

ORDINANCE NO. 26 - 01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 305 (TEMPORARY USES) OF PART 3 (USE-SPECIFIC STANDARDS) OF ARTICLE 3 (USE REGULATIONS); REPEALING AND REORDAINING PART 13 (SIGNS) OF ARTICLE 4 (DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AND INCENTIVES); REPEALING AND RESERVING MULTIPLE SECTIONS UNDER PART 5 (ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS) OF ARTICLE 5 (ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT); AMENDING SECTIONS 803 (NONCONFORMING SITE FEATURES) OF PART 8 (NONCONFORMITIES) OF ARTICLE 5 (ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT); AMENDING SECTION 202 (FRACTIONS) OF PART 2 (RULES OF MEASUREMENT AND CALCULATION) OF ARTICLE 6 (DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF CONSTRUCTION), AND SECTION 301 (DEFINITIONS) OF PART 3 (DEFINITIONS) OF ARTICLE 6 (DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF CONSTRUCTION) OF CHAPTER 7 (UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS 2001, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO SIGN REGULATIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. Section 305 (Temporary Uses) of Part 3 (Use-Specific Standards) of Article 3 (Use Regulations) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

7.3.305: TEMPORARY USES:

* * *

I. * * *

4. Signage for temporary vendors shall comply with **the temporary sign requirements in Subsection section 7.4.1307E (Temporary Signage Criteria).**

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Section 2. Part 13 (Signs) of Article 4 (Development Standards and Incentives) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is repealed and reordained to read as follows:

7.4.1301: TITLE:

This part of the City of Colorado Springs Unified Development Code (UDC) is herein referred to as the "Sign Code".

7.4.1302: PURPOSE:

The sign regulations in this part are not content based and regulate the secondary effects of signs, particularly the adverse impacts on aesthetics and safety.

7.4.1303: INTENT:

In order to preserve and promote the City of Colorado Springs as a desirable community in which to live, visit, play, and do business in a pleasing, visually attractive environment, safe for motorists and pedestrians, these regulations are intended to:

- (A) Promote an attractive built environment and healthy local economy while working to incorporate contemporary products, technology, and marketing practices and improve understanding, application, flexibility, and enforcement of sign regulations and standards.
- (B) Highlight the positive contributions signs can make to creating a sense of place in the community, and ensure that new sign design standards avoid visual clutter.
- (C) Support free speech and content-neutral sign regulation through careful attention to site-design and advertising, enhanced wayfinding, and compliance with the reasonable time, place, and manner regulations found in this part.

7.4.1304: APPLICABILITY:

(A) General Provisions:

- (1) The provisions of this part shall apply to the display, construction, erection, alteration, use, location, and maintenance of all signs within the City, unless otherwise exempted in whole or in part. All signs should be consistent with the standards and design considerations set forth in this part.
- (2) If any provision of this part conflicts with any other adopted City code that regulates signs, the provisions in this part shall govern.
- (3) The Form Based Zoning or Planned Development Zoning (PDZ) regulations may provide alternate sign requirements for applicable regions.
- (4) Use Specific Considerations:

(a) Sign code regulations are based on the use of the property, including but not limited to commercial, industrial, office, civic, and residential uses.

(b) Residential uses, as referenced in this part, refer to three-family, four-family, and multi-family dwellings. These uses include Dwelling Multi-family, Manufactured Home Park, Tiny House Community, Long-term Care Facility, Group Cooperative Living, Group Living Residence (Medium and Large), and Human Service Establishment (Medium and Large).

(c) Single Family residential uses are restricted to certain minor and temporary signs, as referenced in City Code § 7.4.1307. These uses include Dwelling, Single Family Detached, Dwelling Two-Family (Duplex), Dwelling, Single Family Attached, Manufactured Home, Group Cooperative Living, Group Living Residence (Small), Human Service Establishment (Small).

(5) Signs located in the public right-of-way require a revocable permit pursuant to section City Code § 3.2.201.

(6) It is the responsibility of the applicant to determine whether the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has sign regulations that apply to the property and to ensure compliance with such regulations.

(B) Exemptions: The following signs shall be exempt from the provisions of this part:

(1) Works of Art. A decorative or artistic painting, sculpture, poem, or other product of the creative arts, including architectural graphics and murals, that does not include a commercial message, is not symbolic of any commercial business or commercial activity taking place on the subject property, and contains no form of advertising.

(2) Official governmental signs, including, but not limited to, traffic signs, signals, and devices; warning signs; street signs; and interpretive signs. To the extent practicable, governmental signs shall attempt to comply with the sign requirements for civic use types.

(3) Official legal notices.

(4) Signs displayed within the interior of a building that are at least two (2) feet away from exterior windows.

(5) Displays, lights, and decorations that do not contain commercial messaging.

(6) Human signs held by persons, so long as the signs are not set down or propped on objects for extended periods of time.

(7) Street numbers or addresses.

(8) De Minimis Signs. Signage not containing a commercial message and not symbolic of any commercial business or commercial activity taking place on the subject property, not containing advertising, not exceeding three (3) square feet per sign, and a maximum of three (3) signs per property.

(9) Nongovernmental outdoor entertainment or recreational venues with inward facing advertising on playing fields, walls, fences, backstops, and scoreboards.

(10) Signs oriented only to the internal property on which they are located, not substantially visible from the public right-of-way, and set back over fifteen (15) feet or not visible from the lot line.

(11) Temporary sign covers only used for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, during which time a new permanent sign or sign component is being fabricated by the property owner.

(12) Light Pole Banners. Vertical banners attached to existing light poles on private property not exceeding twenty-four (24) by forty-eight (48) inches and hung eight (8) feet above grade in pedestrian areas and fourteen (14) feet above grade in vehicular areas.

(13) Face changes, re-paint, re-lamp, and general maintenance of previously permitted signage, so long as the sign is not raised, lowered, removed, or changed in a structural manner.

7.4.1305: SIGN PERMITS:

(A) Purpose: The purpose of this section is to provide for the review of signs and their conformance with the sign regulations of this part to effectuate their purpose.

(B) Applicability: A sign permit is required before erecting any sign identified in this part, unless specifically exempted by City Code § 7.4.1304. The Manager must review all sign permits prior to issuance of a related permit by the Building Official. Signs must comply with the requirements of the Regional Building Code as referenced in this UDC. The type of use requesting a sign permit must be legally established on the property prior to or concurrently with the signage being requested. Sign permits will not be approved for new signs on property where existing noncompliant signs exist.

(C) Sign Permit Approval Process:

(1) Application Submission:

(a) In addition to the application submission requirements in City Code § 7.5.403, as may be amended, the following must be included in a sign permit application:

(i) A complete application form, in the form approved by the Manager, together with any applicable fees.

(II) A project statement identifying and demonstrating:

(i) All existing and proposed signage on the parcel; and

(ii) How the requested application meets the sign permit review criteria.

(b) The sign permit shall contain any information deemed necessary by the Manager, including, but not limited to, the construction plan.

(c) If signage will be shared between two (2) or more parties, the applicant must submit an agreement evidencing ownership and management of the signage between the parties and the property owner's approval.

(d) When an Electronic Message Center ("EMC") sign is proposed, the applicant must execute a letter of compliance for EMC to verify compliance with all applicable EMC sign requirements set forth in this part.

(D) Decision-Making Body: Except as otherwise noted in this part, all sign permits shall be reviewed and decided upon by the Manager based on the criteria in this section.

(E) Sign Permit Review Criteria: The Manager shall review the sign permit application and approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application based on the following criteria:

(1) The decision-making criteria in City Code § 7.5.409, unless otherwise modified by this part;

(2) The application complies with all applicable sign standards in this part;

(3) Any light source intended to illuminate a sign will be shaded, shielded, or directed so that the light intensity or brightness does not adversely affect adjacent or facing premises or visibility for pedestrians or operators of vehicles;

(4) The sign will not obstruct sight-visibility in any direction at a street intersection or within an alley or driveway. If a sign is placed at the intersection of two (2) rights-of-way, the sign must not interfere with sight-visibility as described in the Engineering Criteria; and

(5) Anticipated, significant, off-site impacts resulting from the proposed signage are mitigated or offset to an acceptable extent.

(F) Pre-Decision and Post-Decision Limitations:

(1) Work Before Permit Issuance: In the event work has started or been performed prior to obtaining a permit, the contractor and property owner are jointly and severally liable, subject to enforcement, and additional fees may be due. The

payment of such fees shall not relieve any person from full compliance with the requirements of this Code, nor from any penalties prescribed herein.

(2) Issuance of Building Permit: Sign plans will not be approved until a building permit for the principal use has been issued, and advanced construction, such as structural framing and access to all ground signage, is available, if applicable.

(3) Sign Permit Expiration: A sign permit shall expire one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of issuance, unless stated otherwise in this Code. Prior to the expiration of a sign permit, the applicant may request, and the Building Official may authorize a courtesy extension of an additional one hundred and eighty (180) days. Any additional extension requests will require additional fees.

7.4.1306: COORDINATED SIGN PLANS:

(A) Purpose: The purpose of this section is to provide flexibility for signage and variation from the requirements of this Sign Code. A Coordinated Sign Plan ("CSP") is used to review compliance with the sign regulations in this part against a unique development approach, site-specific constraints, or significant features impacting signage, and to allow variations from this Sign Code while effectuating its purpose. Signage that advertises property located anywhere within the boundaries of the CSP area will be considered on premise signage.

(B) Applicability:

(1) CSP are not available for changing or establishing a use type to secure alternative sign type standards. A CSP may be considered only with the following types of developments or signage proposals:

(a) Common Developments: A common development consisting of one or multiple parcels, which:

(I) Has a combined lot size greater than one (1) acre;

(II) Has minimum of one (1) frontage on a public or private right-of-way; and

(III) Contains three (3) or more independent civic, commercial, industrial, or office uses.

(b) Condominium Developments: Any condominium development for any civic, commercial, or office uses.

(c) Single Lot, Single Use: A lot containing a single use with at least one (1) of the following:

(I) Multiple points of access on separate frontages on public or private rights-of-way;

(II) Site grades at or exceeding fifteen percent (15%) that compromise signage visibility;

(III) A unique parcel configuration or layout not characteristic of nearby properties; or

(IV) Frontage along a major arterial right-of-way or higher classification, as set forth in the Engineering Criteria.

(2) If signage proposals do not meet the standards of this part, the applicant may still seek to modify any numerical sign regulation standard in this part by no more than fifteen percent (15%) or request alternative design considerations.

(3) A CSP may modify the maximum number of allowed EMC signage for what is generally allowed for the applicable use.

(C) CSP Approval Process:

(1) Application Submission: In addition to the sign permit application requirements of City Code § 7.4.1305, the following items must be included in the application:

(a) A project statement identifying and demonstrating:

(I) Which sign requirement of this part is to be modified;

(II) Inventory of all existing and proposed signage on the parcels;
and

(III) How the requested application meets the CSP review criteria.

(b) Any additional plans deemed necessary by the Manager, including but not limited to plan content.

(D) Decision-Making Body: Except as otherwise noted in this part, all CSP shall be reviewed and decided upon by the Manager based on the criteria in this section.

(E) CSP Standards:

(1) Standards applicable to all CSP requests:

(a) The two (2) longest frontages may be aggregated to allow for additional signs, sign area, and sign height.

(b) The total permitted sign area and height for freestanding signs may be split into fewer smaller signs at the option of the property owner.

(c) The fifteen percent (15%) administrative adjustment allowed under City Code § 7.5.524 may not be added to the modifications allowed through a CSP.

(2) Common Developments and Condominium Developments:

(a) When the total permitted sign area or height is aggregated, the size or height of any single sign shall not exceed the sign standard by more than thirty percent (30%).

(b) When three (3) or more commercial, industrial, office, or civic uses are part of a CSP, the total permitted sign area and sign height will be governed by the most intensive sign use classification.

(3) Single Lot, Single Use:

(a) As an alternative means of calculation, the measurement of the lot frontage plus the lot depth will be used to determine the number of allowable signs, the sign area, and the sign height for parcels with unique characteristics not representative of nearby properties.

