

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA
369th Meeting – Council Chambers – 625 South College Avenue
April 18, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL:

Monty Puymon – Chair, Scott Duncan – Vice Chair, Eileen Davis, Ken Louderback and Dennis Olson.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approve Planning Commission Minutes from March 21, 2017.
2. Approve Agenda for April 18, 2017.

Regular Agenda:

1. Second Workshop on Signage Regulations

REPORTS

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

368TH PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
College Place City Council Chambers
March 21, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT Commissioners: Eileen Davis, Monte Puymon, Ken Louderback & Dennis Olson

Staff: Jon Rickard, Planning Director

ABSENT Commissioners: Scott Duncan

CALL TO ORDER Eileen Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called and it was noted that a quorum was present. Mr. Rickard noted that Tad Hiner and Matt White have resigned from the commission.

CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner Puymon motioned to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2014 meeting AND agenda for March 21, 2017, seconded by Commissioner Louderback. The motion passed (4-0).

REGULAR AGENDA

Item 1. Election of Officers for 2017

Mr. Rickard noted that Commissioner Duncan does not wish to serve as Chair.

Commissioner Puymon stated that he was willing to serve as Chair.

Commissioner Louderback motioned for Commissioner Puymon to be Chair, seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion passed (4-0).

Commissioner Louderback motioned for Commissioner Duncan to be Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Puymon. The motion passed (4-0).

Item 2. Workshop on Signage Regulations

Mr. Rickard explained what is prompting the consideration for signage regulations. The city recently has made improvements to the College Avenue corridor and the city is likely to see increased use of sandwich board signs and possibly signage that hangs over the right-of-way. The city's zoning code (Title 17) does not adequately regulate signage, it regulates the sign height to the height of the zoning district, requires a building permit, and restricts home occupations from having signage.

The nuisance code (Title 16) prohibits signs, temporary or permanent within the right-of-way, on utility poles, tree, etc. In its strictest application, directional real-estate and yard sale signs are prohibited within the right-of-way. Sandwich board signs are prohibited as well.

Staff is proposing modest regulations that are in line with most of the existing signage in College Place.

Mr. Rickard offered three examples of various extremes of sign code regulations (Richland, WA, Leavenworth, WA and Walla Walla.

Mr. Rickard covered the proposed draft sign code and showed examples of past nuisance related signs within the community.

Mr. Rickard stated that the maximum area for the total of all permitted wall signs shall not exceed three percent of the building face area.

Commissioner Davis asked how murals would be regulated.

Mr. Rickard responded that the code is limited when it comes to regulating content but based on the proposed definition of *sign* it is possible that a mural could be determined to be a sign or part of a sign.

Commissioner Davis expressed that in a university district she would like to see creativity allowed and that it can be appealing as long as it is tastefully done.

Commissioner Louderback pointed out that *tastefully done* leaves too much room for opinion, the peoples taste will change over time.

Commissioner Olson questioned *What is a sign?* Is a mural or picture sign or does a sign have to say something or be read?

Mr. Rickard read the proposed definition of *sign* “means any communication device, structure, or fixture, that is intended to aid an establishment in identification and advertisement/promotion of a business, service, activity, or interest.” and based on that definition the octopus mural for Inland Octopus would constitute a sign under this proposed code.

Commissioner Puymon had a question about the three percent maximum, it seems really low and how does that pertain to businesses that are on a corner and also, what is the difference between advertisements vs. signage.

Mr. Rickard said that he would look into the maximum signage and how that plays out on a store front and that he would make a proposal that was larger than the three percent based on their recommendations.

Commissioner Puymon stated that Walla Walla’s code is twenty-five percent.

Commissioner Puymon liked that the code would limit the amount of temporary groupings of hodge podge signs and still be within whatever the maximum threshold is. It seems appropriate to limit the maximum number of wall signs per business.

Mr. Rickard stated that the proposal regulates the number of sandwich board signs to one per business or one per every 100 lineal feet of frontage. The number of wall signs would be limited by the maximum percentage storefront.

Open discussion was had amongst the Commissioners about buildings that are plastered with signage and advertisements and how there is a difference of a store window display vs signage advertisement of products. There should be a maximum amount of advertising allowed on a building. There is a safety factor to consider when there is too much signage, it can be a distraction to drivers, especially at intersections.

Mr. Rickard stated that pole signage was not to exceed sixty square feet, 50ft height in the General Commercial (CG) and 20ft in the Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) district.

