shall not individually exceed two (2) square feet or, cumulatively, one-half of one (1/2 to 1) percent of the building facade; provided, said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings or information when, established, authorized, or maintained by a public agency.~~

~~Z. INDIRECTLY ILLUMINATED SIGN. An illuminated nonflashing sign whose illumination is derived entirely from an external artificial source and which is arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such source into residences or the street.~~

~~AA. Integrated Sign Plan. A special sign entitlement available to Major Commercial or Employment Centers as defined in this Code. An integrated sign plan is subject to review and approval by the Hearing Examiner using the procedures provided for conditional use permits.~~

~~BB. MARQUEE SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a marquee.~~

~~CC. MOBILE READERBOARD SIGN. Any sign which is manifestly designed to be transported, including by trailer or on its own wheels, even though the wheels of such sign may be removed and the remaining chassis or support constructed without wheels is converted to an "A" or "T" frame sign, or attached temporarily or permanently to the ground since this characteristic is based on the design of such a sign. It is characteristic of such a mobile readerboard that the space provided for advertising matter consists of a changeable copy sign.~~

~~DD. MONUMENT SIGN. A freestanding sign which is affixed in or upon the ground with no air space between the ground and the sign face.~~

~~EE. NONCONFORMING SIGN. Any sign legally established prior to the effective date of this title or subsequent amendments thereto, which is not in full compliance with the regulations of this title.~~

~~FF. NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION. Any organization that qualifies as a non-profit entity under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the IRS federal tax code, including but limited to children's clubs, religious institutions, fraternal organizations, public schools, and governmental organizations.~~

~~GG. OFF-PREMISE SIGN. A sign that contains a message or directs attention to a business, profession, product, activity, or service that is not directly related to a use or activity conducted or offered on the premise or at the location where the sign is located, excluding road directional signs.~~

~~HH. ON-PREMISE SIGN. A sign identifying a business, product, service or activity conducted or sold on the same premises as that on which the sign is located.~~

~~II. PAINTED SIGN. A sign which is painted on any office, wall, window, fence or structure of any kind.~~

~~JJ. POLE SIGN. A freestanding sign where the sign face is elevated above the site grade by structural supports, and includes the supports.~~

~~KK. POLITICAL SIGN. A sign advertising a candidate for political office or a measure scheduled for election.~~

~~LL. PORTABLE SIGN. A sign that is not permanently affixed to the ground or to a building or structure and which may be easily moved.~~

~~MM. PROJECTING SIGN. A two-faced wall sign affixed to the exterior wall of a building or structure with the exposed faces perpendicular to the plane of such wall.~~

~~NN. READERBOARD OR CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGN. A sign or part of a sign on which the letters are readily replaceable such that the copy can be changed.~~

~~OO. ROOF SIGN. A sign or sign structure erected upon, against or directly above a roof or above the vertical parapet wall of a building, including a sign affixed to any structure erected upon a roof.~~

~~PP. SIGN. Any structure, device, letter, figure, character, poster, picture, logo, trademark or reading matter which is used or designed to announce, declare, demonstrate, display or otherwise identify or advertise, or attract the attention of the public. Including, but not limited to every device, frame, letter, figure, character, mark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, or reading matter, which is used or intended to be used to attract attention or convey information when the same is placed visible from a public right-of-way or public property; and shall include all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof.~~

~~QQ. SIGN AREA. The total area of all sign faces expressed in square feet.~~

~~RR. SIGN FACE. The total area of one sign face expressed in square feet. Area is measured from the outside perimeter, including backup, molding, framing, but excluding structural supports, architectural details, decorative scrollwork, etc. The area of a group of individual mounted letters or figures shall be the area of the smallest single geometric form necessary to enclose the entire group of letters or figures.~~

~~SS. SIGN HEIGHT. The distance from ground level to the highest point on the sign structure.~~

~~TT. SPECIAL USE SIGN. A sign intended to be displayed for a limited time and which is not permanently mounted, that advertises political issues or candidates, private sales, residential sale/rent/lease, commercial and industrial sale/rent/lease, or is a short term contractor's sign.~~

~~UU. STRING PENNANT. A series of shapes, signs, streamers, or other similar devices made of fabric, plastic or other material which are connected together or attached to a cord to create a rope-like device that is typically displayed between poles or buildings. String pennants may contain advertising or be decorative. String pennants can vary in size, color, or design.~~

