

City of Lincoln Park  
**Proposed Sign Code**

*2020-03-18*

**1476.01 Regulatory purposes**

The purpose and intent of this Sign Code is to create the legal framework for a comprehensive and balanced system of regulating signs and outdoor advertising. Such regulations are concerned with communication along streets and highways, and deal with symbols and letters as they appear on signs, billboards, banners, store fronts, marquees, canopies, and all other stationary visual media whether located on or off the premises of the activity to which the message pertains.

It is the further purpose and intent of this chapter to: facilitate an easy and pleasant communication between people and their environment; avoid the visual clutter that is potentially harmful to traffic and pedestrian safety, property values, business opportunities, and community aesthetics and appearance; protect the general public from damage and injury caused by the distractions, hazards, and obstructions caused by signs; minimize the abundance and size of signs to reduce motorist distraction and the loss of safe sight distance; preserve the value of property by assuring the compatibility of signs with surrounding land uses; promote public convenience; support and complement the land use objectives identified in the City's Comprehensive Development Plan and Zoning Code; enhance the aesthetic appearance and quality of life within the City; and protect the public safety, health and welfare.

It is recognized that the primary function of signs is to index the environment - that is, to tell people where they can find what. "Selling" or "advertising" are subordinate purposes and remain auxiliary to indexing. The number, type, size, height, location, and illumination of signs need only be sufficient to allow motorists and pedestrians to see them, recognize the activity they represent, and safely slow their vehicle in time to access the establishment, and/or to allow pedestrians to recognize the activity they represent.

It is also recognized that there are generally accepted and empirically derived standards for the type, size, spacing, area, and setback of signs based upon the speed limits and number of vehicular traffic lanes on the street which they front. These standards are generally intended to allow signs that can be recognized at a given distance by a motorist, allowing them to safely slow down and access the site for which the sign advertises. However, these standards do not account for the peculiar characteristics of the City's business corridors. These characteristics include, but are not limited to, the following: unusually narrow widths and shallow depths of commercial properties fronting on the City's major thoroughfares, caused by progressive road widening; the proximity of existing buildings to each other and to property and right-of-way lines; traffic flows and congestion levels; and the goals and objectives of the City's Comprehensive Development Plan and Zoning Code.

The City of Lincoln Park has thus determined that these characteristics warrant modifications to these generally accepted standards though empirically derived sign standards. The regulations and

standards of this chapter represent these modifications and are considered the minimum amount of regulation necessary to achieve a substantial government interest for public safety, aesthetics, and protection of property values. The regulations and standards contained in this chapter are intended to achieve the following objectives:

- (a) Authorize the use of signs that are compatible with their surroundings, appropriate to the activity that displays them, expressive of the identity of individual activities and the community as a whole, and legible in their environments.
- (b) Recognize the proliferation of signs is distracting to motorists and nonmotorized travelers, reduces the effectiveness of signs directing and warning the public, causes confusion, reduces desired uniform traffic flow, and creates potential for vehicular accidents.
- (c) Prevent signs that are potentially dangerous to the public due to structural deficiencies, disrepair, or distraction to motorists.
- (d) Reduce visual pollution and obstructions caused by a proliferation of signs that could diminish the City's image, property values, and quality of life.
- (e) Enable the public to locate goods, services, and facilities without excessive difficulty and confusion by restricting the number and placement of signs.
- (f) Prevent placement of signs that will conceal or obscure signs of adjacent uses.
- (g) Protect the public right to receive information protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
- (h) Prevent off-premise signs from conflicting with land uses.
- (i) Maintain and improve the image of the City by encouraging signs that are compatible with conforming existing signs, have good viewing qualities with passing motorists, and are compatible with buildings and streets, through the establishment of specific standards for various areas in the City.
- (j) Preserve and enhance the image of the City's business districts and other districts

## **1476.02      Design and construction standards**

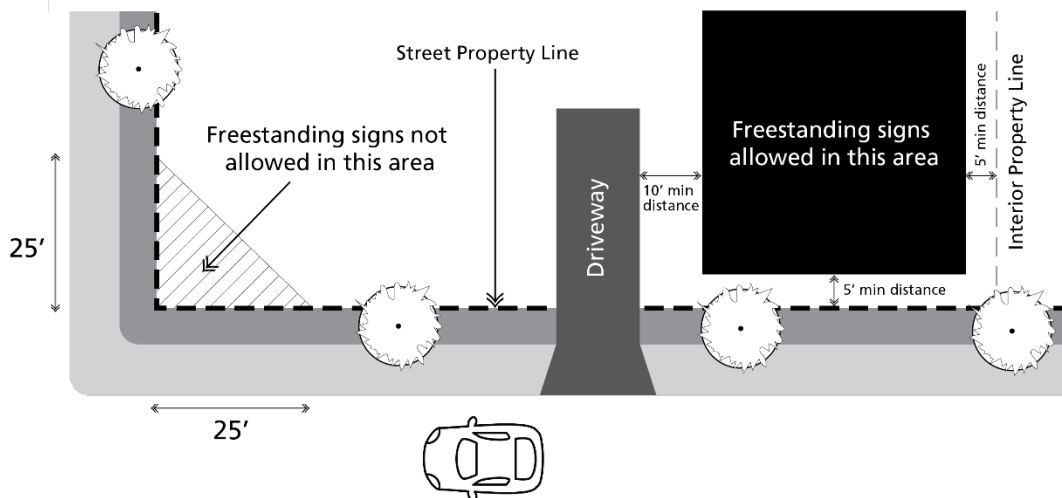
- (a) General Requirements. All signs must be designed and constructed in a safe and stable manner in accordance with the City's adopted building code and electrical codes. All electric wiring associated with a freestanding sign must be installed underground.
- (b) Building Code. All signs must be designed to comply with minimum wind pressure and other requirements identified in the City's adopted building code.
- (c) Framework. All signs must be designed so that the supporting framework, other than the supporting poles on a freestanding sign, is contained within or behind the face of the sign or within the building to which it is attached so as to be totally screened from view.
- (d) Installation. Signs must be mounted so that the method of installation is concealed. Signs applied to masonry surfaces should be mechanically fastened to mortar joints only and not directly into brick or stone. Drilling to provide electrical service should also follow the same rule. Signs must fit within the existing facade features, must be confined to signable areas, and may not interfere with door and window openings, conceal architectural details, or obscure the composition of the facade where they are located.
- (e) Compatibility. The design of all permanent signs must be compatible with the style, composition, materials, colors and details of the building, as determined by the Building Official or, at the Building Official's discretion, the Planning Commission. Sign colors should be compatible with the colors of the building facade. A dull or matte finish is recommended in

order to reduce glare and enhance legibility. Sign design must be coordinated across all signs on a single parcel.

