

CODE CHANGE REVIEW  
ATTY INIT                       
DATE 03/16/2012

Ordinance No. 12- 15

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REORDAINING PART 4 (SIGN REGULATIONS) OF ARTICLE 4 (SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS) OF CHAPTER 7 (PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS 2001, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO SIGN REGULATIONS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. Part 4 (Sign Regulations) of Article 4 (Site Development Standards) of Chapter 7 (Planning Development and Building) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is hereby repealed and reordained to read as follows:

**7.4.401: PURPOSE AND INTENT:**

The purpose of this part is to promote the public health, safety and general welfare through reasonable, consistent, and non-discriminatory sign standards. The sign regulations in this section are not content-based, but rather regulate the adverse secondary effects of signs, particularly those that may adversely impact aesthetics and safety. In order to preserve and promote the City of Colorado Springs as a desirable community in which to live, visit, play, and do business in a pleasing, visually attractive environment, safe for motorists and pedestrians, these regulations are intended to:

- A. Promote an attractive “built environment”, successful commercial districts, and a healthy local economy while working to incorporate contemporary products, technology and marketing practices and improve understanding, application, flexibility and enforcement of sign regulations and standards.
- B. Highlight the positive contribution signs can make to creating a sense of place in the community and ensure that new sign design standards will allow commercial businesses to function efficiently and effectively.

#### **7.4.402: APPLICABILITY:**

The provisions of this part shall apply to the display, construction, erection, alteration, use, location and maintenance of all signs within the City, unless otherwise exempted in whole or in part. All signs should be consistent with the standards and design considerations set forth in this part. If any provision of this part conflicts with any other adopted City code which regulates signs, this part shall govern. Alternate sign requirements maybe included as a part of an FBZ (Form Based Zone) regulating plan.

#### **7.4.403: EXEMPTIONS:**

The following signs shall be exempt from the provisions of this part:

- A. Works of art
- B. Official traffic signs, signals and devices
- C. National, state or City flags
- D. Official legal notices
- E. Public warning signs, traffic control and traffic directional signs erected by the City or another governmental agency
- F. Signs displayed within the interior of a building which are not visible from the exterior of the building
- G. Holiday decorations
- H. Human signs so long as the signs are not set down or propped on objects by the human
- I. Interpretative signs
- J. Street numbers or addresses
- K. Private notification signs

#### **7.4.404: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- A. Uses described in this part are defined and outlined in Section 7.2.302 of this Zoning Code. Refer to Section 7.2.302 for specific definitions. Each overall use type is

listed with specific uses defined. The use of the property will determine the sign allowance.

B. Residential uses as referenced in this part refer to multi-family dwellings consisting of three (3) or more units as defined in Section 7.2.302.

C. The regulating plan for a Form Based Zone (FBZ) may outline or exempt criteria for signs related to uses within the FBZ area.

D. Signs on which copy is manually changed shall comply with the standards and regulations for wall signs or freestanding signs.

E. Any light source intended to illuminate a sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed so that the light intensity or brightness shall not adversely affect surrounding or facing premises, nor adversely affect safe visibility for pedestrians or operators of vehicles moving on public or private streets, driveways or parking areas.

F. No sign obstructing sight visibility in any direction at the intersection of a street or within an alley or driveway shall be permitted. If a sign is placed at the intersection of two (2) rights-of-way, the sign must not interfere with sight visibility as described in Section 4 of the City Engineering Traffic Criteria Manual.

#### **7.4.405: DEFINITIONS:**

**ABANDONED SIGN:** Any sign that advertises a business, lessor, owner, product, service or activity that is no longer located on the premises where the sign is displayed and is in disrepair and structurally unsound with potential to cause health, safety and welfare issues.

**ANIMATED SIGN:** A sign which has any visible moving part, flashing or osculating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means that moves, changes, flashes, osculates or visibly alters the appearance in a manner that is not permitted by these regulations.

**AWNING SIGN:** A sign painted on, attached to or supported by a shelter extending from the exterior wall of a building and composed of non-rigid materials except for the supporting framework (an awning).

**BANNER:** A temporary sign having character, letters, illustrations or ornamentations applied to cloth, paper, fabric or other lightweight non-rigid material, with only such material for a backing, which projects from, hangs from or is affixed to a building, private light pole or a wire. The display surface shall not have blinking or flashing lights, nor be illuminated, animated or constructed of reflective material. Banners include decals, painted imagery, cable-hung banners and wave banners.

**BILLBOARD:** A sign which directs attention to a business, activity, commodity, service, entertainment or communication which is not conducted, sold, or offered at the premises on which the sign is located, or which does not pertain to the premises upon which the sign is located.

**BUILDING LENGTH:** The number of linear feet of the exterior wall of the side of the building where the sign is placed.

**BUILDING PLAQUE:** A plaque designating names of buildings, occupants and/or date of erection and other items such as architect, contractor or others involved in the building creation cut into or attached to the building.

