

CHAPTER 110: VACANT GROUND FLOOR PREMISES STOREFRONT  
WINDOW SCREENING

SECTION

110.001	Definitions
110.002	Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront Window Screening
110.003	Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront Maintenance
110.004	Prohibited Window Screening Content
110.999	Penalty

Sec. 110.001 Definitions.

Wherever the following words or phrases are used, they shall, for the purposes of this Chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this Section 110.001, except when the context otherwise indicates:

**"Ground Floor"** shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 150.415 of Chapter 150 of this Code. (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10)

**"Premises"** shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 150.415 of Chapter 150 of this Code. (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10)

**"Sign Ordinance"** shall mean Article XX of Chapter 150 of this Code. (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10)

**"Storefront"** shall mean any façade of a Ground Floor Premises having one or more Storefront Windows.

**"Storefront Window"** shall mean any window of any Ground Floor Premises that permits an unobstructed public view into the interior of that Ground Floor Premises from any immediately adjacent street, sidewalk, or right-of-way.

**"Vacant"** shall mean the state of not being occupied by a regularly operating business from the Ground Floor of a Premises.

**"Window Screening"** shall mean a display made of film, vinyl, polymat, canvas, or heavy duty paper and that is placed in a window or window area of a Vacant Storefront. (Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)

Sec. 110.002 Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront Window Screening.

(A) Window Screening Required. Any Vacant, Ground Floor Premises that is located within the City's B-5 Central Business District, or the B2-RW Roger Williams Commercial District Overlay Zone, shall, not more than 15 business days after the date on which the Ground Floor Premises first becomes Vacant, contain Window Screening in each of the Storefront Windows, if any, of that Ground Floor Premises. Each Window Screening shall fully cover not less than 80 percent of each Storefront Window of that Ground Floor

Premises so as to obscure a direct public view of the Vacant interior of that Ground Floor Premises. **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(B) Signage. A Real Estate Sign that complies with the Sign Area and Sign Height requirements of Section 150.2024 of Chapter 150 of this Code may be placed in a Storefront Window along with the Window Screening required pursuant to Section 110.002 of this Chapter. **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(C) Content of Window Screening. All Window Screening placed in a Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront pursuant to this Section 110.002 shall comply with all applicable provisions of this Chapter, this Code, and the following additional restrictions: (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10) **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(1) The Window Screening shall comply with all applicable provisions of Article XX of Chapter 150 of this Code, except as expressly permitted pursuant to this Chapter. (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10) **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(2) The Window Screening shall consist of graphic elements, words, or letters. **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(3) The Window Screening shall not be affixed to the Window with tape. (Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10) **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

(D) Responsibility for Compliance. Any Person owning, leasing, maintaining, or in possession or control of any Vacant, Ground Floor Premises located within the City, or any Owner of the Lot upon which the Vacant, Ground Floor Premises is located, shall be responsible for adherence to the provisions of this Section.

Sec. 110.003 Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront Maintenance.

Any Vacant, Ground Floor Premises that is located within the B-5 Central Business District, or the B2-RW Roger Williams Commercial District Overlay Zone, shall, in addition to the requirements set forth in Section 110.002 of this Chapter, if applicable, comply with the following requirements:

(A) The Storefront of the Premises shall be maintained in good condition, kept neat, clean, attractive, and lighted, as required by this Code;

(B) The door area and sidewalk immediately adjacent to the Storefront of the Premises shall be neat, clean, and free from dirt and debris; and

(C) Any and all Storefront Window glass of the Premises shall be kept clean in accordance with Section 110.002 of this Chapter.

Sec. 110.004 Prohibited Window Screening Content.

(A) No Window Screening shall contain any matter, in writing or in a depiction, that, when considered as a whole, predominantly appeals to prurient interests.

(B) Window Screening may not contain off-site advertising signs, as that term is defined in Section 150.2005 of Chapter 150 of this Code and as specified in Section 150.2027 of Chapter 150 of this Code. **(Ord. 79-14, J. 40, p.229-233, passed 08/11/14)**

Sec. 110.999 Penalty.

Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter shall be fined in an amount no less than \$150 and no more than \$500 per offense. Each day on or during which any person violates any of the provisions of this Chapter shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. **(Ord. 58-10, J. 36, p. 239-242, passed 7/12/10)**

(Ord. 19-67, J. 4, p. 473-492, passed 6/5/67; Ord. 37-84, J. 15, p.632-53, passed 9/10/84, Reserved by Ord. 32-02, J. 28, p 227-264, passed 5/13/02, Chapter 110 Removed from Reserve/Vacant Ground Floor Premises Storefront Window Displays added by Ord. 65-05, J. 31, p. 267-269, passed 11/14/05 – Effective December 1, 2005)