- (f) Illumination. Permanent signs may be internally or externally illuminated, except where prohibited in this chapter. Temporary signs may not be illuminated. The following regulations apply to illumination of permanent signs.
  - (1) Signs may be illuminated only by steady, stationary, shielded light sources directed solely at the sign or internal to it.
  - (2) The source of illumination may not be visible, must be fully shielded, and may not cause glare hazardous to pedestrians, motorists, or adjacent residential uses or districts. Shielding will minimize the projection of light onto adjoining properties or thoroughfares.
  - (3) Use of glaring, undiffused lights or bulbs is prohibited. Illumination by bare bulbs or flames is prohibited, except that bare bulbs are permitted on electronic changeable copy and marquee signs.
  - (4) The maximum luminescence level is 0.3 footcandles (3.22 lux) over ambient light levels at any time, measured at a distance of 100 feet.
- (g) Electronic display. Electronic changeable copy, graphic display, and tri-vision display signs are permitted on monument signs in the business and industrial districts, and marquee signs in the Central Business District, subject to the following regulations:
  - (1) Copy change may not be more frequent than once per five (5) seconds.
  - (2) Copy may be multi-color, as determined by the Building Official.
  - (3) Glare must be reduced and/or minimized in such a manner as to maintain an appropriate level of contrast during the day. To reduce driver distraction at night and light trespass into residential areas, the sign must possess automatic dimming capabilities so that the maximum luminescence level is not more than 0.3 footcandles (3.22 lux) over ambient light levels at any time, measured at a distance of 100 feet. A photometric plan which identifies the proposed illumination levels (in footcandles) must be provided.
  - (4) An electronic changeable copy or electronic graphic display area may not exceed more than sixty percent (60)% of the actual sign area of any monument sign face of which it is a part, with not more than two (2) lines of text; except that one hundred percent (100%) of the area of a billboard sign is permitted to be electronic graphic display.
  - (5) The electronic changeable copy or electronic graphic display areas on monument signs must be part of the same sign face as a monument sign without electronic display technology and must be integrated into the face of such sign by use of a border or similar design treatment that provides a visual linkage to the remainder of the sign.
  - (6) Video display, animation, scrolling text, flashing, whirling or fading signs, dissolving transitions, or any other type of motion associated with an electronic sign is prohibited, except that marquee signs in the Central Business District may incorporate video display technology.
- (h) Central Business District. The following regulations are intended to support the creation of a cohesive, pedestrian-oriented public realm within the City's Central Business District:
  - (1) Signs may be placed on a facade only in a manner that is appropriate to the style of the building.
  - (2) Signs may be either spot-lighted or back-lighted with a diffused light source. Spotlighting requires complete shielding of all light sources; light must be contained within the sign frame and may not significantly spill over to other portions of the building, or site. Back-lighting may illuminate the letters, characters or graphics on the sign, but not its background. Fluorescent bulbs may be used to illuminate the interior of display cases. Outline tubing or neon signs placed inside the display case must be of low intensity colors.

**1476.03 Placement**

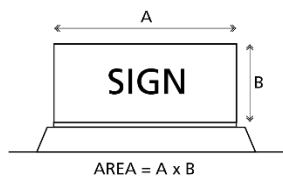
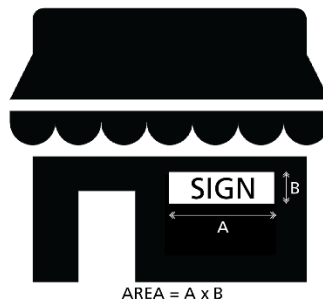
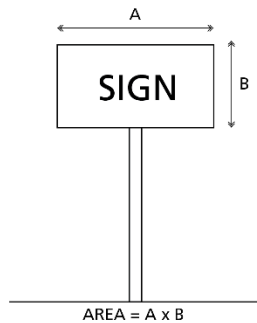
- (a) Right-of-way. No sign may be located within, projected into, or overhang a public right-of-way, except as otherwise permitted in this chapter.
- (b) Access. A sign may not be erected, constructed or maintained so as to obstruct any fire escape, means of egress, or window or door opening used as an element of a means of egress, or so as to prevent free passage from one part of a roof to another part of a roof, or access to a roof as required by the City's adopted building code for the fire fighting forces having jurisdiction.
- (c) Ventilation. A sign may not be placed or attached in any form, shape or manner which will interfere with any opening required for ventilation by the City's adopted building code, except that such a sign may be erected in front of and may cover transom windows when not in violation of this chapter.
- (d) Visibility. Signs may not obstruct motorist visibility.
  - (1) No sign may be placed in the triangular area formed at the corner intersection of two public right-of-way lines, where two sides of the triangular area are 25 feet in length measured along the public right-of-way lines and the third side is a line connecting these two sides.
  - (2) No sign may be placed in the triangular area formed at the corner intersection of a public right-of-way and a driveway, where one side of the triangular area is 10 feet in length measured along the edge of the driveway, one side of the triangular area is 5 feet in length measured along the right-of-way line, and the third side is a line connecting these two sides.



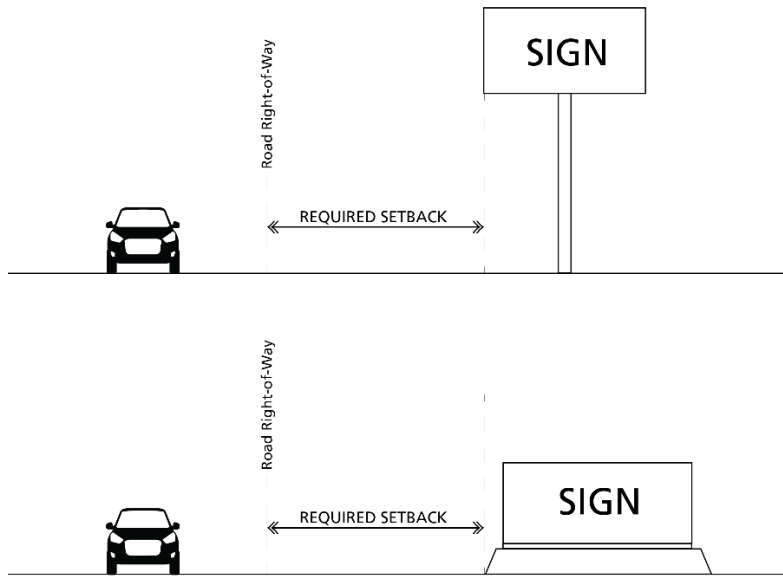
**1476.04 Standards for measurement**

- (a) Sign Area. Sign area is computed as follows:
  - (1) Where a sign consists of a generally flat surface or sign face on which lettering and other information is affixed, the sign area is computed by measuring the entire face of the sign.
  - (2) Where a sign consists of individual letters and logo affixed directly to a building, the area of the sign is computed by measuring the area of the envelope required to enclose the lettering and logo.
  - (3) The area of a double-faced pole, monument, projecting, or A-frame sign is computed using only one (1) face of the sign provided that the outline and dimensions of both faces are identical, and the faces are back-to-back so that only one face is visible at any given time.

- (4) The area of a monument sign is computed by measuring the entire vertical surface of a face upon which the letters and logo are attached. In the case of a multi-faced monument sign, the area of the sign is computed using only one face of the sign.
- (5) The area of a cylindrical monument sign is computed by multiplying the diameter of the cylinder by its height.
- (6) The sign area calculations do not include the necessary supports or uprights on which the sign is placed, unless such items contain copy or as otherwise specified in this chapter.



- (b) Setback and Distance. The following guidelines must be used to determine compliance with setback and distance measurements:
  - (1) The distance between two signs is measured along a straight horizontal line that represents the shortest distance between the two signs.
  - (2) The distance between a sign and a parking lot or building is measured along a straight horizontal line that represents the shortest distance between the outer edge of the parking lot or building.
  - (3) The distance between a sign and a building or property line is measured along a straight horizontal line that represents the shortest distance between the sign and the building or property line.



**1476.05** Standards according to sign type

The following tables specify the standards applicable to each permitted sign type.

**Permanent Freestanding Signs**  
*1 sign type per parcel*

POLE SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD
Maximum Area	80 sf Shopping centers with more than 4 establishments: 120 sf Secondary frontage sign if permitted: 75% of area of first sign
Height	20' Shopping centers with more than 4 establishments: 24'
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 pole sign per parcel per street frontage, up to a maximum of 2
Setbacks	10 ft from right-of-way line
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	No tree over 6" in diameter may be cut down to accommodate the location, siting, or visibility of the sign

POLE SIGNS	
District(s)	MBD, RBD, LID, GID within 100' of an interstate limited access freeway
Maximum Area	80 sf
Height	20' above the highest elevation of the freeway, up to a maximum of 100'
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 pole sign per parcel per street frontage or 100' proximity to interstate limited access freeway, up to a maximum of 2
Setbacks	10 ft from right-of-way line May not be visible from any residentially zoned area
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	No tree over 6" in diameter may be cut down to accommodate the location, siting, or visibility of the sign

Permanent Freestanding Signs  
*1 sign type per parcel*

MONUMENT SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD, LID, GID, MFRD, CSD
Maximum Area	80 sf Shopping centers with more than 4 establishments: 120 sf Secondary frontage sign if permitted: 75% of area of first sign
Height	8 ft maximum height above the ground, including the top of the signboard and any posts, brackets, or other supporting elements Shopping centers with more than 4 establishments: 24'
Additional Dimensions	The first 24 inches closest to the ground must be kept free of sign copy for landscaping and snow storage, and this portion of the sign (and any base used to support the sign) will be exempt from area calculations.
Number Permitted	1 monument sign per parcel per street, up to maximum of 2 Shopping centers with more than 4 establishments: 1 additional monument sign is permitted if the shopping center has a second 2-way access drive on the same street AND there is 250 ft between such drives (centerline to centerline)
Setbacks	10 ft from right-of-way line
Materials & Construction	Whenever the same building materials for the principal building are not used for the base, frame, and support of the sign, a landscaped area in compliance with the Zoning Code must be installed at the base of the sign.
Electronic Display Permitted	Electronic display signs
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	