(b) Parcels meeting City Code § 7.4.1306(B)(1)(c)(IV) are allowed a maximum sign height of forty (40) feet.

(F) CSP Review Criteria:

(1) The decision-making body shall review the CSP application and approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application based on the following criteria:

(a) The strict application of the applicable regulations is unreasonable and unnecessary given the unique development approach proposed by the applicant, or the extraordinary physical conditions of the site significantly impact the development of signage, do not generally exist on nearby properties, and do not allow the reasonable visibility of the use or signage on the property;

(b) The intent of the applicable regulation is met;

(c) The granting of the CSP will not result in an adverse impact on surrounding properties;

(d) The granting of the CSP will not increase the nonconformity of existing signage on the property;

(e) The requested signage is more compatible with the surrounding pattern of development than if it were constructed in accord with the established requirements; and

(f) The requested signage incorporates enhanced architectural design and upgraded materials.

(2) If the decision-making body finds that the application has not met the above criteria, the applicant may appeal that decision to the Downtown Review Board or Planning Commission, as applicable.

(G) Pre-Decision and Post-Decision Limitations:

(1) Work Before Permit Issuance: In the event work has started or is being performed prior to obtaining an approved CSP, the contractor and property owner are jointly and severally liable for correcting the same, subject to enforcement, and additional fees may be due. The payment of such fees shall not relieve any person from full compliance with the requirements of this Code, nor from any penalties described herein.

(2) Issuance of Permit: Sign permits will not be approved for a property seeking approval of a CSP until the CSP is approved.

(3) Expiration: A CSP shall not expire unless such expiration is made a condition of the approval. A CSP approved with a development plan shall run concurrently with that approval, shall expire, and shall terminate at the same time as the development plan.

7.4.1307: SIGN TYPES AND CRITERIA BY SIGN CATEGORY:

(A) Major Sign Types:

(1) General Standards: Unless otherwise exempted in this part, all major sign types require a sign permit prior to construction.

(2) Walls Signs: Table 7.4.13-A provides dimensional standards for permitted wall signage.

Table 7.4.13-A Wall Sign Dimensional Standards					
Use	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Additional Standards
Office and Civic	Yes	Canopy/Awning Signs: .5 sq. ft. x length of canopy/awning structure	No limit, but shall not exceed max. total sq. ft. per	See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(3)(i)	Illuminated signs shall be prohibited for office and civic uses that are adjacent to

		Wall Signs: 1 sq. ft. x building elevation length	canopy, awning or building elevation for wall signs		residential uses. See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(3))
Commercial and Industrial	Yes	Canopy/Awning Signs: .5 sq. ft. x length of canopy/awning structure	No limit, but shall not exceed max. total sq. ft. per canopy, awning or building elevation for wall signs	See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(3)(i))	See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(3))
		Wall Signs: 1.5 sq. ft. x building elevation length			
		Wall Signs: 2 sq. ft. x building elevation length when set back >200 ft. from public ROW			
Residential	Yes	Canopy/Awning Signs: .5 sq. ft. x length of canopy/awning structure	No limit, but shall not exceed max. total sq. ft. per Canopy / Awning elevation Max. 2 signs (may be placed on multiple buildings or different building	See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(3)(i))	
		Wall Signs: 50 sq. ft. per sign (May not be aggregated)			

			elevation s of the same building)		
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(3) Additional Standards for Wall Signs:

(a) For buildings with an elevation length less than sixteen and a half (16.5) linear feet, a minimum sign area of twenty-five (25) square feet shall be allowed.

(b) Multiple wall signs per elevation may be allowed so long as the wall sign area does not exceed the total allowance established for each elevation.

(c) Additional building signs are permitted under all use classifications for a building with five (5) or more floors, which is eligible for double the maximum size allotment and number for wall signage. The additional allotment must be placed at the fifth (5) floor level or higher. All other wall sign criteria apply.

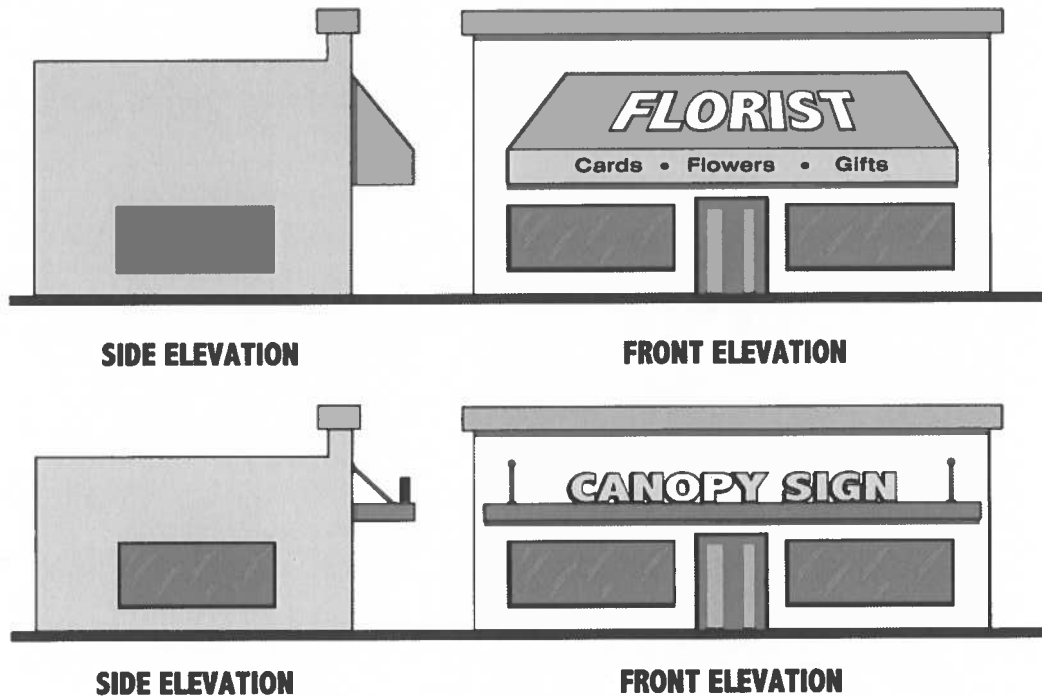
(d) A wall sign extending more than twelve (12) inches from the building shall be considered a projecting sign.

(e) In multi-tenant buildings with commercial, industrial, civic, or office uses, tenants are permitted to share or borrow signage among the themselves. If a tenant wishes to have a larger sign than what is entitled based on their leased building frontage, the tenant signage may borrow from the balance of the multi-tenant building allotment upon the written consent of the owners. No tenant may use shared signage beyond one and one-half (1.5) times their allocation. Signage may not be transferred between elevations or buildings unless through an approved CSP.

(f) Signs attached to or painted on the end or face of an awning or canopy extending from a building façade, as set forth in the figures below, may:

(I) Be allowed an additional sign area allocation of half (0.5) a square foot per linear foot of canopy/awning length; and

(II) May be backlit.

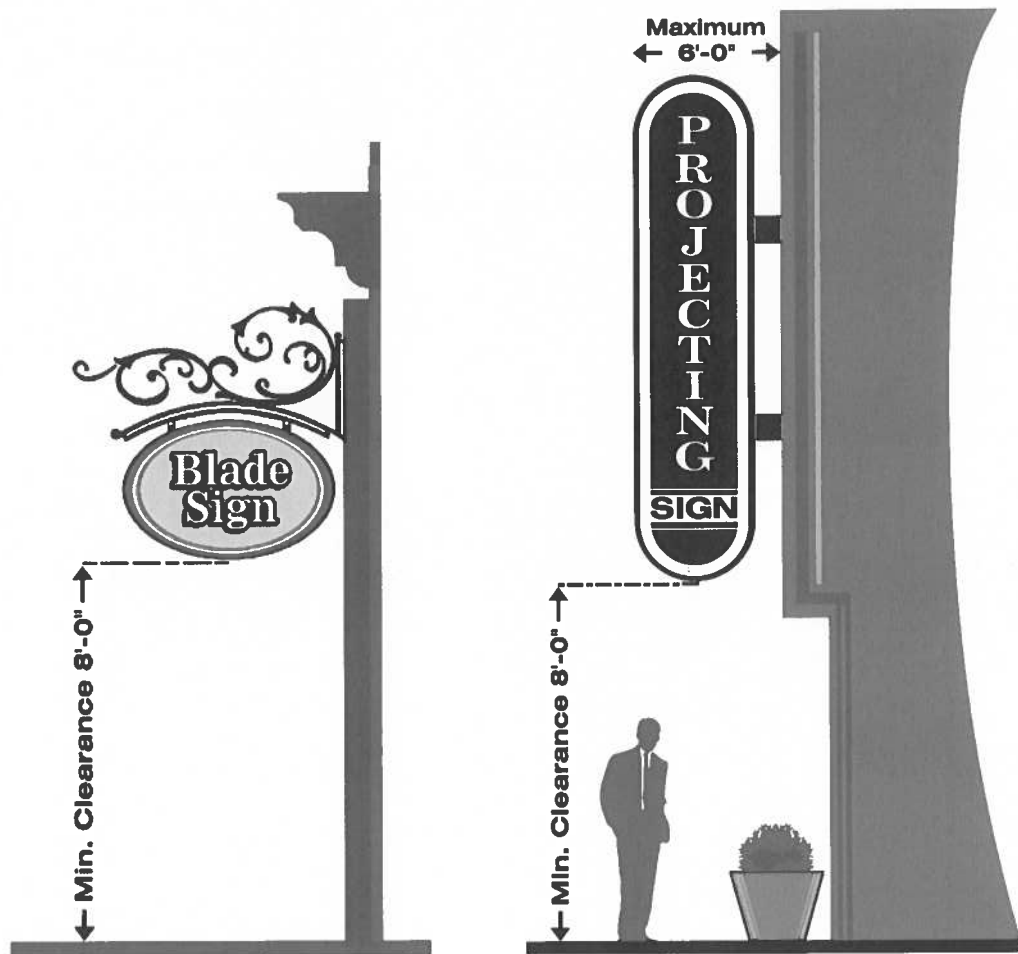


(g) Signs that project over the sidewalk or other rights-of-way are permitted, as part of the allowance for wall signs, when designed and placed for the purpose of identifying the businesses for pedestrians.

(I) Signs projecting over a pedestrian area or under a canopy must have a minimum clearance of eight (8) feet above the sidewalk or average grade.

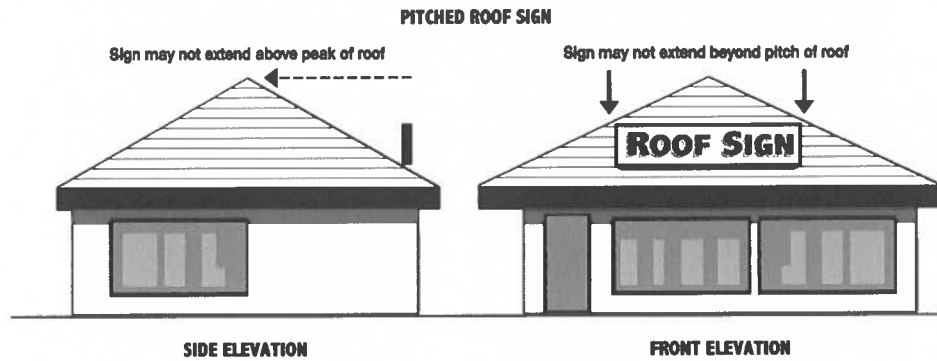
(II) A sign projecting over a vehicular area must be at least fourteen (14) feet above existing grade.

(III) A sign must not project more than six (6) feet from the wall of the building on which the sign is placed and shall not obstruct adjacent existing signage, as set forth in the figure below.