~~VV. SUBDIVISION SIGN. A sign erected and maintained within the boundaries of a recorded subdivision and indicating the name of the subdivision, the name of the contractor or subdivider and the name of the owner or agent, and giving information regarding directions, price or terms.~~

~~WW. TEMPORARY SIGN. A sign intended to be displayed for a limited time and which is not permanently mounted, that advertises non-profit community or civic events, special events, temporary uses, a subdivision, or is an interim sign for a business.~~

~~XX. VEHICLE SIGN. The use of a vehicle as a sign, any sign which is attached to or placed on a parked vehicle or trailer which is principally used for advertising purposes rather than transportation, any advertising or advertising space for which the owners or operator of the vehicle receives any compensation, except public transit buses bearing rental advertising.~~

~~YY. VISUALLY PROJECTED SIGN. A sign which is projected, by whatever means, onto a surface or into the air.~~

~~ZZ. WALL SIGN. Any sign painted on or attached directly to or erected against and supported by a building wall, or facade, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the portion of the structure to which it is attached. (Ord. 534 § 13, 2011; Ord. 277 § 1 (part), 2002; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

~~H. Amortization. To ease the economic impact of this code on businesses with legal nonconforming signs subject to removal under subsection D, this code has provided for a limited period of use for a nonconforming sign in its existing state. During this period, it is expected that the sign will be amortized on federal income taxes; however, whether it may be so amortized shall not affect the application of this section. Similar treatment shall be accorded signs in new areas annexed to the City. (Ord. 385 § 1, 2005; Ord. 317 § 11, 2003; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

18A.50.680 Sign Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

~~A. ABANDONED SIGN. Any sign that has been deserted and its effective use terminated, and which no longer fulfills the purpose for which it was constructed.~~

~~B. A-FRAME OR T-FRAME SIGN. A temporary, portable, freestanding, and self-supporting sign which may be either single- or double-faced, forming an "A" shape, or on a pole attached to a flat base.~~

~~C. ALTERATION SIGN. Any change in size, shape, position, location, construction, or supporting structure of a sign. A change in copy is not an alteration.~~

~~D. ANIMATED SIGN. A sign which has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means. Animated signs include, but are not limited to, changing or moving pictures, drawings, and~~

~~designs regardless of the means and mechanisms of the animation; and message display changes at intervals of five seconds or less.~~

~~E. AWNING SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by an awning.~~

~~F. BALLOON. A decorative inflatable device with a diameter of less than eighteen (18) inches, generally composed of a thin layer of latex or mylar. The tether of a balloon is less than twelve (12) feet in length (see "blimp").~~

~~G. BANNER SIGN. A typically rectangular or square shaped sign, of cloth or other similar material, bearing a commercial message, motto, or slogan. A banner may have a message and/or display a commercial graphic or symbol. It can vary in size, color, and design.~~

~~H. BILLBOARD SIGN. A sign that contains a message or directs attention to a business, profession, product, activity, or service that is not related to a use or activity conducted or offered on the premises or at the location where the sign is located, excluding road directional signs, and which is generally available by means of rental or lease to persons other than the owner of the sign. A billboard sign includes the sign face(s) that contains the message or direction noted above, as well as the pole or other structure upon which the sign face is attached.~~

~~I. BILLBOARD SIGN FACE. That portion of a billboard, exclusive of its structural support, on which changeable advertising copy is displayed either by affixing pre-printed poster panels or by painted copy.~~

~~J. BLIMP. An advertising or decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of eighteen (18) inches or larger that is inflated by some means and is used to attract attention, advertise, promote, market or display goods and/or services. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected in some fashion to create a larger display. A balloon with a tether longer than twelve (12) feet is considered a blimp.~~

~~K. BUSINESS SIGN. A sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, goods, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered on the premises.~~

~~L. CANOPY SIGN. A sign attached to the underside of a canopy.~~

~~M. CONSTRUCTION SIGN. A temporary sign placed in advance of occupancy of a building or structure indicating the name of the building or structure, the architects, the contractors and other information regarding the building or structure.~~

~~N. DIRECTIONAL OR INFORMATIONAL SIGN. A sign designated to guide or direct pedestrians or vehicles.~~

