

**6-2-14**

**Sign Regulations.** The following regulations shall apply to all zoning districts:

- (1) No sign may be lighted in a manner which impairs the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle. No sign may obstruct the view of any roadway so as to render dangerous the use of the roadway.
- (2) No advertisement or advertising structure shall be posted, erected or maintained which simulates any official, directional or warning sign erected or maintained by the State, County, Municipal or other governmental subdivision or which incorporates or makes use of lights simulating or resembling traffic signals or control signs. No sign may obscure or physically interfere with an official traffic control sign, signal or device.
- (3) Signs shall not encroach or extend over public right-of-way.
- (4) No advertisement shall be posted or maintained on fences, trees, or other perennial plants.
- (5) No advertisements shall be allowed on, or attached to, a vehicle or trailer parked on public or private property. The prohibition of this section does not prohibit the identification of a firm or its principal product operating during the normal course of business or being taken home. In addition, the prohibition of this section does not prohibit the sales or rental of vehicles or trailers parked on public or private property with advertising of the sale on or attached to said vehicles or trailers.
- (6) All signs shall be non-flashing and non-strobing, and they shall not contain rotating, oscillating, or revolving beams or other similar types of light transmission. Scrolling text is allowable.
- (7) All signs shall be kept in good repair. Repairs shall be made within 30 days of damage to said sign.
- (8) Signs bearing only property numbers, postal box numbers, names of occupants of premises, private parking, or other identification of premises are permitted within all districts; and
  - (a) Shall not exceed two (2) square feet in area.
  - (b) E911 signs and numbers are specifically excluded from this section.
- (9) Surface area of all signs. The surface area of all signs regulated within this Section shall not include any supporting structure(s) or bracing that are

not intended to be part of the sign. For example, any pole or brace that supports the sign but does not contain lettering, logos, or information shall be excluded from the square foot requirements.

- (10) On-premise sign: Any sign advertising or identifying a product, service, business or activity sold, located or conducted on the premises where the sign is located.
- (11) Off-premise sign: Any sign advertising a product, service, business or activity sold, located or conducted elsewhere than on the premises on which the sign is located.
- (12) Attached sign: Any sign advertising a product, service, business or activity sold, located or conducted that is attached to the building on which the sign is advertising.
- (13) Detached sign: Any sign advertising or identifying a product, service, business or activity sold, located or conducted on the premises where the sign is located but not attached to any building.
- (14) The following regulations shall apply to all A, R-1, R-2, R-3, and PUD zoning districts:
  - (a) Off-premises and detached signs are not permitted, except for temporary signs such as political, real estate, garage sale and certain construction signs, as specified in this paragraph. Political signs shall conform to State law. Real estate signs shall be removed upon the closing of the sale of the property. Construction signs relating to the vendor and services provided for the construction or remodeling of a dwelling unit on the premises shall be permitted during the time of construction and shall be removed upon project completion. All allowed temporary signs shall be located within the front yard. The total square feet of surface area of all temporary signs on any one property shall not exceed 32 square feet.
  - (b) **Front Yard Setbacks.** All signs shall be setback from the property line as follows:
    - (1) All "R" Districts: no requirement
    - (2) All "A" Districts: 20 feet
  - (c) **Height Requirements.** All signs shall be no higher than the following:
    - (1) All "R" Districts: 5 feet

- (2) All "A" Districts: 25 feet
  - (d) Parade home signs shall be specifically excluded from this section.
- (15) The following regulations shall apply to all C and I zoning districts:
- (a) Off-premises, on-premises, attached and detached signs are permitted as follows.
  - (b) On-premises and detached signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in area. Attached signs shall not exceed seventy-five (75) square feet and shall be attached to the structure being advertised. On-premises and detached signs shall not be within thirty (30) feet of any residential district or use.
  - (c) Off-premises signs are allowed in all C and I zoning districts and shall not to exceed one hundred (100) square feet in area. Off-premises signs shall not be within five hundred (500) feet of any residential district or use. Off-premises signs shall meet all applicable IDOT highway sign requirements.
  - (d) **Front Yard Setbacks.** All signs shall be setback from the property line as follows:
    - (1) All "C" and "I" Districts: 10 feet
  - (e) **Height Requirements.** All signs shall be no higher than the following:
    - (1) All "C" and "I" Districts: 25 feet
- (16) The following regulations shall apply to all P zoning districts:
- (a) On-premises, attached and detached signs are permitted as follows.
  - (b) On-premises and detached signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in area. Attached signs shall not exceed seventy-five (75) square feet and shall be attached to the structure being advertised. On-premises and detached signs shall not be within twenty-five (25) feet of any residential district or use.
  - (c) No off-premises signs are allowed in P zoning districts.
  - (d) **Front Yard Setbacks.** All signs shall be setback from the property line as follows:
    - (1) All "P" Districts: 10 feet

(e) **Height Requirements.** All signs shall be no higher than the following:

(1) All "P" Districts: 25 feet

(17) **Application for Permit.** All permanent signs shall require a permit. Each application for a sign permit shall be submitted prior to the installation of the sign and shall be approved or denied by the Zoning Administrator. There will be no fee for a sign permit.

(18) **Grandfather Clause (Non-Conforming Signs).** Any sign in existence within the City prior to the effective date of this ordinance, but that does not conform to the provisions of hereof, shall be considered to be non-conforming. Any non-conforming sign shall be permitted to continue in its non-conforming state only provided as follows:

(a) No non-conforming signs shall be relocated or replaced with a new or different sign unless the same complies with the provisions of this Ordinance.

(b) Any non-conforming sign associated with a business shall be removed upon the termination on that business, which shall be deemed to have occurred upon the closing of the business for at least ninety (90) days. Seasonal businesses are exempt from this provision.

(c) A non-conforming sign shall be maintained or repaired only in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The size and structural shape of the sign shall not be changed or altered.

(2) The existing text or graphics of the sign may be repainted, however, the total display area shall not be enlarged. The sign may be updated to allow for new technology such as scrolling text or graphics, lighted text or graphics or other new technology that meets all regulations within this Section. However, if the sign is updated to allow for new technology, the sign shall then conform to all regulations of this ordinance, including surface size and setbacks.

(3) In the case where damage or decay occurs to the sign to the extent of fifty percent (50%) or more of either the structure or the replacement value of the sign, the sign shall be either removed or brought into compliance with this Ordinance within thirty (30) days' written notice from the City regarding such damage or decay; and,

Where damage or decay to the sign is less than fifty percent (50%) of the structure or its replacement value, the sign may be repaired in keeping with its appearance upon the effective date of this Ordinance within sixty (60) days' written notice from the City regarding such damage or decay. Otherwise, the sign shall be removed and brought into compliance with this Ordinance.

The City will consider a non-conforming sign to be damaged or decayed, for purposes of this provision, where: the use of the sign continues despite a lack of reasonable and adequate maintenance resulting in the deterioration of the sign and a blighting influence on nearby properties; the sign is structurally defective; or the sign presents a hazard to public safety.