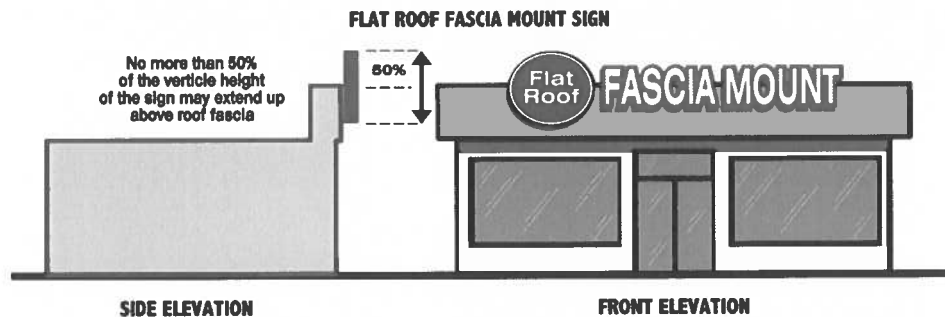


(h) Temporary banners are permitted only for identification purposes as a condition of approval for a sign permit or CSP while uses transition and before permanent signs are placed, subject to the following:

- (I) Sixty (60) day limit and may not be permanent.
 - (II) The maximum allowable sign area for a temporary banner shall be limited to the permanent wall sign allocation.
- (i) The maximum sign height must comply with the following:
- (I) When attached to a pitched roof, a sign shall not extend beyond the roof pitch or peak of roof as set forth in the figure below.



(II) When attached to the face of the wall or a low protective wall, such as a parapet, or attached to a flat roof, no more than fifty percent (50%) of the overall vertical height of the sign may extend beyond the roof line as set forth in the figure below.



(III) No sign, on its own or in conjunction with another structure, may exceed the maximum height permitted in the zone district in which it is located.

(IV) Signs attached on top of flat roofs are prohibited.

(j) Static digital/LED components will count against the maximum allowable sign area and are not considered EMC signs. Similar signage includes, but is not limited to, fuel price signs, a digital sign that identifies pricing, time and temperature signs, and drive-thru lane identifying markers.

(4) Freestanding Signs: Table 7.4.13-B provides dimensional standards for permitted freestanding signage.

Table 7.4.13-B
Freestanding Sign Dimensional Standards

Use	Permit Required	Linear Property Frontage	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Additional Criteria / Standards
Office and Civic	Yes	<160 ft.	34 sq. ft.	1	7 ft.	For property frontages $\geq$ 160 ft., the max. size of 100 sq. ft. for office uses and 64 sq. ft. for civic uses. For civic uses, when adjacent to residential uses, lighting may be limited and reviewed through the sign permit. See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(5)
		$\geq$ 160 ft.	0.25 sq. ft. per linear foot of lot frontage	1	0.06 ft. per linear foot of lot frontage with a max. 25 ft. for office uses and max. 15 ft. for civic uses	
		$\geq$ 1,000 ft.	0.25 sq. ft. per linear foot of lot frontage	2, plus 1 additional sign for every additional 1,000 ft. of lot frontage		
Commercial and Industrial	Yes	<160 ft.	42 sq. ft.	1	7 ft.	For property frontages $\geq$ 160 ft., the max. size is 150 sq. ft. See subsection 7.4.1307(A)(5)
		$\geq$ 160 ft.	0.35 sq. ft. per linear foot of lot frontage	1	0.07 ft. per linear foot of lot frontage with a max. of 30 ft.	
		$\geq$ 1,000 ft.	0.35 sq. ft. per linear foot of lot frontage	2, plus 1 sign for every additional 1,000 ft.		

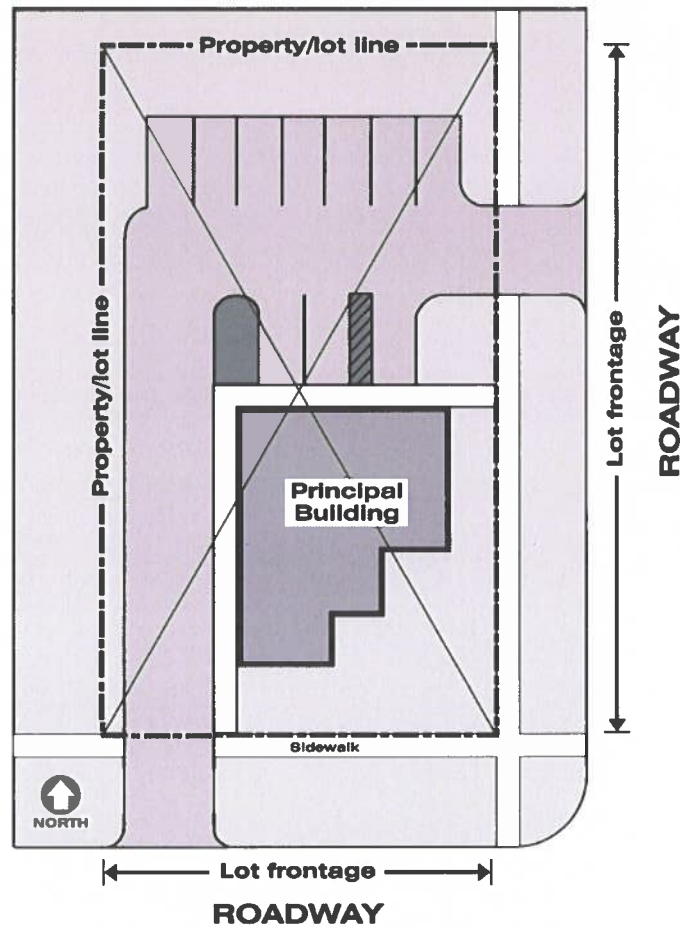
				of lot frontage		
		≥ 1,500 ft.	0.35 sq. ft. per linear foot of lot frontage	2, plus 1 sign for every additiona l 1,000 ft. of lot frontage	35 ft.	
Residential	Yes	All	32 sq. ft.	1	7 ft.	

(5) Additional Standards for Freestanding Signs:

(a) Each property or parcel of land is allowed a minimum of one (1) freestanding sign in accordance with the applicable provisions of this part.

(b) No portion of a freestanding sign shall be in or project over a right-of-way or obstruct a sight visibility triangle, as defined in the Engineering Criteria, unless a revocable permit is issued pursuant to City Code § 3.2.201 prior to issuance of the sign permit. No freestanding sign shall be placed within a public or private easement unless otherwise authorized.

(c) Freestanding signage area is based on the lot frontage. Freestanding signs must be placed adjacent to the property frontage used to calculate the allowable sign area and height as set forth in the diagonal diagram below, except when multiple freestanding signs are permitted, in which case the freestanding sign shall be placed adjacent to any property boundary with public or private frontage.



(d) For corner lots, one property boundary with frontage adjacent to a public or private right-of-way may be used for calculating the freestanding sign size and height. Property owners may choose accordingly.

(e) Static digital/LED components shall count against the maximum allowable sign area and are not considered EMC signs. Similar signage includes, but is not limited to, fuel price signs, a digital sign that identifies pricing, time and temperature signs, and drive-thru lane identifying markers.

(f) Freestanding/ground signs, including directional signs, may be at a zero (0) foot setback within property lines so long as they do not compromise line of sight for traffic.

(6) EMC Signs: Table 7.4.13-C provides dimensional standards for permitted EMC signs.

Table 7.4.13-C

Electronic Message Center Sign Dimensional Standards

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Maximum Number	Message Hold Time	Additional Standards
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Office and Civic	Freestanding Sign	ü	≤ 50% of permitted sign area	1 per property (regardless of freestanding or wall sign)	10 seconds	See subsection on 7.4.1307(A)(7)
	Wall Signs	ü	Not to exceed 32 sq. ft. or the max. Allowable sign area, whichever is less.		10 seconds	See subsection on 7.4.1307(A)(7)
Commercial and Industrial	Freestanding Sign	ü	≤ 50% of permitted sign area	1 per property (regardless of freestanding or wall sign)	10 seconds	See subsection on 7.4.1307(A)(7)
	Wall Signs	ü	Not to exceed 32 sq. ft. or the max. Allowable sign area, whichever is less.		10 seconds	See subsection on 7.4.1307(A)(7)

(7) Additional Standards for EMC Signs:

- (a) EMCs shall not be a standalone sign and must be integrated into a major sign, such as freestanding or wall sign, as shown in the figure below.



- (b) EMCs are limited to static messages only. Allowable methods for visual transition shall be limited to fading or dissolving. Any method of visual transition shall not have movement or the appearance or optical illusion of movement, on any part of the sign structure, design, or pictorial part of the sign, including the movement of any illumination or the flashing, scintillating, or varying of light intensity.
- (c) EMCs shall have automatic dimmer software or solar sensors to control brightness for nighttime viewing. The intensity of the light source shall not produce glare that constitutes a traffic hazard. Lighting shall not exceed five hundred (500) nits between dusk to dawn, as measured from the face of the sign.
- (d) Transition duration between messages shall not exceed one (1) second.
- (e) EMC maintenance: The light/LED modules on an EMC must be repaired or replaced within thirty (30) days of being broken, burned out, or substantially dimmed.
- (f) Any property that wishes to add an EMC component to an existing sign must comply with current Sign Code standards before the EMC is approved.
- (g) Temporary signage, except for short term signs, shall be prohibited on any property that has an EMC.
- (h) EMC signs shall be limited to the commercial messaging of any commercial business or commercial activity taking place on the subject property where the sign is located.
- (i) The Manager may grant additional flexibility for the maximum number of allowed EMC signs according to an approved CSP.

(j) A property may not have both an EMC wall sign and an EMC freestanding sign.

(k) Any EMCs associated with office or civic uses that are adjacent to a residential use shall comply with the following use specific requirements:

(I) Signs shall be placed and oriented to maintain a separation distance of at least two hundred (200) feet, measured from the adjacent property line to the nearest sign element, except when separated by a right-of-way with a roadway classification of collector or higher, as defined in the Engineering Criteria.

(II) EMC components, which support the change or transition of messaging, may not be used from the hours of ten (10:00) P.M. through seven (7:00) A.M.

(B) Minor Sign Types:

(1) General Standards: Unless otherwise specified in this part, minor sign types do not need a sign permit prior to construction or use.

(2) Table 7.4.13-D provides general criteria for permitted minor signage.

Table 7.4.13-D							
Minor Sign Types- ü = Permit							
Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
All	Building Plaque	No	6 sq. ft.	1 per building	8 ft. attached to building	N/A	Built into or mounted flat against the façade. Lighting permitted.
All	Flags	No	Not to exceed 3 ft. x 5 ft.	3 per lot with up to 5 additional flags (1 per ≥ 160 ft. of frontage) allowed in	See section 7.4.203 for additional information regarding dimensional standards for flagpoles		

Table 7.4.13-D

Minor Sign Types-

ü = Permit

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
				the front yard with a max. 8 flags per lot			
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and Residential	Directional Signs	ü	6 sq. ft.	2 per entrance	4 ft.	Within 15 ft. from ROW	Commercial messaging limited to 25% of sign content
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and Residential	Directory (freestanding)	ü	64 sq. ft.	2 per entrance	6 ft.	15 ft. from ROW	Commercial messaging limited to 25% of sign content
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and Residential	Historic Signs	ü	Sign and structure must comply with subsection 7.4.1307(C)(1) below				
All	Development / Subdivision Monument Sign	ü	100 sq. ft.	2 per access or 1 per corner (adjacent to Arterial or Collector roadway)	15 ft	None	See subsection 7.4.1307(C)(3) below
All	Motor Vehicle Signs	No	Signs that are permanently painted or affixed to a vehicle for advertising purposes. See subsection D.3 below				

Table 7.4.13-D

Minor Sign Types-

ü = Permit

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
All	Mural/Work of Art	No	Any portion of a mural/work of art that is considered a sign will deduct from the maximum size of the allowable signage type and requires permitting.				
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and Residential	Window Signs	No	25% of the window(s)	None	N/A	N/A	Prohibited above ground level. Lighting permitted.

(C) Additional Standards for Minor Sign Types:

(1) **Historic Signs:** May be kept, used, maintained, and displayed, and not considered abandoned, when the following requirements are met:

- (a) Documentation is provided evidencing that the sign has been at its present location for a minimum of fifty (50) years prior to application for a sign permit and is representative of signage from the era.
- (b) The sign must be structurally safe, or be capable of being made structurally safe, without substantially altering its historic character.
- (c) Historic signs may be maintained on a property in addition to new permitted signs.