**CANOPY:** A permanent roof-like shelter either not attached to or requiring support from an adjacent structure.

**CANOPY SIGN:** A permanent sign attached to a canopy or affixed to the sides of a canopy structure. These signs may be below a projecting structure which extends over the pedestrian walkway.

**CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN:** A sign or portion of a sign on which the copy or symbols change either automatically through electrical or electronic means, or manually through placement of letters or symbols on a panel mounted in or on a track system.

**CONSTRUCTION SIGN:** A temporary sign erected on premises under construction, during the period of construction, indicating the names of the architects, engineers, landscape architects, contractors or similar artisans, and the owners, financial supporters, sponsors, and similar individuals or firms having a role or interest with respect to the construction project.

**CORPORATE FLAG:** Any flags other than national, state, or City flags which have copy or logos.

**COORDINATED SIGN PLAN (CSP):** A coordinated plan or program for all signs, including temporary signs for a business, or businesses located on a development site. The CSP shall include, but not be limited to, indications of the locations, dimensions, colors, letter styles and sign types of all signs to be installed on a site.

**DECORATIVE FLAG:** Flags with no copy or logos.

**DIRECTIONAL SIGN:** A permanent sign located on private property at or near the public right-of-way, directing or guiding vehicular traffic onto the property and/or toward parking or other identified locations on the property.

**DIRECTORY (Freestanding):** A sign directing users or patrons around a property or center. Examples include but not limited to office building directories, builder/developer directories and commercial center directories.

**ELECTION SIGN:** A sign designed for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate, issue, proposition or other measure at an election or for any other noncommercial expression not related to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business.

**ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER (EMC):** A sign that is capable of displaying words, symbols, figures or images that can be electronically or mechanically changed by remote or automatic means.

**EXTERNAL USAGE SIGN:** Signs for goods or services normally provided outside of the principal structure. Examples include drive-through lanes, automated teller machines, car wash and gas station vacuums.

**FREESTANDING SIGN:** A sign which is not attached to a building and is permanently affixed in or upon the ground on one or more structural supports. A freestanding sign shall include, but is not limited to, a pole, monument or low profile type sign.

**FLASHING:** A pattern of sudden alternation between a fully-illuminated message and a message without illumination, or a message where the copy color and the background color alternate or reverse color schemes rapidly.

**GAS ISLAND SIGN:** Includes signs on the gas pump, pump topper and additional signage on the island.

**GOVERNMENTAL SIGN:** A sign erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental functions, or required by law, ordinance or other governmental regulation.

**HUMAN SIGN:** Signs that are being carried by people and do not block vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

**ILLEGAL SIGN:** A sign without proper approval or permits as required by this Zoning Code at the time of sign placement. "Illegal sign" shall also mean a sign placed contrary to the terms or time limits of a permit and a nonconforming sign which has not been brought into compliance with any applicable provisions of this Zoning Code.

**INFLATABLE DISPLAY:** A sign consisting of a flexible material envelope of non-porous material inflated or shaped from inserted air or other gas and used to promote special events, grand openings, sales and business transitions. Inflatable displays include air or gas blown devices that wave, lightly or rapidly, in an irregular manner and portable inflatable billboards. Inflatable displays shall not be permitted to have a sound system. Inflatable displays do not include individual latex balloons under eighteen inches (18") in size.

**INTERPRETIVE SIGN:** A sign that demonstrates or interprets the natural or historical surroundings of a place (a preserve, a national park, a scenic view or historic place/monument) to its visitors.

**MENU BOARD/DRIVE-THROUGH:** A sign, permanently mounted, which lists the products or services available at a drive-in or drive-thru facility. The sign is not legible from the right-of-way.

**MESSAGE:** A complete, static display message on an EMC.

**MESSAGE HOLD TIME:** The time interval a static message must remain on the display before transitioning to another message.

**MODEL HOME SIGN:** A sign on or in front of a residential structure that is used as an exhibit, not a private residence or a property that has been used as a private residence, to advertise or market it or other houses.

**MONUMENT SIGN:** A sign identifying a particular area or development. A subdivision monument can pertain to a residential, office, industrial or commercial subdivision.

**MOTOR VEHICLE SIGN:** A sign affixed to an operating motor vehicle that is used as a part of the business operations.

**MURAL:** A picture on an exterior surface of a structure. A mural is a sign only if it is related by language, logo, or pictorial depiction to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any business located on the premise.

**NITS:** A unit of measurement of luminance, or the intensity of visible light, where one nit is equal to one candela per square meter.

**NONCONFORMING SIGN:** A sign which was validly placed under laws or ordinances in effect at the time of its placement, but which conflicts with the current provisions of this Zoning Code.

**OFFICIAL LEGAL NOTICE:** Signs that are erected or issued by any governmental agency, court, public body, person, or officer in performance of a public duty or in giving any legal notice, including signs that are required to be posted to give notice of pending action pursuant to the Code of the City of Colorado Springs, as amended.