Commissioner Louderback recommended eliminating pole signs in the DMU district. If they remain in the DMU, 20ft is appropriate for the maximum height.

Open discussion was had amongst the Commissioners about pole signs.

Commissioner Puymon recommended against allowing projections into the right-of-way and Commissioners Louderback and Davis agreed.

Mr. Rickard introduced the sandwich board sign section and explained why the code would require the A frame style sign, to prevent tripping hazards. Commissioner Puymon recommended that the A frame style not have legs any longer than 2-3 inches so that a sight impaired pedestrian can detect the sign with a cane, Walla Walla has received feedback from the sight impaired community regarding this.

Commissioner Louderback questioned why sandwich board signs should not have any lights. He could see not allowing flashing lights. Open discussion was had and the consensus was that lights should be allowed so long as they did not flash or become a hazard (high intensity lighting).

Commissioner Louderback questioned the hours when residential real estate signs are allowed to be placed. He suggested that it should be "same day". Open discussion was had with the consensus being that the language should read "not be placed earlier than daylight hours" so that the signs are not placed at a time when darkness could cause a tripping hazard.

Commissioner Puymon recommended that the sandwich board signs be placed so that there is a clear pedestrian passage way of at least 6ft. Open discussion was had and the consensus was that it should be 6ft instead of the proposed 5ft.

Commissioner Olson questioned what the definition of “billboard” is, the proposed code does not define it. Open discussion was had and a definition will be added.

Commissioner Louderback question whether staff had considered the consequences of to egregious of a signage ordinance might detract from attracting businesses. Mr. Rickard stated certainly, staff believes that the proposed code is modest compared to other communities, protects property values and creates a more attractive economic and business climate by enhancing and protecting the physical appearance of the community. Commissioner Olson stated that he completely understood Commissioner Louderback’s concerns but felt that, compared to other jurisdictions like Walla Walla, the proposed code is reasonable.

Commissioner Louderback proposed that it might be appropriate to allow licensed contractors to install signs. Mr. Rickard stated he would look into that.

Commissioner Puymon asked if there were different setbacks for the zones. Mr. Rickard responded that in the CG and DMU there are no setback requirements except where abutting residentially zoned property, then 15ft for structures.

Commissioner Puymon commented that there should be some sort of buffers from pole signs to keep vehicles from striking them. Mr. Rickard responded that that is more of an engineering standard.

Commissioner Puymon asked about strip mall signage with multiple businesses, does the code addresses limitations on a pole signs where you have the potential for each business in the strip mall to request a pole sign, Walla Walla has a problem with this.

Open discussion was had regarding the amount of signage allowed on buildings in the CG zone.

Commissioner Puymon brought up proof of liability insurance for signage within the right-of-way. Walla Walla has had claims.

Commissioner Puymon questioned about off premise signage, they should be prohibited. Mr. Rickard pointed out that off premise signage is covered under the prohibited signs section C.

Mr. Rickard pointed out that the code does not address use of the banners that can be mounted on the decorative pedestrian lighting.

Open discussion was had by the Commissioners and Staff regarding the banners.

Mr. Rickard presented a slide show of existing signage in College Place.

ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the Planning Commission meeting that occurred on March 21, 2017. Audio recordings are available upon request.

Approved: _____
Chairman / Vice Chairman Date

Attest: _____
Jon Rickard – Planning Director Date

City of College Place
AGENDA ITEM

Agenda: # 1

Subject: Second Workshop on Signage Regulations

Agenda Date: April 18, 2017

Originator: Jon Rickard, Planning Director

EXHIBITS	1. Draft Proposed Sign Code
SUMMARY STATEMENT	<p>The city's zoning code (Title 17) does not adequately regulate signage, it regulates the sign height to the height of the zoning district, requires a building permit, and restricts home occupations to have signage.</p> <p>The nuisance code (Title 16) prohibits signs, temporary or permanent within the right-of-way, on utility poles, tree, etc. In its strictest application, directional real-estate and yard sale signs are prohibited within the right-of-way. Sandwich board signs are prohibited as well.</p> <p>Staff is proposing modest regulations that are in line with most of the existing signage in College Place.</p> <p>At the March 21st Planning Commission meeting staff presented the proposed code and the Commission provided feedback.</p> <p>The enclosed draft code shows inline changes as a result of the meeting on March 21st.</p>
COMMITTEE ACTION	Consider the proposed regulations and provide staff with feedback.
RECOMMENDED ACTION	No action will be taken until a public hearing and on the subject is held before the planning commission and testimony received.