(2) **Motor Vehicle Signs:** Signs may be placed on licensed motor vehicles provided:

- (a) Each sign must be permanently painted or affixed to the vehicle.
- (b) No sign shall project more than one (1) foot above the roofline of the vehicle to which it is attached.
- (c) The vehicle, trailer, or other movable device upon which the sign is affixed must be used for normal operation, regularly moved, and not primarily used to display freestanding signage.
- (d) The vehicle must be moved at least once every seventy-two (72) hours.

- (e) When not in use, the vehicle must be parked on the business's, operator's, or owner's premises.
 - (f) The vehicle must be parked in a legal parking space.
 - (g) The vehicle may not block any other legally permitted signs.
 - (h) EMC signs on vehicles, trailers, or other movable devices are prohibited.
- (3) Development / Subdivision Monument Signs: Permanent signs that are incorporated into entryways from major arterials or collector streets:
- (a) Must only include the name of the subdivision or development.
 - (b) Must be located at street entrances or corners of the subdivision or development adjacent to the arterial or collector roadway.
 - (c) Must not be located in the public right-of-way unless a revocable permit is obtained pursuant to City Code § 3.2.201 prior to issuance of the sign permit.
 - (d) Must be insured and maintained by the homeowners' association or other appropriate entity.
 - (e) Must be constructed of masonry or other substantial materials.
 - (f) May be placed on a subdivision wall, retaining wall, or other similar background, excluding fencing or a building façade, provided a sign permit is approved.
- (D) Temporary Signage Criteria: Unless otherwise stated in this part, and in addition to the permanent signage permitted in this part, temporary signs are allowed on each property. Table 7.4.13-E provides general criteria for permitted temporary signage.

Table 7.4.13-E

Temporary Signage Criteria

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and	Banner	Yes	48 sq. ft. per façade for single-story				See subsection 7.4.1307(E)(2) below

Table 7.4.13-E

Temporary Signage Criteria

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
Residential			buildings. 96 sq. Ft. per façade for multi-story buildings.				
Single Family Residential	Short Term	No	≤ One (1) acre = 6 sq. ft. ≥ One (1) acre = 32 sq. ft.	≤ One (1) acre = 5 per lot. ≥ One (1) acre = 1 per street frontage	10 feet for signs over 6sf	5 ft. from lot line	See subsection 7.4.1307(E)(4) below
All Others			≤ One (1) acre = 6 sq. ft. plus 32 sq. ft. ≥ One (1) acre 6 sq. ft. plus 64 sq. ft.	≤ One (1) acre = 5 per lot. ≥ One (1) acre = 1 per street frontage			
Non-Residential	Inflatable Displays	Yes	N/A	One (1) per tenant per event	Max. Height of the zone district	1.5 times the height of the display	See subsection 7.4.1307(E)(3) below

Table 7.4.13-E

Temporary Signage Criteria

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
All	Fence Wraps/Screens	Yes	Limited to the size of the fence that it is attached to.			Signage facing residential uses is prohibited	Timing: Removed no later than seven (7) days following the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or final building inspection. Maintained in good condition and properly secured.
Civic, Commercial, Industrial, Office and Residential	Pennants	No	N/A	N/A	Minimum travel way clearance of 8 ft above pedestrian and 14 ft above vehicle		Commercial messaging prohibited
Non Residential	Portable A-frame Sign	No	4 ft. X. 2 ft.	1 per tenant or building entrance	4 ft.	Within 15 ft. of building entrance	Displayed only during business hours. Not permitted within the public right-of-way unless a revocable permit has been granted in accordance with City Code §§ 3.2.201 and 3.2.217.
Non-Residential	Temporary Use	Permitted as part of	32 sq. ft.	1 wall or free-	7 ft.	5 ft. from lot line	Timing: Limited to the duration of the approved

Table 7.4.13-E

Temporary Signage Criteria

Use	Type	Permit Required	Maximum Size	Number	Maximum Height	Setback	Additional Standards
	Permit Signage	a Temporary Use Permit		standing			Temporary Use permit. Secured to a building or structure or mounted to posts in a ridged manner.

(E) Additional Standards for Temporary Signs:

(1) General Provisions: All temporary signage must:

- (a) Not be illuminated, animated, or constructed of reflective materials.
- (b) Be kept in good repair, without fraying, fading, or sagging and must remain firmly secured. Signs must not become or create an undue hazard to motorists or pedestrians.
- (c) Be removed at the owner's or permittee's expense upon expiration of the applicable period of display.
- (d) Not be attached to public or City owned infrastructure, facilities, utility poles, or signposts.

(2) Banners:

- (a) May be displayed for a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) days per calendar year beginning January 1st. Display time must be determined at the time of permitting and may be any combination of consecutive days or equal weekend periods, cumulative for all banners displayed on the property.
- (b) Banners hung between T-posts or vehicles and banners in landscaped areas are prohibited.
- (c) The number of banner signs is not limited as long as the maximum size allowed per building or structure façade is not exceeded, and multiple banners may be placed on fencing, retaining walls, or similar structures.

(3) Inflatable Displays:

- (a) Inflatable displays are not permitted for residential uses.
 - (b) Inflatable displays may be displayed for fourteen (14) days per event.
 - (c) No more than two (2) permits for inflatable displays may be issued to a business, development, or property during a calendar year starting January 1st.
 - (d) Inflatable displays must not be attached to fences, landscaping, utility poles, or light poles.
 - (e) Ground mounted inflatable displays must be set back from the property line one and one-half (1.5) times the height of the inflatable display.
 - (f) Inflatable displays must not have a sound system.
 - (g) Inflatable displays that wave, lightly or rapidly, in an irregular manner, and portable inflatable billboards, are prohibited in all zone districts.
- (4) Short Term Signs: These signs are intended to be displayed for a limited period of time, consist of temporary materials and are not permanently affixed to the ground or mounted to a building. These signs are frequently associated with activities or events such as properties under construction or development, election proceedings, or properties actively listed for sale or lease. In addition to allowances outlined in Table 7.4.13-E, the following standards apply to short term signs:
- (a) Placement: The placement of all short term signs must occur on private property.
 - (b) Removal parameters: Temporary signs will be removed upon the earliest of:
 - (I) Issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or final building inspection;
 - (II) The sale or lease contract has ended; or
 - (III) Seven (7) days following the event or activity.

7.4.1308: PROHIBITED SIGNS:

The following signs and sign types are prohibited:

- (A) Any sign erected or painted upon light poles, retaining walls, fences, rocks, trees, or natural features, unless the sign is otherwise permitted by this part.
- (B) Any rotating, pulsating, or oscillating beacon of light, searchlight, or HID strobe light, or any sign displaying flashing or intermittent lights or lights of varying intensity or

projecting imagery, except as used by law enforcement or other governmental actors or agents performing official duties.

(C) Any sign with a digital electronic message that changes in any manner, except those permitted by this part.

(D) Any sign with direct or indirect lighting that causes glare into or upon any residential lot or tract adjacent to the lot or tract where the sign is located.

(E) Any private sign that is an imitation of an official government street, protective, or warning sign and placed such that the sign may cause traffic or other hazards, including, but not limited to, signs that are copies of or likely to be confused with any official government street, protective, or warning sign.

(F) The parking of any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailers, semi-trailers, portable storage units, or other movable devices in a manner that constitutes a freestanding or off premises sign.

(G) Any sign attached directly to a flat roof.

(H) Animated Sign: A sign with visibly moving, revolving, or rotating parts or visible mechanical movement of any description or other apparent visible movement achieved by electrical, electronic, or mechanical means, or signs with optical illusion of movement by means of a design that presents a pattern capable of reversible perspective giving the illusion of motion or changeable copy, except for traditional barber poles and gauges and dials that may be animated to the extent necessary to display correct measurement.

(I) Any sign that is structurally unsafe, is not maintained, is dilapidated, has a missing sign face, or otherwise constitutes a hazard to health or safety.

(J) Feather, wave, blade, or sword banners and signs.

(K) Pavement markings being used as anything other than traffic control, such as colored logos, lettering, or branding.

(L) Signs on City property or public rights-of-way without an approved revocable permit.

(M) Nonconforming, Abandoned, and Nuisance Signs:

(1) Nonconforming Signs:

(a) Any legally established sign in existence when this part is enacted, which does not conform with the standards or rules of this part, shall be considered legal-nonconforming and may remain in the same location so long as:

(i) The sign is not raised, lowered, removed, replaced, structurally altered, or abandoned.

(II) If fifty percent (50%) or more of the sign area of a legal-nonconforming sign is destroyed, regardless of fault, the nonconforming sign may not be repaired and shall be removed.

(b) A legal-nonconforming sign may continue in existence and function only if the sign is maintained and kept in good condition. Should a legal-nonconforming sign not comply with this section, said sign will no longer be considered legal-nonconforming and must be brought into compliance with this part.

(2) Abandoned Signs:

(a) A sign is abandoned if it is no longer in use by the person or entity displaying it.

(b) Signs that will be used by a new person or entity may remain in place, but the sign face must be replaced as applicable and be kept in good condition.

(3) Nuisance Signs: Signs abandoned for a period of thirty (30) or more days are hereby declared a nuisance. The Building Official or Manager may require abandoned signs be replaced or removed by the property owner.

7.4.1309: SIGN MAINTENANCE:

(A) Signs shall be of sound structure, maintained in good repair, without peeling paint or torn materials, and have a clean and neat appearance.

(B) The property owner and sign owner must not allow any portion of any sign structure or face to become unsecured or otherwise unsafe. All sign structures shall be free of broken or bent elements, exposed light bulbs, or electrical components.

(C) The Building Official or Manager may order a sign to be repaired or removed if it is not maintained as described in this section.

7.4.1310: OFF PREMISES ADVERTISING / BILLBOARDS:

All new billboards shall comply with the following:

(A) Purposes and Intent:

(1) The purpose of this section is to limit the impact of billboards on the community; to improve the appearance of the Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass, and Municipal Airport entryway corridors; to enhance the urban design of the greater downtown area; to ensure compatibility between billboards and adjacent land uses; and to limit the impact that billboards have on sign clutter in the community. The City recognizes that billboards are a necessary and

appropriate advertising medium, and that there are acceptable and viable locations for billboards within the community.

(2) It is the intent of this section to address the following specific concerns regarding the impact of billboards upon the community:

(a) The citizens of Colorado Springs and others visiting or traveling through the City are very concerned about the urban design and visual integrity of the City.

(b) Billboards are often incongruous with the City's natural setting and features due to their large-scale figures, numbers, letters, and colors.

(c) A billboard can dominate the view from vehicles and interfere with the occupants' enjoyment of the City's natural setting and features.

(d) A high concentration of billboards may create traffic safety problems and distract attention away from public safety signs.

(e) Billboards of excessive size or height should be downsized within a reasonable time period.

(f) Billboards are incompatible with residential uses.

(g) The Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass, and Municipal Airport entryway corridors are major entryways to the City that are of particular importance in terms of urban design and public perception to citizens, visitors, and tourists.

(h) The downtown planning area is an area in which urban design significantly influences the health and vitality of the total community.

(B) Area, Height, and Face Standards: All billboards shall be constructed in accord with this part and shall conform to the following standards:

(1) Sign Area: Billboard faces and supporting framework shall not exceed the following sign areas:

(a) New billboards shall be a maximum of two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet.

(b) Replacement billboards: Existing billboards four hundred (400) square feet or larger in face area may be replaced at a size up to four hundred (400) square feet; billboards with face areas less than four hundred (400) square feet and greater than two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet shall be replaced at a size of up to two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet. Existing billboards of less than two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet shall be restricted to their current size in the event they are relocated.

(2) Height: Billboards shall not exceed the maximum height permitted for freestanding signs in the zone district in which they are located.

(3) Faces: There shall be no more than two (2) billboard faces per supporting structure.

(C) Location Standards: All billboards shall be located in accord with the following standards:

(1) Zones: After the effective date, billboards shall be allowed as conditional uses in the following zones: MX-L, LI, GI, and BP.

(2) Conditional Uses: All new billboards shall be required to obtain a conditional use permit in accord with City Code § 7.5.601.

(3) Location Standards:

(a) Billboards shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from property line.

(b) No billboard shall be placed on the roof of any building or structure.