Permanent Freestanding Signs  
*1 sign type per parcel*

MONUMENT SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD
Maximum Area	60 sf Secondary frontage sign if permitted: 75% of area of first sign
Height	6 ft maximum height above the ground, including the top of the signboard and any posts, brackets, or other supporting elements
Additional Dimensions	The first 12 inches closest to the ground must be kept free of sign copy for landscaping and snow storage, and this portion of the sign (and any base used to support the sign) will be exempt from area calculations.
Number Permitted	1 monument sign per parcel per street, up to maximum of 2
Setbacks	5 ft from right-of-way line The building to which the permit address refers must be set back a minimum of 10 ft from any right-of-way. This provision does not apply where a public body installs a monument sign intended to index more than one business.
Materials & Construction	Signboard may be constructed of wood or painted metal, with wood or cast-iron brackets. Signs using wood may use only high-quality exterior grade wood with suitable grade finishes. Flat signs should be framed with raised edges.  Whenever the same building materials for the principal building are not used for the base, frame, and support of the sign, a landscaped area in compliance with the Zoning Code must be installed at the base of the sign.
Electronic Display Permitted	Electronic display signs
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	No tree over 6" in diameter may be cut down to accommodate the location, siting, or visibility of the sign

Permanent Freestanding Signs  
*1 sign type per parcel*

ENTRANCEWAY SIGNS	
District(s)	All districts: subdivisions, shopping centers with more than 4 businesses, business and industrial parks
Maximum Area	50% of the area of the entranceway structure up to maximum of 40 sf
Height	Entranceway structures must observe district height limitations
Additional Dimensions	Entranceway signs may not extend past the dimensions of the entranceway structure
Number Permitted	2 per entranceway (positioned on either side of the drive approach) per street frontage
Setbacks	Entranceway structures must observe district setbacks
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	

**Permanent Building Signs**

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

WALL SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD, LID, GID, MFRD, CSD
Maximum Area	<p>3 sf per lineal foot of building frontage up to district maximum:  NBD - 100 sf  MBD - 150 sf  RBD, LID, GID - 200 sf</p> <p>Secondary frontage sign if permitted: 75% of area of first sign  Parking lot sign if permitted: 50% of area of first sign  Alley sign if permitted: 3 sf  I-75 wall sign if permitted: same as first sign</p>
Height	<p>The top of a wall sign may not be higher than the lowest of: (1) The maximum heights specified for the district in which the sign is located, (2) The top of the sills at the first level on windows above the first story, (3) The height of the building facing the street on which the sign is located.</p>
Additional Dimensions	<p>The maximum vertical dimension of any wall sign may not exceed 1/3 of the building height. The maximum horizontal dimension of any wall sign may not exceed 3/4 of the width of the building.</p> <p>A wall sign may not extend above the roofline of the building to which it is attached, or beyond the ends of the wall to which the sign is attached.</p>
Number Permitted	<p>1 wall sign per parcel per street, up to a maximum of 2</p> <p>1 additional wall sign is permitted where a public entrance faces a parking area intended to serve the permit address ("parking lot sign")</p> <p>1 additional wall sign is permitted where a building entrance faces an alley ("alley sign")</p> <p>Buildings adjacent to I-75 may have one (1) wall sign facing I-75. ("I-75 wall sign")</p> <p>The above may not be construed to permit more than 1 wall sign per building face</p> <p>In a multi-tenant building or shopping center, one (1) wall sign is permitted for each point of public access so long as the total area across all signs on a single building face does not exceed the district maximum. Where several tenants share a common entrance in a multi-tenant structure, the total area of one (1) sign will be allocated equally to all tenants.</p>
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	Wall signs over 40 sf must be constructed of metal or other approved noncombustible material except for nailing rails
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	

Permanent Building Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

WALL SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD
Maximum Area	3 sf per lineal foot of building frontage, up to maximum of 100 sf Secondary frontage sign if permitted: 75% of area of first sign Parking lot sign if permitted: 50% of area of first sign Alley sign if permitted: 3 sf
Height	15 ft above the front sidewalk elevation May not extend above the base of the second-floor windowsill, parapet, and eave or building façade.
Additional Dimensions	A wall sign cabinet must be affixed to the front façade of the building and may project outward no more than 9 inches from the wall to which it is attached. A wall sign with individual letters may not project more than 12 inches outward.
Number Permitted	1 wall sign per parcel per street, up to a maximum of 2 1 additional wall sign is permitted where a public entrance faces a parking area intended to serve the permit address ("parking lot sign") 1 additional wall sign is permitted where a building entrance faces an alley ("alley sign") The above may not be construed to permit more than 1 wall sign per building face
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	Signboard may be constructed of wood or painted metal, with wood or cast-iron brackets. Signs using wood must use only high-quality exterior grade wood with suitable grade finishes. Flat signs should be framed with raised edges  Wall signs over 40 sf must be constructed of metal or other approved noncombustible material except for nailing rails
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	Whenever possible, signs located on buildings within the same blockface must be placed at the same height, in order to create a unified sign band.

Permanent Building Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

WINDOW OR DOOR SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD
Maximum Area	10% of the window or door area, maximum 4 sf
Height	
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 permanent window or door sign per business, applied to either the window or the door, but not both.
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	Must be silk screened or hand-painted
Electronic Display Permitted	N/A
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	60% of the bottom 12' of the building's front façade must be fully transparent and free of permanent signage

WINDOW OR DOOR SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD, MFRD, CSD
Maximum Area	10% of the window or door area, maximum 4 sf
Height	
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 permanent window or door sign per business, applied to either the window or the door, but not both.
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	25% of the bottom 12' of the building's front façade must be fully transparent and free of permanent signage

Permanent Building Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

MARQUEE SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD: theatres, cinemas, athletic arenas, or similar places of public assembly
Maximum Area	3.5 sf per lineal foot of building frontage, up to maximum of 40 sf Lettering on a marquee sign may not extend beyond the geometric figure which encloses the sign message.
Height	May not extend above the base of the second-floor windowsill, parapet, and eave or building façade Minimum vertical clearance of 10 ft
Additional Dimensions	Limitations concerning projections of signs from the face of a wall or building do not apply to marquee signs. The message must be affixed flat to the vertical face of the marquee. Maximum vertical dimension of 8 feet A marquee sign may not project above the roofline of the building to which it is attached.
Number Permitted	1 marquee sign per parcel
Setbacks	Right-of-way line
Materials & Construction	Marquee signs must be constructed of metal or other noncombustible materials
Electronic Display Permitted	Electronic display signs; video display signs
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	

Permanent Building Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

AWNING SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, RBD, MFRD, CSD
Maximum Area	3 sf per linear foot of building frontage to which it is attached, up to maximum 40 sf Second-story business: 4 sf maximum, limited to the awning valance
Height	May not extend above the roof or parapet of the building to which it is attached Minimum vertical clearance of 10 ft
Additional Dimensions	May not project further than 6 ft from the building wall plane
Number Permitted	2 awning signs per business, on either the awning or valance, but not both
Setbacks	2' from curbline
Materials & Construction	May be constructed of canvas, vinyl, metal, or other suitable material
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	Awning signs may be internally illuminated only on those sides of the building to which they are attached which contain a public entrance or those having a pedestrian sidewalk (public or private) adjacent to the building.

Permanent Building Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: Roof signs; suspended (bracket) signs

PROJECTING SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD, NBD: buildings built to the property line with no front setback
Maximum Area	7.5 sf
Height	May not extend above the roof line of the building to which it is attached or extend vertically beyond the windowsill of a second story if one exists Minimum vertical clearance of 10 ft
Additional Dimensions	Must project perpendicularly from a building wall plane Must be separated by at least 6 in from the building wall plane Distance measured between the principal faces of any projecting sign will not exceed 12 in
Number Permitted	1 per business with an entrance at sidewalk level.
Setbacks	May not project more than 4 ft 6 in beyond the property line and/or building wall plane
Materials & Construction	Signs must be constructed entirely of metal or other noncombustible material. Flat signs should be framed with raised edges. Projecting signs will be mounted to the building wall by a single metal mounting bracket; support chains are prohibited.
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	

CANOPY SIGNS	
District(s)	MBD, RBD
Maximum Area	4 sf
Height	Canopy must observe district height limits
Additional Dimensions	May be placed only on canopy valance
Number Permitted	2 per canopy
Setbacks	Canopy must observe district setbacks
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	



## Temporary and Portable Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: inflatable signs, feather flag signs, people signs

BANNER SIGNS (Freestanding & Building)	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, RBD, MFRD, LID, GID, CSD
Maximum Area	6 sf per lineal foot of building frontage, up to maximum of 120 sf
Height	Freestanding banner signs: 6 ft Building banner signs: May not extend above the roof or parapet of the building to which it is attached.
Additional Dimensions	Maximum dimension of 10 ft in any one direction
Number Permitted	1 per parcel
Setbacks	Freestanding banner signs: Minimum of 15 ft from right-of-way Minimum distance of 500' must be maintained between any two temporary standalone signs, including banner and rigid-frame yard signs
Materials & Construction	All banner signs larger than 100 sf must be constructed and fastened in accordance with the Building Code  Building banner signs and those constructed of cloth or other combustible material must be constructed in an approved manner and must be securely attached to their supports.
Electronic Display Permitted	N/A
Permit Required?	Yes. Temporary
Time	60 days Attached to awning or marquee: 10 days 2 permits per parcel per calendar year
Additional Standards	Banner signs must be removed as soon as they are torn or damaged.

WINDOW SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, RBD, CSD
Maximum Area	6 sf
Height	
Additional Dimensions	Permitted only in windows on the same building face as the principal entrance
Number Permitted	No limit on number of signs within maximum area
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	No
Time	
Additional Standards	

Temporary and Portable Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: inflatable signs, feather flag signs, people signs

A-FRAME SIGNS	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, MFRD, CSD
Maximum Area	6 sf
Height	3.5 ft
Additional Dimensions	Maximum width is 2 ft
Number Permitted	1 per parcel
Setbacks	Where a public sidewalk is located within the right-of-way and directly abuts a building with a zero setback, an A-frame sign is allowed on the sidewalk within 12 ft of the main entrance to the establishment. A minimum of 3 ft of unobstructed sidewalk clearance must be maintained between the sign and the building or other obstruction. An A-frame sign may not otherwise be located in the public right-of-way, including lawn boulevards
Materials & Construction	A-frame signs must be internally weighted to ensure stability and to prevent unintentional movement or conflict with pedestrians
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes: Temporary
Time	60 days 3 permits per parcel per calendar year
Additional Standards	A-frame signs must be removed at the end of each business day.

VEHICLE SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD, LID, GID, CSD
Maximum Area	
Height	
Additional Dimensions	Sign face may not extend past the dimensions of the vehicle
Number Permitted	2 per licensed commercial vehicle in active operation by the primary business associated with the permit address
Setbacks	Vehicles must be parked in the designated off-street parking areas of the primary business associated with the permit address. Nothing may be construed to prevent use and parking of the vehicle in a manner customary to the course of business.
Materials & Construction	Signage must be professionally designed and applied
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	No
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	

Temporary and Portable Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: inflatable signs, feather flag signs, people signs

YARD SIGNS, WIRE-FRAME	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, RBD, MFRD, LID, GID, CSD
Maximum Area	6 sf
Height	3 ft
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	2 per parcel For the period of 60 days before and 14 days after an election, 8 signs per parcel; may include campaign or political signs
Setbacks	3 ft from right-of-way
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	No
Time	60 days unless otherwise specified
Additional Standards	Prohibited on public property

YARD SIGNS, WIRE-FRAME	
District(s)	SFRD, MHRD
Maximum Area	6 sf
Height	3 ft
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	3 per parcel No restrictions on this sign type in these districts for the period of 60 days before and 14 days after an election; may include campaign or political signs
Setbacks	3 ft from right-of-way
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	No
Time	60 days unless otherwise specified
Additional Standards	Prohibited on public property

Temporary and Portable Signs

*2 sign types per parcel*

Not permitted: inflatable signs, feather flag signs, people signs

YARD SIGNS, RIGID-FRAME	
District(s)	CBD, NBD, MBD, RBD, MFRD, LID, GID, CSD
Maximum Area	16 sf
Height	6 ft
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 per parcel From the time a construction permit is secured at the permit address until a Certificate of Occupancy is issued, a maximum of 6 signs is permitted
Setbacks	3 ft from right-of-way Minimum distance of 500' must be maintained between any two temporary standalone signs, including banner and rigid-frame yard signs
Materials & Construction	Anchored 2 ft 6 inches in ground
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes: Temporary
Time	30 days unless otherwise specified 3 permits per parcel per calendar year
Additional Standards	Prohibited on public property

YARD SIGNS, RIGID-FRAME	
District(s)	SFRD, MHRD
Maximum Area	16 sf
Height	6 ft
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	1 per parcel
Setbacks	3 ft from right-of-way Minimum distance of 500' must be maintained between any two temporary standalone signs, including banner and rigid-frame yard signs
Materials & Construction	Anchored 2 ft 6 inches in ground
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	Yes: Temporary
Time	30 days unless otherwise specified 3 permits per parcel per calendar year
Additional Standards	Prohibited on public property

## Festoons

*1 sign type per parcel*

BALLOONS AND BALLOON SIGNS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD
Maximum Area	Each balloon may be no larger than twenty-four (24) inches in diameter
Height	35'
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	One (1) bunch of 12 balloons or fewer per business
Setbacks	All balloons must be attached to the building or placed within one (1) ft of the building for which the balloons are displayed Balloons may not be attached to non-building structures, such as street furniture, utility poles, or signs in the right-of-way
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	N/A
Permit Required?	No
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	Balloons and balloon signs must be removed as soon as they are deflated or damaged

WINDOW LIGHTING	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD
Maximum Area	
Height	Lights are limited to the first floor
Additional Dimensions	Permitted around the perimeter of windows in first-floor windows and doors on the same building face as the principal entrance
Number Permitted	4 windows and/or doors
Setbacks	N/A
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	No
Permit Required?	No
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	Lighting must be removed as soon as any light or display portion becomes nonfunctional

## Festoons

*1 sign type per parcel*

FESTOONS	
District(s)	NBD, MBD, RBD
Maximum Area	
Height	
Additional Dimensions	
Number Permitted	2 per parcel
Setbacks	
Materials & Construction	
Electronic Display Permitted	N/A
Permit Required?	No
Time	N/A
Additional Standards	Any festoon must be removed as soon as it is damaged

## Billboards

BILLBOARDS	
District(s)	LID, GID
Maximum Area	72 sf
Height	20 ft
Additional Dimensions	<p>Surface area maximum height 6 ft</p> <p>Surface area maximum width 12 ft</p> <p>No billboard may be placed on or project from the side or roof of a building.</p>
Number Permitted	<p>The minimum distance between all billboard signs and any other billboard on either side of a right-of-way, whether it is a conforming or non-conforming billboard, is 500 ft.</p> <p>Billboards are not permitted to be stacked either vertically or horizontally, and no more than one (1) surface area may face in any given direction.</p>
Setbacks	A billboard may not be placed within nor overhang any right-of-way. If located within 10 ft. of a right-of-way, there must be a minimum unobstructed distance of 10 ft. from the bottom edge of the sign and the ground
Materials & Construction	The structural frame of a billboard must be constructed with non-combustible materials and may not use more than 2 poles or other structures as a means of support. Billboards must contain 2 equally sized finished surface areas placed back to back.
Electronic Display Permitted	Electronic display signs
Permit Required?	Yes

Time	N/A
Additional Standards	<p>Billboards may not have any movable parts.</p> <p>Billboards may be externally illuminated only. Illumination for billboards may be visible beyond property lines of the parcel upon which it is located and may not create any glare to passing motorists or into any rights-of-way.</p>

**1476.06 Prohibited signs**

- (a) Detriment to Public Safety. When any sign becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or otherwise unsafe, or if any sign is installed, erected, or maintained in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, the sign owner or the person maintaining the sign, upon written notice of the Building Official, must make such sign conform to this chapter or remove it, without delay in the case of immediate danger and in any case within not more than ten (10) days. If, within ten (10) days, the order is not complied with, the Building Official may remove such sign at the expense of the owner and assess the cost of the removal as a lien against the property upon which the sign was located.
- (b) Detriment to Traffic Safety. Any sign which, by reason of its size, location, coloring, or manner of illumination (including, but not limited to, flashing or moving lights), constitutes a traffic hazard or a detriment to traffic safety by obstructing or distracting the vision of drivers or the visibility of any traffic sign or control device is prohibited. If such a sign is presently erected or maintained, the sign owner or the person maintaining the sign, upon written notice of the Building Official, must make such sign conform to this chapter or remove it, without delay in the case of immediate danger and in any case within not more than ten (10) days. If, within ten (10) days, the order is not complied with, the Building Official may remove such sign at the expense of the owner and assess the cost of the removal as a lien against the property upon which the sign was located.
- (a) Unauthorized Posting, Painting, or Erection. No snipe sign, placard, poster, circular, cards, leaflets or other matter whatsoever may be posted, painted or in any way attached to any fence, wall, post, tree, sidewalk pavement, platform, pole, tower, curbstone, surface or other property by any person without the written consent of the its owner, or in or upon any public property, provided that this prohibition does not apply to any public officer or employee in the performance of a public duty or to a private person in giving a legal notice.
- (b) Sign Structures without Signs. Any sign structure or frame no longer supporting or containing a sign is declared to be a public nuisance. The owner of the property where the sign is located must, within thirty (30) days of the removal of the information portion of the sign, either replace the entire information portion of the sign or remove the remaining components of the sign. If a sign structure is in violation of this provision, the Building Official may remove the sign at the expense of the owner after ten (10) days written notice and assess the cost of the removal as a lien against the property upon which the sign was located. This subsection does not prevent the changing of information on a sign.
- (c) Prohibited Sign Types.
  - (1) Roof signs. Existing roof signs may be ordered by the Building Superintendent to be reconstructed or removed as required in this chapter.
  - (2) Inflatable signs.
  - (3) Feather flag signs.
  - (4) People signs.

**1476.07 Nonconforming sign**

- (a) Permission to continue. Where a lawfully constructed sign exists on the effective date of this chapter, or on the effective date of any future amendments, which could not be built under this chapter due to restrictions on type, area, height, placement, or other requirements, such sign may be continued as long as it remains otherwise lawful.
- (b) Alteration. No such nonconforming sign may be enlarged or altered in a way which increases its nonconformity, but any sign or portion thereof may be altered to decrease its nonconformity.



Should such sign be altered or modified to eliminate, remove, or lessen any or all of its nonconforming characteristics, then such nonconforming characteristics may not be later re-established or increased.

- (c) Relocation. If such sign is moved for any reason whatsoever, it will be considered a new sign and must conform to the regulations for the district in which it is located after it is moved.
- (d) Reconstruction. Should such sign be destroyed by any means to an extent greater than fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of destruction, it may not be reconstructed except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.
- (e) Cessation of use. If any such nonconforming sign ceases being used for any reason for a period of more than six (6) months, any subsequent use of such sign must conform to the regulations specified in this chapter.

#### **1476.08 Administration and Permitting**

- (a) Sign Code Administration. This chapter will be administered by the Building Official for the City of Lincoln Park.
- (b) Conflict. In any case where a provision of this chapter is found to be in conflict with a provision of the City's Code of Ordinances or Zoning Code, the provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people prevails. In any case where a provision of the City's Code of Ordinances or Zoning Code is found to be in conflict with the provisions of this chapter and contains a lower standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people, the provisions of this chapter prevail, and other standards are repealed to the extent that they may be found in conflict with this chapter.
- (c) Severability. If any part, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, phrase, clause, term, or word in this code is declared invalid, such invalidity does not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining portions of the code.
- (d) Permit Required. A sign permit must be obtained before erecting, relocating, or modifying any sign which is not otherwise exempted from the provisions of this chapter. In addition, the replacement of a sign head, addition of an electronic changeable copy display, or conversion to an electronic display for graphic or video or conversion to a multi-vision display on any existing sign is classified as a major alteration or modification which requires a sign permit as specified in this chapter and approval from the Building Official. An application for a permit must be filed upon forms provided by the Building Official and must contain the following information:
  - (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the applicant.
  - (2) The location of the principal building, structure, or lot to which the sign is to be attached or erected.
  - (3) The position of the sign in relation to nearby buildings, structures, and property and right-of-way lines.
  - (4) Side elevations of all sign faces.
  - (5) Two (2) copies of the plans and specifications and method of construction and attachment to the building or in the ground showing the dimensions, materials and required details of construction, including loads, stresses, and anchorage. If, in the discretion of the Building Official, when the public safety requires, the plans and specifications required in this chapter must bear the certificate or seal and signature of a registered architect or engineer attesting to the correctness of the calculations and the structural integrity of the sign as a condition of permit issuance.
  - (6) A copy of the stress sheets and calculations, if deemed necessary by the Building Official, showing the structure as designed for dead load and wind pressure in accordance with

- regulations adopted by the Building Official.
- (7) The name, address and telephone number of the person, firm, corporation or association erecting the sign.
  - (8) A copy of the liability insurance certificate.
  - (9) Written consent of the owner or lessee of the premises upon which the sign is to be erected.
  - (10) A sketch of the property showing the type and location of all signs on the premises.
  - (11) Such other information as the Building Official may deem necessary and require showing full compliance with this chapter and other applicable laws and ordinances of the City of Lincoln Park and the State of Michigan.
- (e) Identification. Every sign, for which a permit has been issued and that has been erected, constructed or maintained, must be plainly marked with the name of the person owning, erecting, maintaining or operating such sign. The method and location of this identification must appear on the plans and within the specifications filed with the Building Official.
- (f) Alterations. No person may alter, enlarge, relocate, re-erect or illuminate any sign, except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter for new signs, nor until after a proper permit has been secured. No permit is required for ordinary servicing, repainting of existing signs or cleaning of a sign, provided that conditions of the original approval and the requirements of this chapter are not violated. No permit is required for a change of the message of a sign designed for periodic message change without a change of structure, including a bulletin board or billboard, but not including a sign to which a new permanent face may be attached.
- (g) Performance Guarantees.
- (1) The City Council, the Sign Board of Appeals, or the Planning Commission may be delegated the function of establishing certain improvements as a contingency to granting site plan approval, special approval, variance, or amendment. In order to ensure strict compliance with any regulation contained or required as a condition of the issuance of a permit the Council, the Board, or the Commission may require the permittee to furnish a performance guarantee in the form of a cash deposit, certified check, irrevocable bank letter of credit, or surety bond. The performance guarantee must be deposited with the City Clerk, in an amount determined by Council, the Board, or the Commission, to be reasonably necessary to ensure compliance under this chapter and to assure the installation of those features or components of the approved activity or construction which are considered necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
  - (2) The applicant must submit an itemized estimate of the cost of the required improvements. The estimate must be one hundred percent (100%) of the cost of installing the required improvements, plus the cost of necessary engineering and a reasonable amount for contingencies. The Building Official will review this estimate before fixing the amount of the performance guarantee. However, in fixing the amount of such performance guarantee, the Building Official must take into account the size and scope of the proposed improvement project, the current prevailing cost of rehabilitating the premises upon default of the operator, the estimated expenses to compel the operator to comply by court decree, and such other factors and conditions that may be relevant in determining the sum reasonable in light of all facts and circumstances surrounding each application.
  - (3) The performance guarantee must be deposited at the time of the issuance of the permit authorizing the activity or project. The City may not require the deposit of the performance guarantee before the date on which the City is prepared to issue the permit. The City will establish procedures under which a rebate of any cash deposit, in reasonable proportion to the ratio of work completed on the required improvements, will be made as work

progresses. This section is not applicable to improvements for which a performance guarantee has been deposited in connection with Act 288 of the Public Acts of 1967, as amended (MCLA 560.101 et seq.).

- (h) Sign Variances. A sign variance to the strict letter of the requirements of this chapter governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk, and density may be allowed by the Sign Board of Appeals only in cases involving practical difficulties when the evidence in the official record of the appeal supports all the following affirmative findings:
- (1) That the alleged practical difficulties are exceptional and peculiar to the property of the person requesting the sign variance, are not self-created, and result from conditions which do not exist generally throughout the City of Lincoln Park;
  - (2) That the alleged practical difficulties, which will result from a failure to grant the sign variance, include substantially more than mere inconvenience, or mere inability to attain a higher financial return, and would prevent the applicant from using property in question for a permitted purpose, or would render conformity with the strict letter of this chapter unnecessarily burdensome; and
  - (3) That allowing the sign variance will result in substantial justice being done, considering the public benefits intended to be secured by this chapter, the individual hardships that will be suffered by a failure of the Sign Board of Appeals to grant a sign variance, and the rights of others whose property would be affected by the allowance of the sign variance, will ensure that the spirit of this chapter is observed, will not be contrary to the public purpose and general intent and purpose of this chapter, and will secure the public safety.

The above findings of fact will be made by the Sign Board of Appeals, which is not empowered to grant a sign variance without an affirmative finding of fact in each of the categories above. Every finding of fact must be supported in the Board's record of proceedings. The applicant may be required to erect a three-dimensional mock-up model on site or submit such a model to the Building Official that depicts the variance requested. Nothing contained in this chapter will be construed to empower the Sign Board of Appeals to substantially change the terms of this chapter, or to significantly add to the types of signs permitted on any premises. Sign variances granted by the Sign Board of Appeals are for dimensional standards only, i.e., standards for the height, area, setback, and spacing of signs. The Board may not grant sign variances for the following: signs prohibited by this chapter; requirements for removing nonconforming signs; bonding and insurance standards; or the City's adopted building code.

- (i) Sign Board of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Lincoln Park serves as the Sign Board of Appeals, consistent with the actions required by this chapter.
- (1) Hearings. Any person aggrieved by a notice or order of the Building Official issued in connection with any alleged violation of the provisions of this chapter or any applicable rules and regulations consistent with this chapter, may file a petition with the Sign Board of Appeals setting forth their reasons for contesting the notice or order. Such petition must be filed ten (10) days after the notice or order is served on the petitioner.
  - (2) Time of Hearing and Notice. Within sixty (60) days after receipt of a valid petition, the Sign Board of Appeals must conduct a hearing at their next available regular meeting. The Sign Board of Appeals must set the time and place of the hearing, and serve the petitioner with notice of the hearing at least ten (10) days prior.
  - (3) Action of Sign Board of Appeals.
    - A. The Sign Board of Appeals has the power to modify or reverse, wholly or partly, the notice or order. The Board may grant an extension of time for the performance of any act required of not more than three (3) additional months, where the Board finds that

- there is practical difficulty connected with the performance of this chapter or by applicable rules or regulations issued consistent with this chapter, and that such extension is in harmony with the general purpose of this chapter to secure the public health, safety and welfare.
- B. The Sign Board of Appeals must return a decision upon each case within sixty (60) days after a request or appeal has been filed, unless a further time is agreed upon with the parties concerned. Furthermore, the Board may, in appropriate cases, be permitted an extension of time after hearing the case, in which to make its decision provided such extension does not exceed thirty (30) days.
  - C. The concurring vote of four (4) members of the Sign Board of Appeals is necessary to reverse, wholly or partly, or modify any order, requirement, decision, or determination of the Building Official, or to decide in favor of the applicant for any matter upon which they are required to pass or to effect any variation in this chapter.
  - D. After a sign variance has been denied in whole or in part by the Sign Board of Appeals, then such application may not be resubmitted for a period of one (1) year from the date of the last denial. However, a denied variance may be reconsidered by the Board when, in the opinion of the Building Official or Board, newly discovered evidence or changed conditions warrant such reconsideration.
- (4) Scope of Hearing. At the hearing, the petitioner will be given an opportunity to show cause as to why the notice or order should be modified or withdrawn, or why the time period permitted for compliance should be extended.
- (5) Stay. An appeal will stay all proceedings pertaining to the appealed action unless the Building Official certifies to the Sign Board of Appeals, after the notice of appeal has been filed, that by reason of the facts stated in the certificate, an emergency exists. If an emergency exists, the proceedings will not be stayed, except by a restraining order or by a court of competent jurisdiction, following timely notice of application to the Building Official.
- (6) Appeal Procedures.
- A. Notice. The City must provide written notice of the hearing of an appeal, variance, or interpretation in accordance with the provisions in Section 1262.07(F) of the Zoning Ordinance.
  - B. Persons are required to appear in person or to be represented by a duly authorized agent.
  - C. The Sign Board of Appeals must prepare an official record for each appeal and will base its decision on this record. The official record must include:
    - i. The relevant administrative records and administrative orders issued in this chapter relating to the appeal.
    - ii. A notice of the appeal.
    - iii. All documents, exhibits, photographs, or written reports that may be submitted to the Sign Board of Appeals for its consideration.
- (7) The requisite written findings of fact, the conditions attached, the decision, and orders by the Sign Board of Appeals in disposing of the appeal must be signed by the Secretary of the Board.
- (8) An appeal of a Sign Board's decision must be filed within thirty (30) days after the Board certifies its decision in writing or approves the minutes of its decision, whichever comes first, and must be made in the manner provided by Section 606 of Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended.
- (j) Appeals to Circuit Court.

- (1) The decision of the Sign Board of Appeals is final. However, a person having an interest aggrieved by this Sign Code may appeal such decision to the Circuit Court. Upon appeal, the Court will review the record and decision of the Board to ensure that the decision:
  - A. Complies with the Constitution and laws of the State;
  - B. Is based upon proper procedure;
  - C. Is supported by competent, material and substantial evidence on the record; and
  - D. Represents the reasonable exercise of discretion granted by law to the Board.
- (2) If the Court finds that the record of the Board is inadequate to make the review required by this section, or that there is additional evidence which is material and with good reason was not presented to the Board, the Court will order further proceedings before the Board on conditions which the Court considers proper. The Board may modify its findings and decision as a result of the new proceedings or may affirm its original decision. The supplementary record and decisions must be filed with the Court.
- (3) As a result of the review required by this section, the Court may affirm, reverse or modify the decision of the Board.

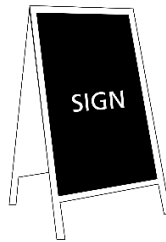
#### 1476.09 Maintenance

- (c) Inspections. Every sign is subject to annual inspection and approval of the Building Official or his or her agent.
- (d) Repairs. All signs for which a permit is required, together with all supports, braces, guys, and anchors, must be kept in repair in accordance with this chapter and the City's adopted building code. When not galvanized or constructed of approved corrosion-resistive, noncombustible materials, signs may be painted when necessary to prevent corrosion. Any sign or any substantial part of a sign which is blown down by storm, natural disaster, or other accidental emergency, or destroyed or removed may be re-erected, reconstructed, rebuilt, relocated or repaired provided the sign complies with all applicable requirements of this chapter.
- (e) Removals. The Building Official may order the removal of any sign that is not maintained in accordance with this chapter. Required maintenance includes: proper alignment of the sign by keeping it upright and level; continued readability of the sign; preservation of the structural frame of the sign with paint or another surface finishing material to keep it substantially free of rust and chipped or peeled paint; and preservation of the surface area to keep it free of broken, chipped, or peeled surface material. If such order is not complied with, the Building Official may remove such sign at the expense of the owner and the cost of the removal may be assessed as a lien against the property upon which the sign was located.
- (f) Relocation. Any sign that is moved to another location on the same or other premises is considered a new sign, and a permit must be secured for any work performed in connection the sign when required by this chapter. Any sign that is moved to another location on the same or other premises is subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- (g) Maintenance of Premises. The owner or lessee of every sign must maintain the immediate premises occupied by the sign in a clean, sanitary, and healthful condition.

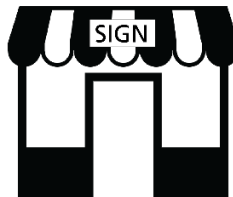
#### 1476.10 Definitions and Acronyms

- (a) Acronyms used in this section:
  - (1) CBD: Central Business District
  - (2) CSD: Community Service District
  - (3) EDT: Electronic display technology
  - (4) GID: General Industrial District

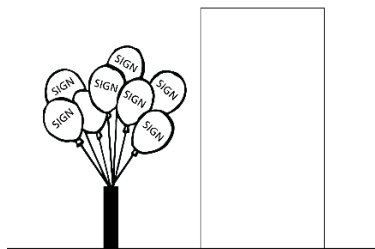
- (5) LED: Light emitting diodes
  - (6) LID: Light Industrial District
  - (7) MBD: Municipal Business District
  - (8) MFRD: Multiple Family Residential District
  - (9) MHRD: Manufactured Housing Residential District
  - (10) N/A: Not Applicable
  - (11) NBD: Neighborhood Business District
  - (12) RBD: Regional Business District
  - (13) sf: square feet
  - (14) SFRD: Single Family Residential District
- (b) "A-frame sign" means a sign that consists of two sign boards that are hinged together at the top and on which information has been factory-imprinted, handwritten, or displays manual changeable copy.



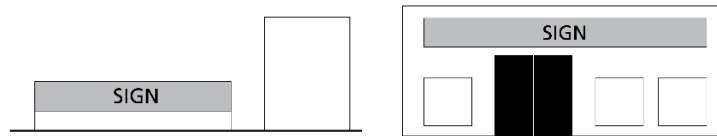
- (c) "Awning sign" means a sign made of non-rigid material such as heavy canvas that is supported by a framework, which is attached to a building's substrate. An awning sign extends outward from the building and so provides shaded cover and protection from weather for customers and pedestrians. An awning sign may have lettering and/or graphics painted or screen printed on its exterior surface.



- (d) "Awning valance" means that portion of an awning sign that consists of short strips or bands of material hung at the lower edge of the awning.
- (e) "Balloon sign" means a temporary sign which is an inflatable device, regardless of size. Unlike inflatable signs, balloon signs retain their shape due to the insertion of helium or other lightweight gas, which allows the device to be suspended in midair, independent of any structure other than that which keeps the device from floating away.



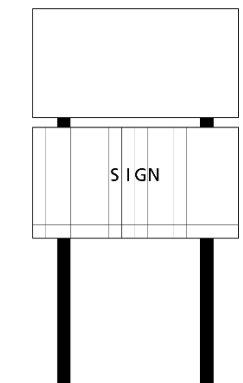
- (f) "Banner sign" means a sign made of fabric, cloth, paper, or other non-rigid material that is typically not enclosed in a frame.



- (g) "Billboard" means a sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located. This type of sign may also be known by the term "off-premise sign."



- (h) "Building" or "structure" means a building or structure as defined by the Code of Ordinances and Zoning Code for the City of Lincoln Park.
- (i) "Building Official" means the Building and Engineering Manager for the City of Lincoln Park.
- (j) "Building sign" means a sign affixed to, painted on, or printed on a wall, roof, door, window, marquee, or awning of a building.
- (k) "Canopy" means a rigid structure that acts as a roof over the area it covers, providing weather protection for customers, pedestrians, and vehicles. Such structures will only be considered canopies if they are of sufficient size to require roof drainage per the adopted Building Code.
- (l) "Canopy valance" means the face of the side of a canopy, perpendicular to the ground.
- (m) "Changeable copy sign (manual)" means a sign, which has a readerboard for the display of text information in which each alphanumeric character, graphic, or symbol is changed manually.

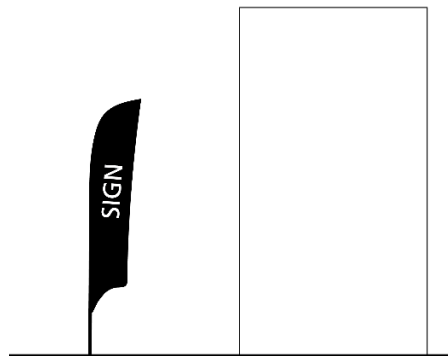


- (n) "Electronic display signs" means any sign containing or using electrical wiring, but not including signs illuminated by an exterior light source, that uses electronic display technology to convey information. Electronic display signs may include electronic changeable copy; fading, repixelization, or dissolving to display a series of images; and signs composed of a series of slats or cylinders designed to rotate at intervals.

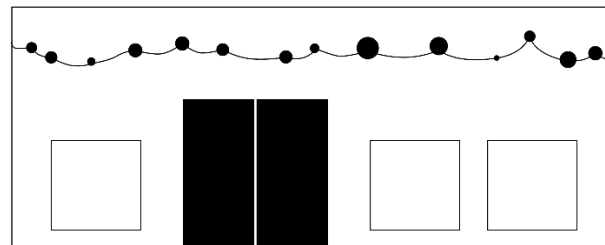




- (o) "Electronic display technology" means any portion of a sign that contains alphanumeric characters, graphics or symbols that are defined by a small number of matrix elements using different combinations of light emitting diodes (LED), fiber optics, light bulbs, or other illuminating devices within the display area. Electronic display technology (EDT) includes computer programmable, microprocessor-controlled devices.
- (p) "Entranceway sign" means a sign affixed to an entranceway structure as described in the landscaping provisions of the Lincoln Park Zoning Code.
- (q) "Entranceway structure" means wall, column, or gate at the entrance to a subdivision or industrial or business park as permitted in the landscaping provisions of the Lincoln Park Zoning Code.
- (r) "Façade" means the exterior side of a building which faces, and is most nearly parallel to, a public or private street.
- (s) "Face of sign" means the area of the sign upon, against, or through which information is displayed or illuminated.
- (t) "Feather flag sign" means a temporary sign supported by a single pole that curves at the top, to which sign face made of non-rigid material such as cloth is attached.



- (u) "Festoon" means a string of ribbons, tinsel, small flags, pinwheels, or lights.

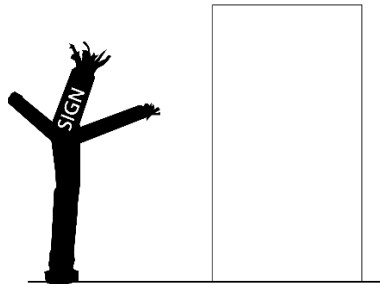


- (v) "Flashing, animated, or moving sign" means a sign that has intermittently or sequentially

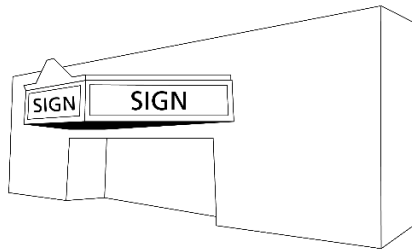


reflecting lights, or signs which have movement of any illumination such as intermittent, flashing, scintillating, or varying intensity, or a sign that has any visible portions in motion, either constantly or at intervals, whether caused by artificial or natural sources. Electronic Display Signs, as defined in this chapter, may not constitute a flashing sign for the purpose of this chapter.

- (w) "Freestanding sign" means any sign supported by structures or supports that are placed on, or anchored in, the ground and that are independent from any building or other structure.
- (x) "Frontage" means the length of the property line of any one premise along a right-of-way on which it borders.
- (y) "Illegal sign" means a sign which does not meet the requirements of this chapter and which has not received legal nonconforming status and has not received a sign variance as permitted in this chapter.
- (z) "Illuminance" means the amount of light that is incident to the surface of an object. This is the method for describing ambient light levels or the amount of light that is projected onto a front-lit sign. This parameter is typically measured in lux (footcandles x meters). For the purposes of dimming, illuminance is the amount of ambient light that hits a photocell.
- (aa) "Illuminated sign" means any sign which contains a mechanism that emits artificial light internally or externally.
- (bb) "Indirect illumination" means a sign that is affected by a source of light not contained within the sign itself.
- (cc) "Inflatable sign" means a temporary sign consisting of a flexible material or fabric that takes on a three-dimensional shape when filled with air or other gas.



- (dd) "Landmark sign" means an older sign of artistic or historic merit, uniqueness, or extraordinary significance to the City of Lincoln Park, as determined by the Planning Commission.
- (ee) "Luminance" means the amount of light that emanates from an internally illuminated sign. This parameter is measured in nits (candelas/square meter). The nit levels necessary for a sign to be legible varies with the ambient light conditions. For example, on a sunny day, the nit levels must be very high, while at night, the nit levels must be very low to prevent the image from distorting and to prevent glare.
- (ff) "Mansard" means a sloped roof or roof-like facade. Signs mounted on the face of a mansard roof are considered wall signs.
- (gg) "Marquee sign" means a display sign, with or without electronic display technology, attached to or hung from a rigid permanent structure projecting from and supported by the building, and extending beyond the building wall, building line, or right-of-way line.



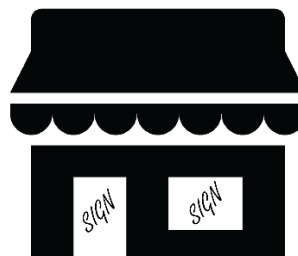
- (hh) "Monument sign" means a freestanding sign where the base of the sign structure is on the ground or a maximum of 24 inches above the adjacent grade.



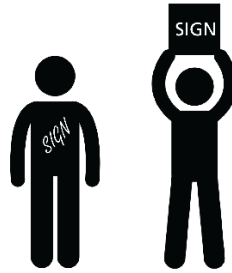
- (ii) "Movement" means physical movement or revolution up or down; around or sideways that completes a cycle of change at intervals of less than six (6) seconds.
- (jj) "Moving sign" means a sign in which the sign itself or any portion of the sign moves, revolves, or otherwise is in motion. A "rotating sign" is a type of moving sign. Such motion does not refer to the method of changing the information on the sign.
- (kk) "Neon sign." See "Outline tubing sign."
- (ll) "Nonconforming sign" means a sign which is prohibited under the terms of this chapter but was erected lawfully and was in use on the date of enactment of this chapter, or amendment to this chapter.
- (mm) "Outline tubing sign" means a sign consisting of glass tubing, filled with a gas such as neon, which glows when electric current is sent through it.



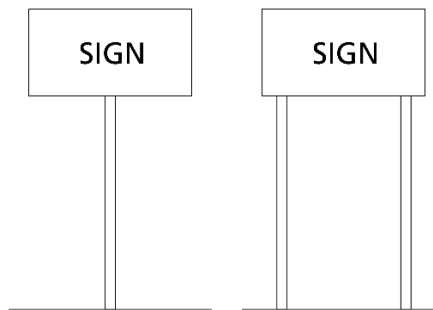
- (nn) "Painted wall sign" means a sign which is applied with paint or similar substance directly upon the face of a wall.



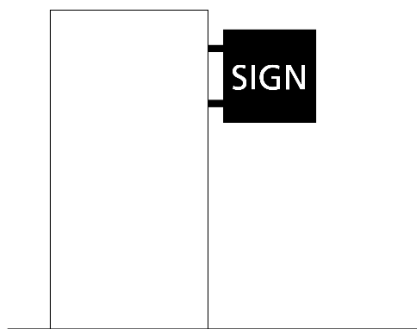
- (oo) "Parapet" means the extension of a false front or wall above a roof line. Signs mounted on the face of a parapet are considered wall signs.
- (pp) "People sign" means a type of portable signs which is worn, carried, or held by a person.



- (qq) "Permanent sign" means a sign constructed of durable materials and intended to exist for the duration of time that the use or occupant is located on the premises.
- (rr) "Planning Commission" means the Planning Commission for the City of Lincoln Park.
- (ss) "Portable sign" means a sign not permanently anchored or secured to either the building or the ground.
- (tt) "Poster panel" means a board, panel or tablet used for information display.
- (uu) "Pole sign" means a freestanding sign mounted on one or more poles or other type of support which has its base anchored in the ground and with a specified clear space between the bottom of the face of the sign and the established grade of eight (8) feet or more.

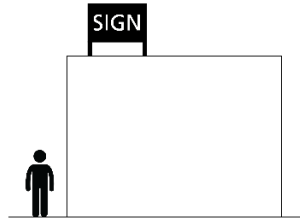


- (vv) "Projecting sign" means a type of building-mounted sign that contains two faces, is attached to a building along one side of the sign, and which is perpendicular to the building on which it is mounted.



- (ww) "Public sign" means a sign erected in the public interest by or upon orders from a local, state, or federal public official.
- (xx) "Roof line" means the top edge of a roof or building parapet, whichever is higher, excluding cupolas, pylons, chimneys or similar minor projections.
- (yy) "Roof sign" means a display sign which is erected, constructed and maintained on or above the roof of the building or structure, or above the exterior wall of a building or structure, or which is attached to any exterior wall at a height above the horizontal plane of the roof

abutting such wall.



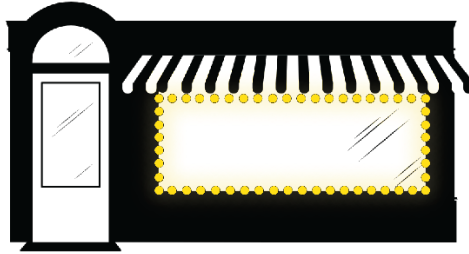
- (zz) "Rotating sign." See "Moving sign."
- (aaa) "Sign" means a device for visual communication that is used to bring the subject to the attention of the public, but does not include flags, or other insignia of any government, fraternal, or similar organization. A sign includes any device, structure, fixture, or placard, which uses words, numbers, figures, graphic designs, logos or trademarks. Unless otherwise indicated, the definition of "sign" includes interior and exterior signs, which are visible from any public street, sidewalk, alley, park, public property, but not signs which are primarily directed at persons within the premises upon which the sign is located.
- (bbb) "Sign Board of Appeals" means the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Lincoln Park.
- (ccc) "Sign structure" means any structure that supports or is capable of supporting a sign as defined in this code.
- (ddd) "Sign variance" means a nonuse variance granted to provide relief from a specific standard of this chapter which relates to an area, dimension, or construction requirement.
- (eee) "Shopping center" means a grouping of two (2) or more commercial or office business establishments on one (1) or more parcels which may share parking and access and are linked architecturally or otherwise present the appearance of a unified grouping of establishments.
- (fff) "Snipe signs" means a temporary sign or poster attached or affixed to a tree, fence, utility pole, streetlamp, etc.
- (ggg) "Temporary sign" means a sign, banner or other advertising device with or without a structural frame, but which is not permanently fastened to any structure, including posts and footings, which is constructed, designed or intended for a limited display period.
- (hhh) "Three-dimensional sign" means a sign that has depth or relief on its surface of greater than six inches. A three-dimensional sign permanently attached to a building or structure is considered a projecting sign.
- (iii) "Vehicle sign" means a type of portable sign that is attached to or painted on a vehicle.



- (jjj) "Video display sign" means a sign characterized by motion, movement, or pictorial imagery that imitates movement through the progression of frames that give the illusion of motion. Video display signs may or may not include text, moving objects, moving patterns or bands of light, or expanding or contracting shapes. Video display signs use electronic display technology and may be combined with an electronic display sign.
- (kkk) "Wall sign" means a sign which is attached parallel to and extending not more than fifteen (15) inches from, the face of the wall of a building. Painted signs, signs which consist of individual letters, cabinet signs, signs mounted on the face of a mansard roof, parapet, or on the slope below a roofline are considered wall signs.



- (III) "Window lighting" means rope-style lighting, generally placed around the perimeter of window and door openings.



- (mmm) "Window sign" means a sign located in or on a window which is intended to be viewed from the outside. Window signs may be permanent or temporary. Signs which are positioned next to a window so that they are visible from the outside are considered window signs.



- (nnn) "Yard sign" means a specific type of freestanding sign, generally with a wire frame or crossbar, not permanently attached to the ground; common types of yard sign are the "H Frame" and the "I Frame." Yard signs may have a semi-flexible frame made of wire, or a rigid frame constructed of wood or metal.