COLLEGE PLACE, WA

DRAFT Sign Code

**Chapter 17.40
SIGNS**

Sections:

- [17.40.010](#) Purpose.
- [17.40.020](#) Definitions.
- [17.40.030](#) General.
- [17.40.040](#) Signs in residential zones.
- [17.40.050](#) Signs in business and commercial zones.
- [17.40.060](#) Nonconforming uses and nonconforming signs.
- [17.40.070](#) Exemptions.
- [17.40.080](#) Prohibited signs.

17.40.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to promote and protect the public health, welfare, and safety, by regulating existing and proposed outdoor signs of all types. It is intended to protect property values, create a more attractive economic and business climate, enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, help preserve the historic buildings and areas, preserve the scenic and natural beauty of designated areas, and provide a more enjoyable and pleasing community. It is further intended to reduce sign or advertising distractions and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents, reduce hazards that may be caused by signs overhanging or projecting over public rights-of-way, provide more open space, and curb the deterioration of natural beauty and community environment. This chapter also intends to contribute to a positive harmony within the community, and allow for the appropriate display of information.

17.40.020 Definitions.

- A. "Changing message center sign" means any electronically or electrically controlled sign where different automatic changing messages are shown on the same lamp bank.
- B. "Construction sign" means a sign used to identify architects, engineers, contractors, or other individuals or firms involved in the construction of a building or structure and to announce the character of the building or the purpose for which it is intended.
- C. "Flashing sign" means any electrified sign that alternates light intensity in a sudden fashion or that switches on and off in a constant pattern. Public service and changing message center signs are excluded from this definition.
- D. "Flush-mounted sign" means any sign attached to the wall or window of a building, or erected against and parallel to the wall of a building, extending less than twelve inches from that wall.
- E. "Garage sale sign" means any temporary sign used to announce a sale including yard, moving, and patio sales of used items.

- F. "Ground sign" means any freestanding sign not over forty-two inches in height above grade.
- G. "Illuminated sign" means any electrical sign that has lighted characters, letters, figures, designs, or outlines as part of the sign.
- H. "Multiple occupancy building" means any single structure housing more than one retail business, office, or commercial venture.
- I. "Off-premises sign" means any sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, activity or entertainment not conducted, sold or offered upon the premises where the sign is located.
- J. "Outdoor advertising sign" means any off-premises sign used as an outdoor display for the purpose of making anything known, whether or not a charge is made for advertising thereon.
- K. "Permanent sign" means any sign that is anchored, bolted, erected, or fixed in a way that is designed for long-term placement. Such signs may include pole-mounted signs, ground-mounted signs, projection signs, and fixed wall signs.
- L. "Pole sign" means any freestanding sign wholly supported by a sign structure in or on the ground. Ground signs are excluded from this definition.
- M. "Political sign" means any temporary sign advertising a candidate or candidates for public office, or a political party, or a sign urging a particular vote on any public issue decided by ballot.
- N. "Projecting sign" means any sign that is attached to and projects twelve or more inches from the wall of a building.
- O. "Real estate sign" means any sign pertaining to the sale, lease, or rental of land or buildings.
- P. "Sidewalk sign" means any sign placed on a sidewalk or curbside which is held up by frames, supports, or holders which are not fixed to the ground and are meant to be portable.
- Q. "Sign" means any communication device, structure, or fixture, that is intended to aid an establishment in identification and advertisement/promotion of a business, service, activity, or interest.
- R. "Sign surface area" means the entire area of a sign on which copy is to be placed, but only one side of a double-faced sign is included in the calculation of sign surface area.
- S. "Temporary sign" means any sign, banner, pennant, or flag but not including the flag of any nation, state, city, or other governmental agency, or nonprofit organization, searchlights, balloons, or other air- or gas-filled figures, or advertising displays constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, or other light materials, with or without frames, intended to be displayed for a limited period of time only. Types of temporary signs and the corresponding amount of time the temporary sign may be displayed are: construction signs, six months prior to construction and the duration of an active building permit; grand opening displays, one month following the grand opening date; real estate signs, the duration of the listing; special event, one week prior and following the special event; garage/yard sale signs, within two hours of the end of the sale; and political signs, within 10 days post-election. Any sign, poster or other advertising matter of any nature placed upon a utility pole or other poles, trees, sidewalks, streets, signs, traffic signs or other traffic control devices or other structures or places within streets, alleys or other public places or rights-of-way is prohibited in accordance with Chapter 8.24 –

Nuisances, however, temporary signs are permitted within the planting strip portion of the right-of-way (the landscaped area between the curb and the sidewalk) with the consent of the abutting property owner.)