~~O. EMITTING SIGN. A sign which emits sound, odor, or visible matter such as smoke or steam.~~

~~P. FLAG. An individual piece of cloth or other similar material, varying in size, shape, color, and design, affixed to a staff or pole. A flag is used as a symbol of a nation, state, city, or organization; or it may be merely decorative. A "pennant" is a shape of flag, however one (1) "string pennant" is not a flag.~~

~~Q. FLASHING SIGN. Any illuminated sign on which the artificial light is not maintained in a stationary status and/or remain constant in intensity and color at all times when such sign is in use.~~

~~R. FLASHING SIGN. An illuminated sign may utilize action or motion, or light or color.~~

~~S. FREESTANDING SIGN. A sign that is self-supported on a structure used exclusively or primarily for the support of the sign or for a group of signs, being detached from any building or structure.~~

~~T. GATE OR ENTRANCE SIGN. A sign attached or adjacent to an entranceway of a residential site or subdivision, which identifies the site or subdivision.~~

~~U. GRAND OPENING. The celebration or promotional period beginning on or shortly after the date when a new, permanent business or use is first opened for business in a permanent, fixed building. A grand opening must occur at or near the beginning of a business operation and can only occur once during the lifetime of the operation. For the purposes of this definition, Grand Re-Opening, Under New Ownership, Under New Management, or similar type events shall be allowed for the following: a change of business location; construction of a new business structure; major remodeling or expansion valued at \$50,000 or more; change of ownership; change of general management; or change of name, provided that such event is for a permanent business in a permanent, fixed building and occurs on or about the date of the above changes in business.~~

~~V. IDENTIFICATION SIGN. A sign used only for the purpose of identifying the occupancy of a building, structure or property.~~

~~W. INFLATABLES. A decorative device with a diameter or combined diameter of 18 inches or larger that is inflated by some means and is used to attract and/or promote attention to a site or service. These devices include large single displays or displays of smaller balloons connected in some fashion to create a larger display. Blimps are not considered inflatables.~~

~~X. ILLUMINATED SIGN. A sign designed to give forth artificial light or reflect such light from an artificial source.~~

~~Y. INCIDENTAL SIGN. Signs, emblems, and decals attached to a primary building which are designed to provide general building and limited non-advertising business information and may include but are not limited to signs designating restrooms, hours of operation, acceptable credit cards, property ownership or management, and phone booths. Incidental signs shall not be readily visible or legible from a public right-of-way. Incidental signs shall not individually exceed two (2) square feet or, cumulatively, one-half of one (1/2 to 1) percent of the building facade; provided, said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings or information when, established, authorized, or maintained by a public agency.~~

~~Z. INDIRECTLY ILLUMINATED SIGN. An illuminated nonflashing sign whose illumination is derived entirely from an external artificial source and which is arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such source into residences or the street.~~

~~AA. Integrated Sign Plan. A special sign entitlement available to Major Commercial or Employment Centers as defined in this Code. An integrated sign plan is subject to review and approval by the Hearing Examiner using the procedures provided for conditional use permits.~~

~~BB. MARQUEE SIGN. Any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a marquee.~~

~~CC. MOBILE READERBOARD SIGN. Any sign which is manifestly designed to be transported, including by trailer or on its own wheels, even though the wheels of such sign may be removed and the remaining chassis or support constructed without wheels is converted to an "A" or "T" frame sign, or attached temporarily or permanently to the ground since this characteristic is based on the design of such a sign. It is characteristic of such a mobile readerboard that the space provided for advertising matter consists of a changeable copy sign.~~

~~DD. MONUMENT SIGN. A freestanding sign which is affixed in or upon the ground with no air space between the ground and the sign face.~~

~~EE. NONCONFORMING SIGN. Any sign legally established prior to the effective date of this title or subsequent amendments thereto, which is not in full compliance with the regulations of this title.~~

~~FF. NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION. Any organization that qualifies as a non-profit entity under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the IRS federal tax code, including but limited to children's clubs, religious institutions, fraternal organizations, public schools, and governmental organizations.~~

~~GG. OFF-PREMISE SIGN. A sign that contains a message or directs attention to a business, profession, product, activity, or service that is not directly related to a use or activity conducted or offered on the premise or at the location where the sign is located, excluding road directional signs.~~