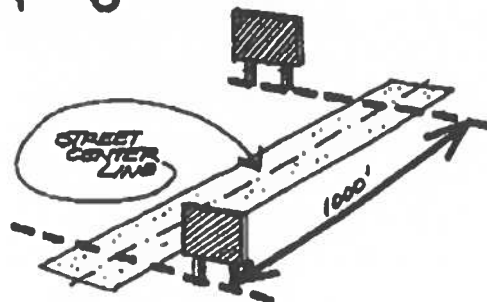
(c) No billboard shall cantilever over any building or structure.

(4) Spacing Standards:

(a) No billboards shall be spaced less than one thousand (1,000) feet from the nearest billboard, except billboards in GI zones shall be spaced no less than four hundred (400) feet from the nearest billboard. In determining the physical spacing of billboards, the City will consider existing billboards and approved conditional use billboard locations.

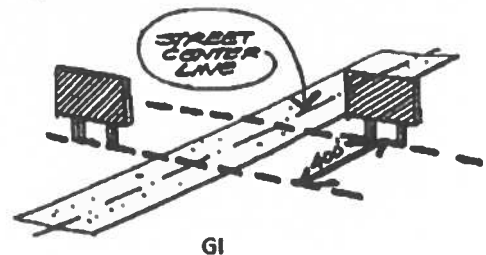
(b) Distances between billboards shall be measured horizontally along the centerline of the street or highway to which the sign is directed as set forth in the figure below.

Spacing Standards



MX-L, LI, and BP

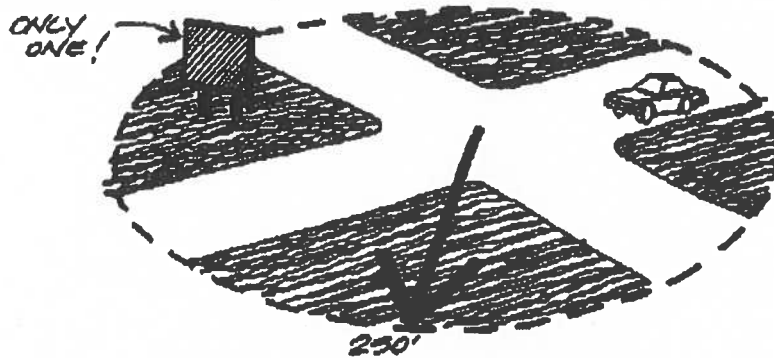
Spacing Standards



GI

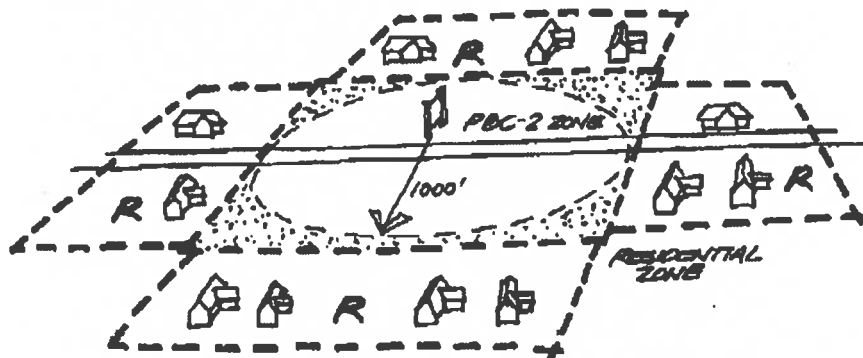
- (c) Only one billboard shall be placed within a radius of two hundred and fifty (250) feet from the center point of any street or highway intersection as set forth in the figure below.

Spacing Standards



- (d) No billboard shall be placed within five hundred (500) feet of any residential zone as set forth in the figure below.

Spacing Standards



(5) Railroad Rights-of-way:

- (a) New billboards shall not be allowed to be placed within any railroad rights-of-way.
- (b) Existing billboards within a railroad right-of-way shall be grandfathered and allowed to remain in their current locations as legal-nonconforming uses.

(D) Maintenance and Discontinuance:

- (1) Maintenance: All sign supports, braces, guys, and anchors shall be kept in good repair. Faces of all signs shall be kept neatly painted or posted at all times. The City shall notify the sign owner or its agent of any sign that is not in a proper

state of repair. If corrective action is not taken within thirty (30) days, the City official may order the repair or removal of the sign.

(2) Discontinuance: The Manager may order the removal of any billboard, without compensation, upon which the message has been discontinued for more than sixty (60) continuous days. The billboard shall be removed by the owner within thirty (30) days of notification by the City.

(E) Billboard Credit: Permits to erect new billboards shall only be issued to those persons possessing a "billboard credit."

(1) Billboard Credit: Billboard credits shall be issued by the City to those billboard owners who have removed a previously existing, lawfully erected billboard after the effective date. It shall be the responsibility of the permit applicant to show the ownership, location, and date of removal of the billboard.

(2) Credit Basis: Billboard credits shall be issued on a per face and per structure basis. One credit shall be issued for each billboard face removed and one credit for each structure removed. If a billboard is not located upon a separate supporting structure, the building or other structure to which the billboard is attached shall constitute a single structure for the purpose of receiving one credit.

(a) No credit shall be granted for the partial removal of faces.

(b) No credit shall be granted for the removal of billboard faces that are less than eighty-four (84) square feet.

(3) Use of Billboard Credits: A billboard credit may only be used in a location that meets all standards of this UDC.

(4) Transfer of Credits: Credits may be transferred between parties through legal means.

(5) Size: Credits will allow billboards to be reconstructed in the following sizes:

(a) A credit for a new four hundred (400) square foot billboard will be issued for billboards that are removed that are in excess of three hundred and ninety-nine (399) square feet.

(b) A credit for a new two hundred and forty-five (245) square foot billboard will be issued for billboards that are removed that are between two hundred and forty-five (245) and three hundred and ninety-nine (399) square feet.

(c) A credit will be issued for a new billboard of equal size for billboards that are removed that are less than two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet.

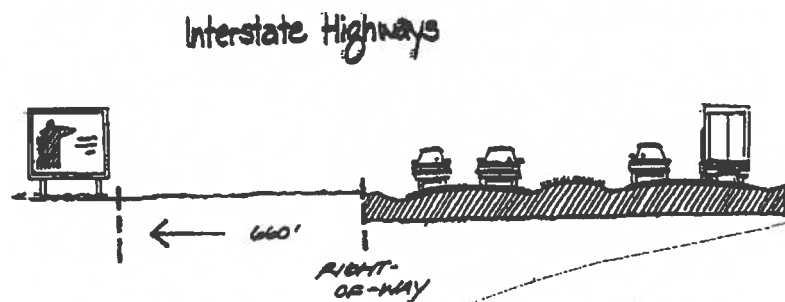
(F) Downsizing:

(1) Restricted Corridors: All existing billboards that are directed toward and visible from and within six hundred and sixty (660) feet of Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass, and Municipal Airport entryway from the locations of Powers Boulevard between Fountain Boulevard and Milton E Proby Parkway, and Milton E Proby Parkway between Powers Boulevard and the airport terminal corridors shall be downsized as follows:

(a) Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet.

(b) Billboards containing between two hundred and forty-five (245) and three hundred and ninety-nine (399) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet.

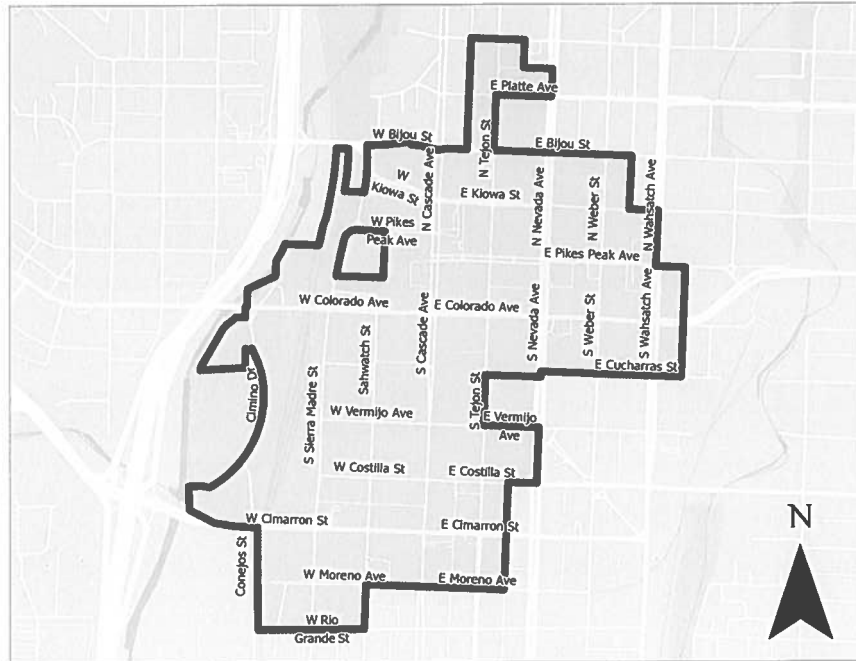
(2) Billboards in the FBZ Zone District:



All existing billboards within the area of the FBZ district, as shown on the map below, on the effective date shall be downsized as follows:

(a) Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet.

(b) Billboards containing at least two hundred and forty-five (245) but less than four hundred (400) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet as set forth in the figure below.



(3) Nonrestricted Areas:

All existing billboards, in areas other than the restricted corridors or FBZ Zone District, shall be downsized as follows:

- (a) Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet.
- (b) Billboards containing between two hundred and forty-five (245) and four hundred (400) square feet in face area before December 31, 1996, shall not exceed two hundred and forty-five (245) square feet.

(G) Cap on Number of Billboards:

(1) Restricted Corridors and FBZ Zone District: There shall be a cap on the number of billboards within the restricted corridors or Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass, Municipal Airport entryway from the locations of Powers Boulevard between Fountain Boulevard and Milton E Proby Parkway, and Milton E Proby Parkway between Powers Boulevard and the airport terminal corridors as well as within the Form Based Zone District. No new billboards shall be allowed within these areas except with the removal of an existing billboard from the same corridor/area. Permits for new billboards within the restricted corridors or downtown planning area will only be issued to those persons possessing a "billboard credit" indicating they have removed a billboard from the same corridor or downtown planning area. All new billboards within restricted corridors or the downtown planning area shall comply with the design standards as set forth in this section.

(2) Citywide Cap: There shall be a limit of two hundred and eight (208) total billboard locations within the corporate limits of the City.

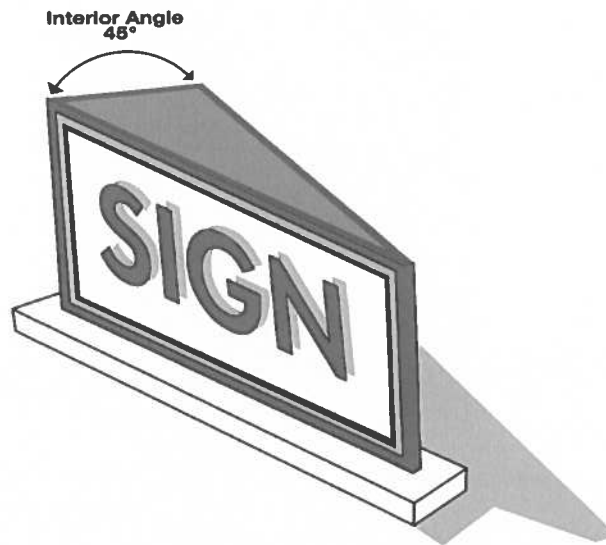
(H) General Provisions: All billboards are subject to the applicable provisions for signs set forth in this part, except City Code § 7.4.1311. All billboards are subject to the provisions set forth in City Code § 7.5.801 et seq., except that where any provision of this part imposes a more specific requirement than imposed by City Code § 7.5.801 et seq., then that specific requirement shall govern.

7.4.1311: SIGN MEASUREMENT AND ORIENTATION:

(A) General Provisions:

(1) Clearance for projecting signs shall be measured by the smallest vertical distance between existing grade and the lowest point of the sign, including any framework or other embellishments.

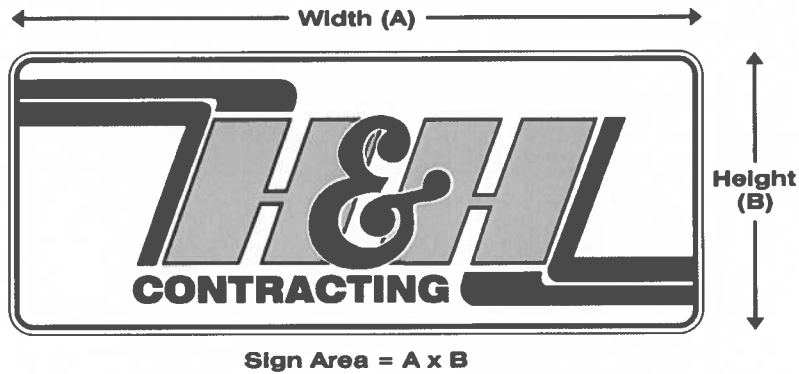
(2) All sides of a sign that are visible from any one vantage point shall be measured in determining the area of a sign, except that only one (1) side of a sign shall be measured if the two (2) sides are back-to-back or separated by an angle of forty-five (45) degrees or less, as set forth in the figure below. If the two (2) sides are not of equal size, the larger side shall be measured.



(B) Methods for Calculating Sign Area:

(1) Wall Sign Area: Includes the entire face of the sign, frame, and artwork incidental to its decoration and includes any spacing between letters, figures, and designs, but does not include any architectural, bracing, or structural features that are part of the building, as set forth in the figure below. When the sign consists only of letters, designs, or figures, the total area of the sign shall be calculated by using no more than three (3) standard geometric shapes, regardless of orientation, within which all of the fixed lettering, spacing between letters, or artwork is inscribed. Standard geometric shapes include the square, rectangle, triangle,

circle, oval, and half-circle. Proper font tails of lowercase letters will not be included in the sign area calculation. Customized or extended tails are included.



(a) Measurement by one (1) geometric shape, as set forth in the figure below:



(b) Measurement by two (2) geometric shapes, as set forth in the figure below:



(c) Measurement by three (3) geometric shapes, as set forth in the figure below:



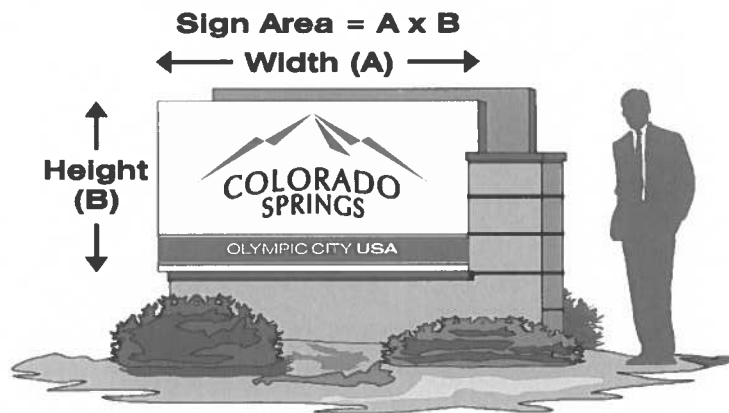
(2) Freestanding Sign Area:

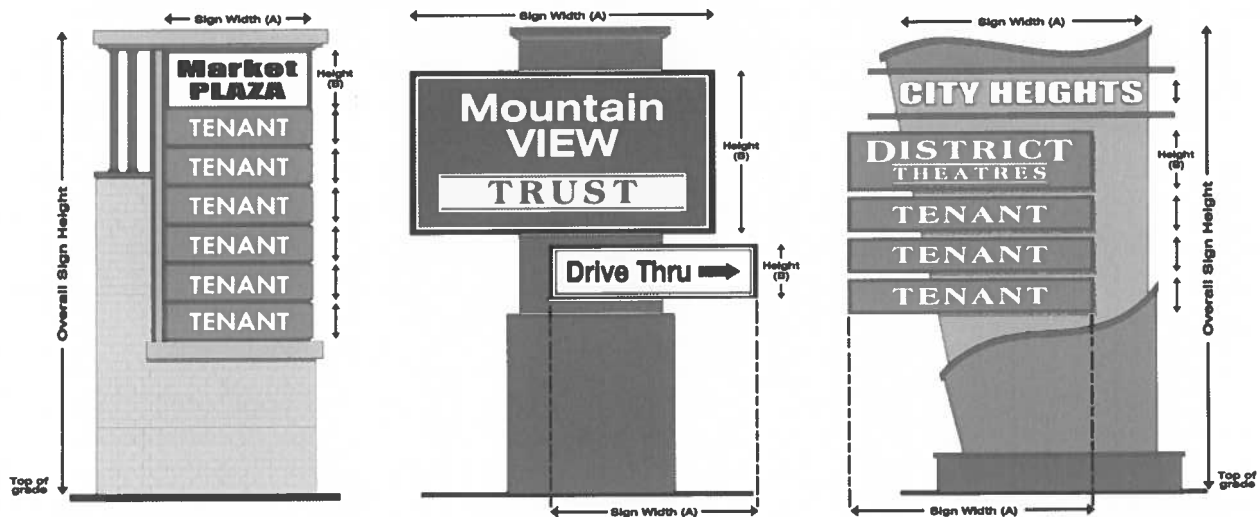
(a) Freestanding Sign Area Elements: Freestanding sign area includes the frame, if any, but does not include:

(I) A pole or other structural support unless the pole or structural support is internally illuminated or otherwise designed to constitute a display device or part of a display device.

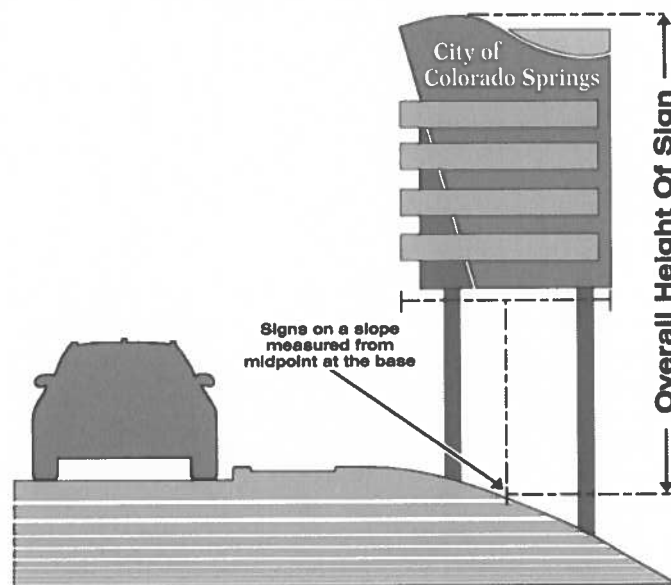
(II) Architectural features that are part of a freestanding structure and not an integral part of the sign, and which may consist of landscaping or structural forms complementing the site in general.

(b) Calculation of freestanding sign area as set forth in the figures below:





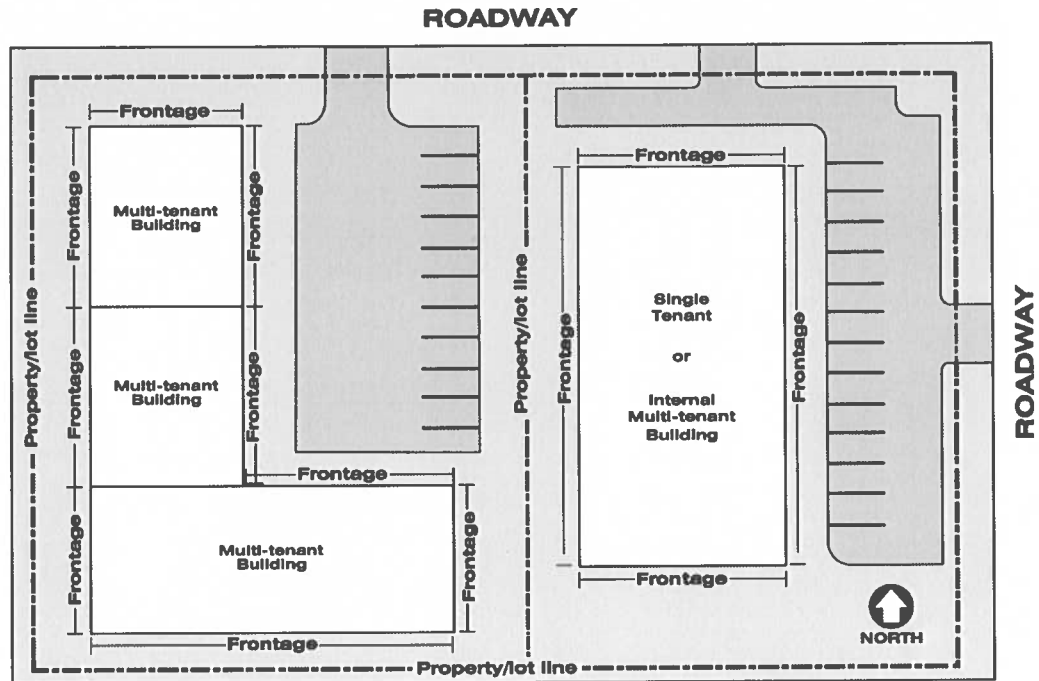
(C) Method for Calculating Sign Height: The height of any sign shall be determined by the distance between the topmost portion of the sign structure and the ground elevation at the base of the sign as set forth in the figure below. The grade may not be artificially changed to affect the sign height measurement. Signs on a slope are measured at the midpoint of the sign.



7.4.1312: SIGN ALLOCATION:

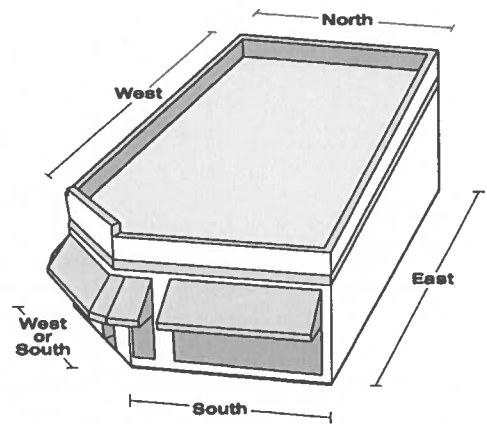
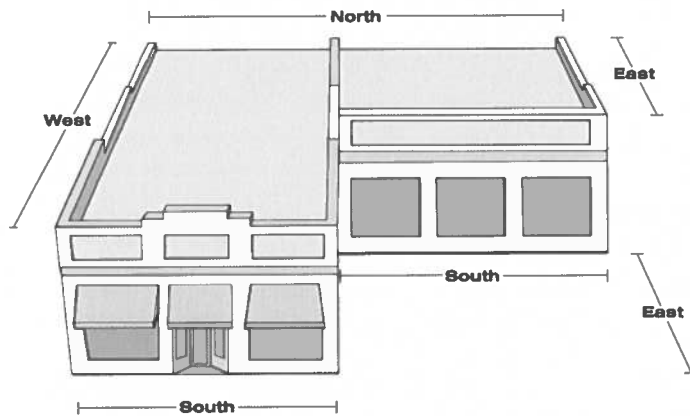
(A) Sign Allocation for Irregularly Shaped Buildings:

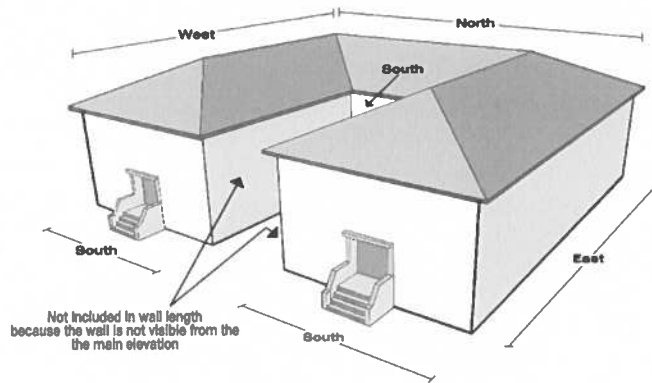
(1) Sign allocation is based on the use of the property and linear frontage of exterior walls as set forth in the figure below. Signs must be placed on the frontage from which they draw their allocation, unless otherwise approved by a CSP. For the purpose of this part, all walls of a building shall be designated either north, south, east, or west.



(2) Walls at a forty-five (45) degree angle must be designated as one (1) of two (2) directions. The signs allocated to the angle wall may be placed anywhere on the wall to which it is designated.

(3) If a wall is not visible from a specific elevation, it does not contribute any sign allocation to that elevation, as set forth in the figures below.





Section 3. Section 504 (Coordinated Sign Plan) of Part 5 (Administrative Decisions) of Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is repealed and reserved.

Section 4. Section 508 (Sign Permit) of Part 5 (Administrative Decisions) of Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is repealed and reserved.

Section 5. Section 803 (Nonconforming Site Features) of Part 8 (Nonconformities) of Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

7.5.803: NONCONFORMING SITE FEATURES:

* * *

D. * * *

4. Signs: See Section 7.4.131-108(M) (Nonconforming and Abandoned Signs).

* * *

Section 6. Section 202 (Fractions) of Part 2 (Rules of Measurement and Calculation) of Article 6 (Definitions and Rules of Construction) of Chapter 7 (Unified

Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is amended to add a new subsection as follows:

7.6.202: FRACTIONS:

* * *

C. Signage Fractions: When the calculation of the allowable sign area or size results in a fractional number, the requirements shall be rounded to the nearest whole interval. Fractions of less than one-half (0.5) shall be rounded down to the next round number. Fractions of one-half (0.5) or greater shall be rounded up to the next whole number.

Section 7. Section 301 (Definitions) of Part 3 (Definitions) of Article 6 (Definitions and Rules of Construction) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is amended as follows:

7.6.301 DEFINITIONS:

* * *

SIGN: Any figure, character, outline, display, device, or structure, or any other device or structure of similar nature, designed to attract attention or convey information, including but not limited to all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof. A sign shall not include any architectural or landscape features that may also attract attention.

SIGN-RELATED DEFINITIONS:

ABANDONED SIGN: Any sign that is no longer in use.

ANIMATED SIGN: A sign that has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means that moves, changes, flashes, oscillates, or visibly alters the appearance in a manner that is not permitted by these regulations. Does not include Electronic Message Center Signs.

AWNING SIGN: A sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a shelter extending from the exterior wall of a building and composed of nonrigid materials except for the supporting framework.

BANNER: A temporary sign having character, letters, illustrations, or ornamentations applied to cloth, paper, fabric, or other lightweight nonrigid material, with only such material for a backing, which projects from, hangs from, or is affixed to a structure. The display surface shall not have blinking or

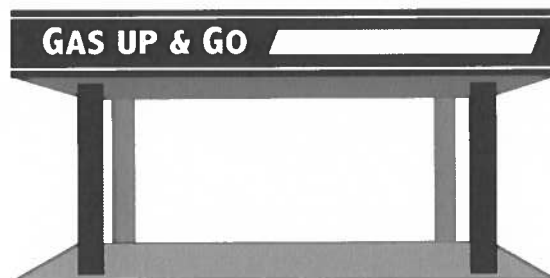
flashing lights, nor be illuminated, animated, or constructed of reflective material. The sign includes but is not limited to decals, painted imagery, cable hung banners, and wave/feather banners.

BILLBOARD (OFF-PREMISES): A sign that directs attention to a communication that is not conducted, sold, or offered at the premises on which the sign is located, or which does not pertain to the premises upon which the sign is located.

BUILDING LENGTH: The number of linear feet of the exterior wall of the side of the building where the sign is placed.

BUILDING PLAQUE: A plaque cut into or mounted to the building that does not contain commercial messaging.

CANOPY STRUCTURE: A permanent roof like shelter erected as a standalone structure, that supports a vehicle-oriented consumer transaction as set forth in the figure below. The sign includes but is not limited to gas canopies, bank teller canopies, vacuum covers, or similar structures.



CANOPY SIGN: A permanent sign attached to a canopy structure. These signs may be below a projecting structure that extends over the pedestrian walkway, but must meet the minimum clearance in a pedestrian / vehicular access and may require revocable permit if over City property.

CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN: A sign or portion of a sign on which the copy or symbols change either automatically through electrical or electronic means, or manually through placement of letters or symbols on a panel mounted in or on a track system.

COMMERCIAL MESSAGE: Any sign that, directly or indirectly, advertises or calls attention to a business, product, service, or other commercial activity.

COORDINATED SIGN PLAN (CSP): A coordinated plan or program for all signs, including temporary signs. The CSP shall include, but not be limited to, indications of the locations, dimensions, colors, styles, and types of all signs to be installed on a site.

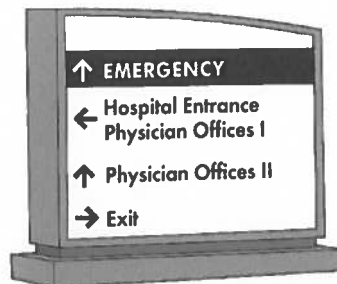
DE MINIMIS: Signage of a minor nature that does not exceed three (3) square feet per sign and generally incidental to any use.

DIGITAL ELECTRONIC MESSAGE: A sign that includes but not limited to “static” fuel price sign, time, and temperature signs, drive thru lane open and closed signs etc. These signs require a permit, however, are not classified as Electronic Message Center Signs and would be regulated by standard code for sign types.

DIRECTIONAL SIGN: A permanent sign located within fifteen (15) feet of the lot line near the access from a right-of-way, designed for directional or wayfinding purposes to guide vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic through the site as set forth in the figure below.

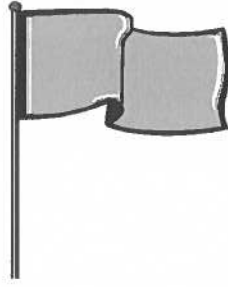


DIRECTORY (FREESTANDING): A sign directing users or patrons around a property or center of a single or multi-tenant development site that is used to convey directions and tenant information to pedestrians and motorists entering a site and which does not include any advertising message as set forth in the figure below. The sign includes but is not limited to office building directories, builder/developer directories, and commercial center directories.



ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER (EMC): A sign that is capable of displaying words, symbols, figures, or images that can be electronically or mechanically changed by remote or automatic means.

FLAG: A piece of cloth or similar material, typically oblong or square, attached by one edge to a pole or rope as set forth in the figure below.



FLASHING: A pattern of sudden alternation between a fully illuminated message and a message without illumination, or a message where the changeable copy color and the background color alternate or reverse color schemes rapidly regardless of message hold time.

FREESTANDING SIGN: A sign that is not attached to a building and is permanently affixed in or upon the ground on one (1) or more structural supports. A freestanding sign shall include, but is not limited to, a pole, monument, or low-profile type sign.

GOVERNMENTAL SIGN: A sign erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of a governmental purpose by the City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, the State of Colorado, the federal government, or another provider of a government function.

HUMAN SIGN: Signs that are being carried by people and do not block vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

INFLATABLE DISPLAY: A sign consisting of a flexible material envelope of nonporous material inflated or shaped from inserted air or other gas. Inflatable displays include air or gas blown devices that wave, lightly or rapidly, in an irregular manner and portable inflatable billboards. Inflatable displays do not include individual latex balloons under eighteen (18) inches in size.

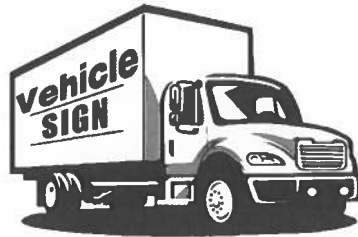
INTERPRETIVE SIGN: A sign that demonstrates or interprets the natural or historical surroundings of a place (e.g. preserve, park, scenic view, or historic place/monument) to its visitors.

LIGHT POLE BANNER: A temporary banner or sign that is designed to be attached to a permanent light pole or other pole structure, and where the temporary sign element can be changed without modifying the permanent structure or bracket.

MESSAGE HOLD TIME: The time interval a static message must remain on the display before transitioning to another message.

DEVELOPMENT / SUBDIVISION MONUMENT SIGN: A sign incorporated into the entries or on a corner of a particular area or development. A development / subdivision monument sign is limited to the name of the development/subdivision only.

MOTOR VEHICLE SIGN: A sign affixed to an operating or in use vehicle, trailer, or moveable device as set forth in the figure below.



NITS: Are a unit of measurement used to quantify the brightness emission of electronic displays.

NONCONFORMING SIGN: A sign that was validly placed or constructed under laws or ordinances in effect at the time of its placement, but that conflicts with the current provisions of this UDC.

OFF PREMISES SIGN: A sign normally used for promoting an interest other than that of a business, individual, product, or service available on the premises where the sign is located. This excludes tenant signage within a commercial center or signage established through a Coordinated Sign Plan.

OFFICIAL LEGAL NOTICE: Signs that are erected or issued by any governmental agency, court, public body, person, or officer in performance of a public duty, including signs that are required to be posted to give notice of pending action pursuant to the UDC or this Code.

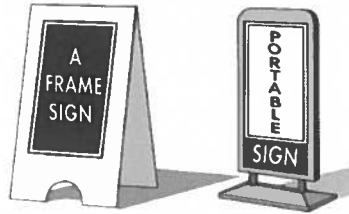
ON PREMISE SIGN: A sign used for promoting a business, individual, product, or service available on the premises where the sign is located or within the area of a Coordinated Sign Plan.

PAINTED SIGN: A sign that is painted directly on a building wall, structure, or vehicle.

PENNANTS: A triangular or irregular piece of fabric or other material, regardless of whether it contains a message of any kind, commonly attached in strings or strands, or supported on small poles intended to flap in the wind as set forth in the figure below.



PORTABLE A-FRAME SIGN: A temporary movable freestanding sign that is not permanently affixed to a building, structure, or the ground, typically hinged at the top and easily removable by hand as set forth in the figure below.



PROJECTING / BLADE SIGN: A sign that projects from and is supported by a wall or parapet of a building with the display surface of the sign in a plane perpendicular to or approximately perpendicular to the wall.

ROOFTOP SIGN: A sign mounted either directly on the roof or on the face of a building and extends up above the roofline or facade of the building.

SIGN AREA: An exterior display surface of a sign, including nonstructural trim exclusive of the supporting structure.

TEMPORARY USE SIGN: A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, plywood, or other light material permitted in conjunction with a temporary use permit.

SHORT TERM SIGN: Signs intended to be displayed for a limited period of time, consist of temporary materials and not permanently affixed to the ground or mounted to a building.

TEMPORARY SIGN COVERS: A temporary material, typically canvas or banner material, that is used to cover an existing wall or freestanding sign during a period of transition or until a new sign has been fabricated and installed.

TRANSITION DURATION: The time interval it takes the display to change from one complete static message to another complete static message.

TRANSITION METHOD: A visual effect applied to a message to transition from one message to the next. Transition methods include:

DISSOLVE: A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity or pattern, in which the first frame gradually appears to dissipate and lose legibility simultaneously with the gradual appearance and legibility of the second frame.

FADE: A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity, where the first frame gradually reduces intensity to the point of not being legible (i.e., fading to black) and the subsequent frame gradually increases intensity to the point of legibility.

WALL SIGN: A sign attached to or painted on the wall of a building or structure in a plane parallel or approximately parallel to the plane of the wall.

WINDOW SIGN: A sign viewable through and/or affixed in a manner to a window or exterior glass door that is viewable from the exterior of the building (beyond the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the window), including signs located inside a building but visible primarily from the exterior of the building.

WRAP / SCREEN: A temporary flexible fabric material designed to cover fencing or scaffolding that offers the ability to mask areas of construction, so visibility is reduced or completely blocked out, as well as to reduce debris.

MURAL / WORKS OF ART: A decorative or artistic painting, sculpture, poem, or other product of the creative arts, including architectural graphics and murals, which does not include a commercial message, language, logo, or pictorial depiction to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business located on the premises. Any portion of a mural/work of art that is considered a sign will deduct from the maximum size of the allowable signage type.