T. "Exempt sign" means any sign that does not require a building permit as outlined in Section [17.40.070](#).

U. "Personal home decoration" means ornaments, flags, garden signs, welcome mats, beware of dog, and signs of similar nature which are meant for decoration of a residential property.

17.40.030 General.

A. The following sign standards by zone district are intended to include every zone in the city. Only signs as described herein and as may be described under "temporary signs" and "exemptions" will be permitted in each particular zone.

B. If any zone is omitted from this title or if a new zone is created after the adoption of this chapter, no sign shall be permitted therein until this chapter is amended to include the new zone.

C. Permits. All signs shall have a permit issued by the city of College Place, unless otherwise noted in this chapter. [A City of College Place permit shall, upon submission of proper fees, plans and other documents required by the building official, be issued to the property owner or the property owner's authorized agent.](#)

D. Application for Permit. An application for a permit shall be submitted and shall contain the following information:

1. Name, address and telephone number of applicant.
2. Location of building, structure or land where sign will be erected.
3. A detailed drawing or plan showing a description of the construction details of the sign including sign wordage, any photos or illustrations, position of lighting or other extraneous devices, a location plan showing the position of the sign on any building or land and its position in relation to nearby buildings or structures and to any private street or highway.
4. If signs are to be pole-mounted or anchored to a building wall, construction documents detailing anchors and supports must be submitted with the application. When required by the building department, construction documents must include design loads and other information pertinent to the structural design, and must be approved by a registered design professional.
5. In the event the applicant is not the legal owner of the structure or property on which the sign is to be erected, written consent of the owner shall be provided in the application for permit. If applicant is a tenant renting a structure, a copy of the lease agreement allowing these modifications or installations may be used as proof of written consent.

E. Fees. Fees shall be in accordance with the current city of College Place fee resolution schedule.

F. Process and Issuance of Permit. Upon the receipt of an application for a permit to erect a sign, it shall be the duty of the administrator or his/her designee to examine plans, specifications and other data submitted with the application and, if necessary, the building or premises where proposed sign shall be

erected. If the application and proposed sign meets the requirements of this sign regulation and is in compliance with all other applicable city regulations, the administrator or his/her designee shall approve and issue a permit.

G. Permit Exceptions. The following actions shall not require a sign permit:

1. The changing of a message on an approved sign.
2. Any maintenance for approved sign including painting, repainting, cleaning and other normal maintenance. Any structural repairs such as replacing or fixing anchorage and supports shall require a permit and must first be approved by the city.
3. Temporary signs and exempt signs are exempt from permit requirements.

H. All signs shall comply with the city development regulations as well as the structural design requirements of Title 15 – Building and Construction, of the College Place Municipal Code.

I. Inspections. Signs may be inspected periodically for compliance with the city regulations.

J. Maintenance. All signs and accompanying components shall be kept in good repair and in a safe, clean, and attractive condition.

17.40.040 Signs in residential zones.

A. General. The term residential shall apply to all “R-60”, “R-75”, “RM” and PUD zones designated by this title. Signs in residential areas as allowed by this section do not require a permit.

B. Location. Permitted signs may be anywhere on the parcel, except as noted below:

1. Signs may not be erected in areas restricted as noted elsewhere in this title.
2. Signs may not project beyond any property lines.
3. Signs may not be erected in areas that obstruct views at traffic intersections in accordance with Section [17.42.050](#).

C. Pole and ground signs shall not exceed sixty inches in height above grade.

D. Wall Signs. Signs mounted on the building shall be flush with the wall surface and shall not project above the eave or roof line.

E. Illumination Signs. Illuminated signs shall not be permitted in residential zones.

F. Temporary Signs. Temporary sign means any sign, banner, pennant, or flag but not including the flag of any nation, state, city, or other governmental agency, or nonprofit organization, searchlights, balloons, or other air- or gas-filled figures, or advertising displays constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, or other light materials, with or without frames, intended to be displayed for a limited period of time only. Types of temporary signs and the corresponding amount of time the temporary sign may be displayed are: construction signs, six months prior to construction and the duration of an active building permit; grand opening displays, one month following the grand opening date; real estate signs, the duration of the listing; special event, one week prior and following the special event; garage/yard sale signs, within two hours of the end of the sale; and political signs, within 10 days

post-election. Any sign, poster or other advertising matter of any nature placed upon a utility pole or other poles, trees, sidewalks, streets, signs, traffic signs or other traffic control devices or other structures or places within streets, alleys or other public places or rights-of-way is prohibited in accordance with Chapter 8.24 – Nuisances, however, temporary signs are permitted within the planting strip portion of the right-of-way (the landscaped area between the curb and the sidewalk) with the consent of the abutting property owner.