~~HH. ON-PREMISE SIGN. A sign identifying a business, product, service or activity conducted or sold on the same premises as that on which the sign is located.~~

~~II. PAINTED SIGN. A sign which is painted on any office, wall, window, fence or structure of any kind.~~

~~JJ. POLE SIGN. A freestanding sign where the sign face is elevated above the site grade by structural supports, and includes the supports.~~

~~KK. POLITICAL SIGN. A sign advertising a candidate for political office or a measure scheduled for election.~~

~~LL. PORTABLE SIGN. A sign that is not permanently affixed to the ground or to a building or structure and which may be easily moved.~~

~~MM. PROJECTING SIGN. A two-faced wall sign affixed to the exterior wall of a building or structure with the exposed faces perpendicular to the plane of such wall.~~

~~NN. READERBOARD OR CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGN. A sign or part of a sign on which the letters are readily replaceable such that the copy can be changed.~~

~~OO. ROOF SIGN. A sign or sign structure erected upon, against or directly above a roof or above the vertical parapet wall of a building, including a sign affixed to any structure erected upon a roof.~~

~~PP. SIGN. Any structure, device, letter, figure, character, poster, picture, logo, trademark or reading matter which is used or designed to announce, declare, demonstrate, display or otherwise identify or advertise, or attract the attention of the public. Including, but not limited to every device, frame, letter, figure, character, mark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, plane, point, design, picture, logo, stroke, stripe, trademark, or reading matter, which is used or intended to be used to attract attention or convey information when the same is placed visible from a public right-of-way or public property; and shall include all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof.~~

~~QQ. SIGN AREA. The total area of all sign faces expressed in square feet.~~

~~RR. SIGN FACE. The total area of one sign face expressed in square feet. Area is measured from the outside perimeter, including backup, molding, framing, but excluding structural supports, architectural details, decorative scrollwork, etc. The area of a group of individual mounted letters or figures shall be the area of the smallest single geometric form necessary to enclose the entire group of letters or figures.~~

~~SS. SIGN HEIGHT. The distance from ground level to the highest point on the sign structure.~~

~~TT. SPECIAL USE SIGN. A sign intended to be displayed for a limited time and which is not permanently mounted, that advertises political issues or candidates, private sales, residential sale/rent/lease, commercial and industrial sale/rent/lease, or is a short term contractor's sign.~~

~~UU. STRING PENNANT. A series of shapes, signs, streamers, or other similar devices made of fabric, plastic or other material which are connected together or attached to a cord to create a rope-like device that is typically displayed between poles or buildings. String pennants may contain advertising or be decorative. String pennants can vary in size, color, or design.~~

~~VV. SUBDIVISION SIGN. A sign erected and maintained within the boundaries of a recorded subdivision and indicating the name of the subdivision, the name of the contractor or subdivider and the name of the owner or agent, and giving information regarding directions, price or terms.~~

~~WW. TEMPORARY SIGN. A sign intended to be displayed for a limited time and which is not permanently mounted, that advertises non-profit community or civic events, special events, temporary uses, a subdivision, or is an interim sign for a business.~~

~~XX. VEHICLE SIGN. The use of a vehicle as a sign, any sign which is attached to or placed on a parked vehicle or trailer which is principally used for advertising purposes rather than transportation, any advertising or advertising space for which the owners or operator of the vehicle receives any compensation, except public transit buses bearing rental advertising.~~

~~YY. VISUALLY PROJECTED SIGN. A sign which is projected, by whatever means, onto a surface or into the air.~~

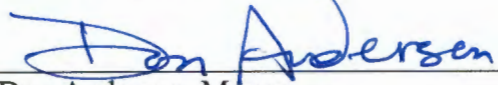
~~ZZ. WALL SIGN. Any sign painted on or attached directly to or erected against and supported by a building wall, or facade, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the portion of the structure to which it is attached. (Ord. 534 § 13, 2011; Ord. 277 § 1 (part), 2002; Ord. 264 § 1 (part), 2001.)~~

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication or publication of a summary of its intent and contents.


ADOPTED by the Lakewood City Council this 3rd day of June, 2019.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD,



Don Anderson, Mayor

Attest:



Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form



Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney