

NORTHERN

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SIGN CODE UPDATE Draft Code Public Open House – May 24, 2018



PUBLIC MEETING PURPOSES:

Share Phase 2 Draft Code (permanent signs)

Hear your feedback on improvements to the Draft Code:

- Fill out the comment form now
- Take the online questionnaire later



- Listening Sessions
- Public Meeting
- Public hearings on Phase 1
 content-neutral regulations
- Public Meetings in February (2)
- Online Questionnaire (473 responses)
- Coffee Talks (3), Community Presentations, One-on-Ones
- · Worksessions with boards and commissions
- Draft Code
- Public Meeting in May
- Public Hearings



Why Regulate Signs?

Sign regulations

- Balance business interests and community aesthetics
- Balance the right to expression vs. public safety
- Preserve and enhance property values

Why update the Sign Code now?

- Confirm current sign standards are meeting City's goals, such as economic development
- Enhance code legibility
- Implement the recently adopted Downtown Plan
- Explore changes to accommodate new technology



Sign Code Vocabulary





Draft Code Recommendations

SIGN TYPE	LOCATION	WHAT WOULD CHANGE?	WHAT WILL NOT CHANGE?
Wall Signs	Downtown	Horizontal signs: Maximum height proportional to building height. No maximum width. Vertical applied or painted signs: height and width standards.	Other existing standards.
Projecting or Fin Signs	Downtown	 Proportion to building height and location: Projection into the Right-of-Way Maximum square footage Maximum height 	Other existing standards including awning standards.
Window Signs	Downtown	No maximum height. Up to 50% of an architecturally distinct window.	Other existing standards, including no interactive window signs.
Restoration / Replacement of Historic Signs	Downtown	New Sign Type/Process: Flexibility to allow re- creation of historic signs that contribute to the period of significance of a historic building/district	Other existing standards.



Draft Code Recommendations

SIGN TYPE	LOCATION?	WHAT WOULD CHANGE?	WHAT WILL NOT CHANGE?
Secondary Roof Signs	Citywide	New Sign Type: 1 per non-residential or mixed-use building. Counts toward sign area allowance.	Other existing standards.
Electronic Message Centers (EMCs)	Outside of Downtown	Allows full color. Increased resolution.	Other existing standards.
Conversion of Non- Conforming Billboards	Outside of Downtown	New Sign Type: Replacement ratio of 8:1 or 2,200 sf. New signs allowed in Digital Billboard Overlay spaced 2 miles apart.	Could leave code as is: prohibiting new off-premise signs.
Horizontal or Vertical Projected Light Signs	Downtown, Commercial zoning districts, etc.	New Horizontal Sign Type allowed by portable sign permit like A-frame signs. New Vertical Sign Type for temporary special events.	Other existing standards.

Bottom Line

Potential impact to business owners:

- If the sign code is updated, existing signs can remain.
- The sign area allowance stays the same.
- More sign types are proposed in the Draft Code: historic signs, secondary roofs, horizontal and/or vertical light projected signs
- Standards are revised in the Draft Code for window signs, projecting signs and wall signs

OR

Permanent Sign Code remains the same (no options added).