G. Residential Real Estate. "For Sale" and "Sold" signs shall be limited to one sign per street frontage of the property being sold. Signs must not exceed six square feet in area, and must not exceed a height of seven feet. For undeveloped residential areas, area of sign must not exceed thirty-five square feet. Such signs do not require a permit. Temporary real estate signs providing direction to an "open house" shall comply with the *Sidewalk Signs/Sandwich Boards* section 17.40.050 of this code and shall not be placed earlier than daylight hours prior to the open house and shall be removed within one hour of the end of the open house.

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H. Personal decoration signs shall be allowed in residential zones.

More than one sign may be placed on a property in a residential zone; provided, that signs do not exceed a total surface area of thirty square feet and no single sign may be larger than twelve square feet.

I. Home Occupation. In the case of a home occupation, signage displaying the home occupation shall not be permitted in residential zones.

17.40.050 Signs in business and commercial zones.

Signs in commercial and business zones shall comply with the following standards:

A. Wall Signs. The maximum area for the total of all permitted wall signs shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the building face area. This shall include all window and door areas and shall be measured from the sidewalk or ground line to the building eave line. Building name signs shall not be included in the allowable sign area and shall not exceed three percent of the building face area. In the case of projecting signs, sign area shall be calculated for one side of the sign and shall not project into or over the public right-of-way or closer than five feet from the back of the street curb line. Signs flush against the building face may be located anywhere on the surface of the building.

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B. Pole Signs. Pole- or ground-mounted signs are permitted when the building does not cover the full width of the parcel upon which it is located and when the building provides a twenty foot minimum setback from the right-of-way. The total area for a pole sign shall not exceed sixty square feet. Such a sign may extend up to fifty feet above the ground level at the base of the sign in CG – General Commercial zones and up to twenty feet above the ground level at the base of the sign in DMU – Downtown Mixed Use zones, except as may be required by this title. Pole signs more than thirty feet in height must be at least one hundred feet from any residential zone.

C. Sidewalk Signs/Sandwich Boards. Sidewalk signs or sandwich boards no larger than six square feet per side in the DMU – Downtown Mixed Use zone and twelve square feet per side in the CG – General Commercial zone, containing no moving parts, must be of the A-Frame design, and constructed of weather resistant material rated for exterior use. Signage must be removed during non-business

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hours. Signage must be placed so that there is a clear pedestrian passage way of at least ~~six~~ feet so as not to be a hazard to pedestrians. At no time shall signs block or obstruct safe sight distance, be placed in a street or gutter and/or become a nuisance, hazard and/or danger to the public as determined by the public works department. No more than one sign shall be allowed per 100 lineal feet of right-of-way frontage in the CG-General Commercial zone and no more than one sign shall be allowed per business in the DMU – Downtown Mixed Use zone. Proof of liability insurance naming the City of College Place as additionally insured, \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 aggregate required. A hold harmless agreement from both the property owner and the tenant is also required.

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D. Banners. Banners used by businesses on a site shall not exceed the maximum area for the total of all permitted wall signs of twenty-five percent of its building store front area and shall not have illumination of any kind and are considered temporary signs as defined in the definition section of this chapter.

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E. Business/Commercial Real Estate. "For Sale" and "Sold" signs shall be limited to one sign per street frontage of the business/commercial property being sold. Real estate signs may be free standing or may be displayed through a window. Sign must not exceed an area of thirty-five square feet, and may not be placed on the public right-of-way. Such sign does not require a permit.

F. Illuminated Signs. Illuminated signs may be ground-mounted or wall attached. Light rays from such signs shall shine only upon the sign or upon the property on which the sign is located and shall not spill over the property lines in any direction except by indirect reflection. Areas for such signs shall not exceed sixty feet.

G. Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signs. LED signs may be ground-mounted, wall attached, or displayed through a window. Light rays from such signs shall shine only upon the sign or upon the property on which the sign is located and shall not spill over the property lines in any direction except by indirect reflection. LED signs must not be flashing in a manner that distracts traffic or becomes a hazard to public safety. If sign displays alternating content, said content must be displayed for at least three seconds before changing. The area of an LED sign shall not exceed thirty-two square feet.