~~SIGN: Any name, figure, character, outline, display, announcement, or device, or structure supporting the same, or any other device of similar nature designed to attract the attention of passersby to a building or structure, and shall include all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof. A sign shall not include any architectural or landscape features that may also attract attention.~~

~~SIGN-RELATED DEFINITIONS:~~

~~ABANDONED SIGN: Any sign that advertises a business, lessor, owner, product, service, or activity that is no longer located on the premises where the sign is displayed and is in disrepair and structurally unsound with potential to cause health, safety, and welfare issues.~~

~~ANIMATED SIGN: A sign that has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means that moves, changes, flashes, oscillates, or visibly alters the appearance in a manner that is not permitted by these regulations.~~

~~AWNING SIGN: A sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a shelter extending from the exterior wall of a building and composed of nonrigid materials except for the supporting framework (an awning).~~

~~BANNER: A temporary sign having character, letters, illustrations, or ornamentations applied to cloth, paper, fabric, or other lightweight nonrigid material, with only such material for a backing, which projects from, hangs from, or is affixed to a building, private light pole, or a wire. The display surface shall not have blinking or flashing lights, nor be illuminated, animated, or constructed of reflective material. Banners include decals, painted imagery, cable hung banners, and wave banners.~~

~~BILLBOARD: A sign that directs attention to a business, activity, commodity, service, entertainment, or communication that is not conducted, sold, or offered at the premises on which the sign is located, or which does not pertain to the premises upon which the sign is located.~~

~~BUILDING LENGTH: The number of linear feet of the exterior wall of the side of the building where the sign is placed.~~

~~CANOPY SIGN: A permanent sign attached to a canopy or affixed to the sides of a canopy structure. These signs may be below a projecting structure that extends over the pedestrian walkway.~~

~~CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN: A sign or portion of a sign on which the copy or symbols change either automatically through electrical or electronic means, or manually through placement of letters or symbols on a panel mounted in or on a track system.~~

~~CONSTRUCTION SIGN: A temporary sign erected on premises under construction, during the period of construction, indicating the names of the architects, engineers, landscape architects, contractors or similar artisans, and the owners, financial supporters, sponsors, and similar individuals or firms having a role or interest with respect to the construction project.~~

~~COORDINATED SIGN PLAN (CSP): A coordinated plan or program for all signs, including temporary signs for a business, or businesses located on a development site. The CSP shall include, but not be limited to, indications of the locations, dimensions, colors, letter styles, and sign types of all signs to be installed on a site.~~

~~CORPORATE FLAG: Any flags other than national, state, or City flags that have copy or logos.~~

~~DECORATIVE FLAG: Flags with no copy or logos.~~

~~DIRECTIONAL SIGN: A permanent sign located on private property at or near the public right-of-way, directing or guiding vehicular traffic onto the property and/or toward parking or other identified locations on the property.~~

~~DIRECTORY (FREESTANDING): A sign directing users or patrons around a property or center. Examples include, but not limited to, office building directories, builder/developer directories, and commercial center directories.~~

~~ELECTION SIGN: A sign designed for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate, issue, proposition, or other measure at an election or for any other~~

~~noncommercial expression not related to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business.~~

~~ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER (EMC): A sign that is capable of displaying words, symbols, figures, or images that can be electronically or mechanically changed by remote or automatic means.~~

~~EXTERNAL USAGE SIGN: Signs for goods or services normally provided outside of the principal structure. Examples include drive-through lanes, automated teller machines, car wash, and gas station vacuums.~~

~~FLASHING: A pattern of sudden alternation between a fully illuminated message and a message without illumination, or a message where the copy color and the background color alternate or reverse color schemes rapidly.~~

~~FREESTANDING SIGN: A sign that is not attached to a building and is permanently affixed in or upon the ground on one (1) or more structural supports. A freestanding sign shall include, but is not limited to, a pole, monument, or low-profile type sign.~~

~~GAS ISLAND SIGN: Includes signs on the gas pump, pump topper, and additional signage on the island.~~

~~GOVERNMENTAL SIGN: A sign erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental functions, or required by law, ordinance, or other governmental regulation.~~

~~HUMAN SIGN: Signs that are being carried by people and do not block vehicular or pedestrian traffic.~~

~~ILLEGAL SIGN: A sign without proper approval or permits as required by this UDC at the time of sign placement. "Illegal sign" shall also mean a sign placed contrary to the terms or time limits of a permit and a nonconforming sign that has not been brought into compliance with any applicable provisions of this UDC.~~

~~INFLATABLE DISPLAY: A sign consisting of a flexible material envelope of nonporous material inflated or shaped from inserted air or other gas and used to promote special events, grand openings, sales, and business transitions. Inflatable displays include air or gas blown devices that wave, lightly or rapidly, in an irregular manner and portable inflatable billboards. Inflatable displays shall not be permitted to have a sound system. Inflatable displays do not include individual latex balloons under eighteen (18) inches in size.~~

~~INTERPRETIVE SIGN: A sign that demonstrates or interprets the natural or historical surroundings of a place (a preserve, a national park, a scenic view, or historic place/monument) to its visitors.~~

~~MENU BOARD/DRIVE-THROUGH: A sign, permanently mounted, that lists the products or services available at a drive-in or drive-through facility, and that is not legible from the right-of-way.~~

~~MESSAGE: For purposes of sign regulation, a complete, static display.~~

~~MESSAGE HOLD TIME: The time interval a static message must remain on the display before transitioning to another message.~~

~~MODEL HOME SIGN: A sign on or in front of a residential structure that is used as an exhibit, not a private residence or a property that has been used as a private residence, to advertise or market it or other houses.~~

~~MONUMENT SIGN: A sign identifying a particular area or development. A subdivision monument can pertain to a residential, office, industrial or commercial subdivision.~~

~~MOTOR VEHICLE SIGN: A sign affixed to an operating motor vehicle that is used as a part of the business operations.~~

~~MURAL: A picture on an exterior surface of a structure. A mural is a sign only if it is related by language, logo, or pictorial depiction to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business located on the premises.~~

~~NONCONFORMING SIGN: A sign that was validly placed or constructed under laws or ordinances in effect at the time of its placement, but that conflicts with the current provisions of this UDC.~~

~~OFF PREMISES SIGN: A sign normally used for promoting an interest other than that of a business, individual, product, or service available on the premises where the sign is located. This excludes tenant signage within a commercial center or signage established through a CSP and advertising businesses within the CSP area.~~

~~OFFICIAL LEGAL NOTICE: Signs that are erected or issued by any governmental agency, court, public body, person, or officer in performance of a public duty or in giving any legal notice, including signs that are required to be posted to give notice of pending action pursuant to the UDC or this Code.~~

~~ON PREMISES SIGN: A sign used for promoting a business, individual, product, or service available on the premises where the sign is located or any sign promoting businesses within a Coordinated Sign Plan.~~

~~PORTABLE A-FRAME SIGN: A movable sign not permanently attached to the ground or a building and easily removable by hand or using ordinary hand tools.~~

~~PRIVATE NOTIFICATION SIGN: A sign that regulates actions on private property. Examples include "No Trespassing," "Beware Of Dog," etc.~~

~~PROJECTING SIGN: A sign that projects from and is supported by a wall or parapet of a building with the display surface of the sign in a plane perpendicular to or approximately perpendicular to the wall.~~

~~REAL ESTATE SIGN: A nonpermanent sign pertaining to the sale, exchange, lease, rental, or availability of land, buildings, townhome, condominium and similar units, or apartments. Signs may include building name and address, price and amenities, identity of seller or broker, and similar information.~~

~~SIGN AREA: An exterior display surface of a sign including nonstructural trim exclusive of the supporting structure.~~

~~TEMPORARY RETAIL SIGN: A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, plywood, or other light material permitted in conjunction with an approved temporary vendor use.~~

~~TEMPORARY SIGN: A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, plywood, or other light material and displayed for a short period of time as described in Part 7.4.13 (Signs).~~

~~TRANSITION DURATION: The time interval it takes the display to change from one complete static message to another complete static message.~~

~~TRANSITION METHOD: A visual effect applied to a message to transition from one message to the next. Transition methods include:~~

~~A. Dissolve – A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity or pattern, in which the first frame gradually appears to dissipate and lose legibility simultaneously with the gradual appearance and legibility of the second frame.~~

~~B. Fade – A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity, where the first frame gradually reduces intensity to the point of not being legible (i.e., fading to black) and the subsequent frame gradually increases intensity to the point of legibility.~~

~~WALL SIGN: A sign attached to or painted on the wall of building or structure in a plane parallel or approximately parallel to the plane of the wall.~~

~~WINDOW SIGN: A sign viewable through and/or affixed in a manner to a window or exterior glass door so that it is intended to be viewable from the exterior of the building (beyond the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the window), including signs located inside a building but visible primarily from the exterior of the building.~~

~~WORK OF ART: Art that in no way identifies a product, business, or enterprise and that is not displayed in conjunction with the commercial enterprise on the property.~~

~~YARD OR WALL SIGN: A sign displayed in a yard or attached to a building face that communicates a noncommercial message.~~

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Section 8. Any person convicted of violating Sections 1305 (Sign Permits) or 1306 (Coordinated Sign Plans) of Part 13 (Signs) of Article 4 (Development Standards

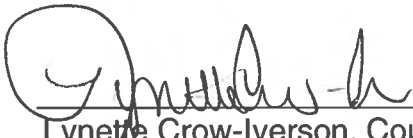
and Incentives) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, shall be punished as provided in Part 9 (General Enforcement) of Article 5 (Administration and Enforcement) of Chapter 7 (Unified Development Code) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended.

Section 9. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its final adoption and publication as provided by Charter and will go into effect on June 29, 2026.

Section 10. Council deems it appropriate that this Ordinance be published by title and summary prepared by the City Clerk and that this Ordinance be available for inspection and acquisition in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this 10th day of February 2026.

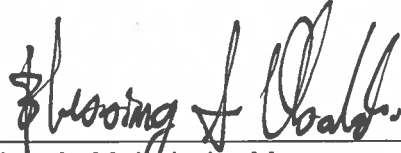
Finally passed: February 24, 2026



Lynette Crow-Iverson, Council President

Mayor's Action:

- ☒ Approved on 2/25/2026.
- ☐ Disapproved on _____, based on the following objections:



Blessing A. Moholade, Mayor

Council Action After Disapproval:

- ☐ Council did not act to override the Mayor's veto.
- ☐ Finally adopted on a vote of _____, on _____.
- ☐ Council action on _____ failed to override the Mayor's veto.

Lynette Crow-Iverson, Council President

ATTEST:



Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk



CAO: MS
COS: _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance entitled **"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 305 (TEMPORARY USES) OF PART 3 (USE-SPECIFIC STANDARDS) OF ARTICLE 3 (USE REGULATIONS); REPEALING AND REORDAINING PART 13 (SIGNS) OF ARTICLE 4 (DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AND INCENTIVES); REPEALING AND RESERVING MULTIPLE SECTIONS UNDER PART 5 (ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS) OF ARTICLE 5 (ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT); AMENDING SECTIONS 803 (NONCONFORMING SITE FEATURES) OF PART 8 (NONCONFORMITIES) OF ARTICLE 5 (ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT); AMENDING SECTION 202 (FRACTIONS) OF PART 2 (RULES OF MEASUREMENT AND CALCULATION) OF ARTICLE 6 (DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF CONSTRUCTION), AND SECTION 301 (DEFINITIONS) OF PART 3 (DEFINITIONS) OF ARTICLE 6 (DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF CONSTRUCTION) OF CHAPTER 7 (UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS 2001, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO SIGN REGULATIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF"** was introduced and read at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Colorado Springs, held on **February 10, 2026**; that said ordinance was finally passed at a regular meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the **24th day of February 2026**, and that the same was published by title and in summary or title and in full, in accordance with Section 3-80 of Article III of the Charter, a newspaper published and in general circulation in the Gazette, at least ten days before its passage.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City, **24th day of February 2026**


Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

1st Publication Date: **February 13, 2026**

2nd Publication Date: **March 4, 2026**

Effective Date: **March 9, 2026**

Initial: 
City Clerk