No more than one sign may be placed per property.

H. Temporary Signs. Temporary sign means any sign, banner, pennant, or flag but not including the flag of any nation, state, city, or other governmental agency, or nonprofit organization, searchlights, balloons, or other air- or gas-filled figures, or advertising displays constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, or other light materials, with or without frames, intended to be displayed for a limited period of time only. Types of temporary signs and the corresponding amount of time the temporary sign may be displayed are: construction signs, six months prior to construction and the duration of an active building permit; grand opening displays, one month following the grand opening date; real estate signs, the duration of the listing; special event, one week prior and following the special event; garage/yard sale signs, within two hours of the end of the sale; and political signs, within 10 days post-election. Any sign, poster or other advertising matter of any nature placed upon a utility pole or other poles, trees, sidewalks, streets, signs, traffic signs or other traffic control devices or other structures or places within streets, alleys or other public places or rights-of-way is prohibited in accordance with Chapter 8.24 – Nuisances, however, temporary signs are permitted within the planting

strip portion of the right-of-way (the landscaped area between the curb and the sidewalk) with the consent of the abutting property owner.

17.40.060 Nonconforming uses and nonconforming signs.

Signs existing and not conforming to the provisions of this chapter, but which were constructed in compliance with previous regulations shall be regarded as nonconforming signs. Such signs may be maintained in their present condition unless hazardous but may not be altered, erected, or relocated unless in conformity with the sign code.

17.40.070 Exemptions.

The following types of signs are exempt from all the provisions of this chapter, except for construction and safety regulations and the following requirements:

- A. Public Signs. Signs of a noncommercial nature and in the public interest erected by or on the order of a public officer in the performance of his public duty; such as safety signs, danger signs, trespassing signs, traffic signs, memorial plaques, signs of historical interest, and the like;
- B. Integral. Names of buildings, dates of erection, monumental citations, commemorative tablets, and the like when carved into stone, concrete, or similar material or made of bronze, aluminum, or other permanent type construction and made an integral part of the structure;
- C. Small Signs. Signs not exceeding two square feet in area attached flat against the building, stationary, and not illuminated announcing only the name and occupation of building tenant;
- D. Political. Signs related to political campaigns for public election may be erected on private property with the permission of the property owner; provided, that said political signs are removed within forty-eight hours after the end of the election. Political signs may not be placed in city or state rights-of-way;
- E. Temporary Street Banners. Banners related to city-approved activities or events;
- F. Seasonal Holiday Signs and Decorations. Signs or decorations temporarily placed in observance of religious or national holidays (i.e., Christmas, Halloween, Fourth of July) shall be allowed in all zones and shall not require a permit; provided, that such holiday decorations/lights do not interfere with traffic or present a hazard to the safety or welfare of the public;
- G. Flags. The flag of any nation, state, city, or other governmental agency, nonprofit organization, educational institution, provided they are maintained and do not constitute a hazard to the safety and welfare of the public;
- H. Historic and Iconic Signs. Signs identified to be iconic or of historic interest by the historic preservation commission shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter. However, any alterations or modifications to iconic or historic signs must be approved by the historic preservation commission.

17.40.080 Prohibited signs.

Prohibited signs are signs which:

- A. Contain statements, words, or pictures of an obscene, indecent, or immoral character;

- B. Are of a size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination which may be confused with or construed as a traffic sign or traffic control device and/or may hide from view any traffic or street sign or signal;
- C. Advertise an activity, business, product, or service no longer conducted on the premises upon which the sign is located, including off-premises signs;
- D. Signs that are specifically designed to move or have parts/mechanisms that physically move;
- E. Contain or consist of pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or other similarly moving devices. Exceptions to this are temporary event signs, and temporary street banners related to city-approved activities or events;
- F. May cause a safety hazard by swinging or otherwise noticeably moving as a result of wind pressure because of the manner of their suspension or attachment;
- G. Are erected in such a position that it completely covers another sign already in place on either side;
- H. **Billboards;**
- I. Any sign, poster or other advertising matter of any nature placed upon a utility pole or other poles, trees, sidewalks, streets, signs, traffic signs or other traffic control devices or other structures or places within streets, alleys or other public places or rights-of-way in accordance with this Chapter and Chapter 8.24 – Nuisances;

Commented [JR1]: Staff did not provide a definition for this as all of the codes I researched prohibited billboards but none of them defined billboards. WSDOT regulates billboards along highways. Advertising on billboards according to our code would constitute off-premises signage.