**OFF PREMISE SIGN:** A sign normally used for promoting an interest other than that of a business, individual, products, or services available on the premises where the sign is located. This excludes tenant signage within a commercial center or signage established through a CSP and advertising businesses within the CSP area.

**ON PREMISE SIGN:** A sign used for promoting a business, individual product or service available on the premises where the sign is located or any sign promoting businesses within a coordinated sign plan.

**PORTABLE A-FRAME:** A movable sign not permanently attached to the ground or a building and easily removable by hand or using ordinary hand tools.

**PRIVATE NOTIFICATION SIGN:** A sign that regulates actions on private property. Examples include “No Trespassing”, “Beware of Dog”, etc.

**PROJECTING SIGN:** A sign which projects from and is supported by a wall or parapet of a building with the display surface of the sign in a plane perpendicular to or approximately perpendicular to the wall.

**REAL ESTATE SIGN:** A nonpermanent sign pertaining to the sale, exchange, lease, rental, or availability of land, buildings, townhome, condominium and similar units, or apartments. Signs may include building name and address, price and amenities, identity of seller or broker, and similar information.

**SIGN:** Any name, figure, character, outline, display, announcement, or device, or structure supporting the same, or any other device of similar nature designed to attract the attention of passersby to a building or structure, and shall include all parts, portions, units, and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background, and supports or anchoring thereof. A sign shall not include any architectural or landscape features that may also attract attention.

**SIGN AREA:** An exterior display surface of a sign including nonstructural trim exclusive of the supporting structure.

**TEMPORARY RETAIL SIGN:** A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, plywood or other light material permitted in conjunction with an approved temporary vendor use.

**TEMPORARY SIGN:** A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, plywood or other light material and displayed for a short period of time as described in this part.

**TRANSITION DURATION:** The time interval it takes the display to change from one complete static message to another complete static message.

**TRANSITION METHOD:** A visual effect applied to a message to transition from one message to the next. Transition methods include:

A. **DISSOLVE:** A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity or pattern, in which the first frame gradually appears to dissipate and lose legibility simultaneously with the gradual appearance and legibility of the second frame.

B. **FADE:** A frame effect accomplished by varying the light intensity, where the first frame gradually reduces intensity to the point of not being legible (i.e. fading to black) and the subsequent frame gradually increases intensity to the point of legibility.

**WALL SIGN:** A sign attached to or painted on the wall of building or structure in a plane parallel or approximately parallel to the plane of the wall.

**WINDOW SIGN:** A sign viewable through and/or affixed in a manner to a window or exterior glass door so that it is intended to be viewable from the exterior of the building (beyond the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the window), including signs located inside a building but visible primarily from the exterior of the building.

**WORK OF ART:** Art which in no way identifies a product, business, or enterprise and which is not displayed in conjunction with the commercial enterprise on the property.

**YARD/WALL SIGN:** A sign displayed in a yard or attached to a building face that communicates a non-commercial message.

#### **7.4.406: SIGN PLANS AND PERMITS**

A sign plan must accompany the sign permit for all new signs when required and be submitted to and approved by the Community Development Department under criteria set forth in this section prior to being presented to the Building Official for issuance of sign permit. Sign permits must comply with the requirements of the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department.

A. The plan shall show the following information:

1. Building locations and dimensions;
2. Size, location and type of any existing and the proposed sign or signs. Show sign on building elevation if a wall sign;
3. Nearest street intersections;
4. Zoning of the subject property;
5. Name of applicant and sign installer;
6. Sight Visibility as described in Section 7.4.404(F) if applicable;
7. Sign type; and
8. Specifications on illumination for EMCs shall include the manufacturer's specifications, nit rating and the method of dimming.

B. The applicant is encouraged to contact Colorado Springs Utilities before design is complete to determine the existence of utility facilities or utility easements.

C. Owner Authorization: A sign shall not be placed on any property without written consent of the owner or the owner's authorized agent.

D. A letter pertaining to shared signage must be signed by the property owner or the property owner's representative and submitted with the sign plan.

E. Sign plans will not be approved for new signs proposed on property where illegal signs exist.

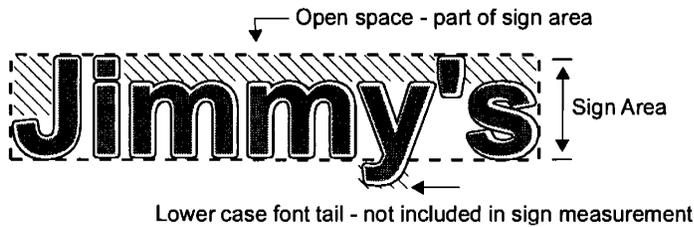
F. Sign plans will not be approved until a building permit for the site has been issued, if applicable.

#### **7.4.407: SIGN MEASUREMENT AND ORIENTATION**

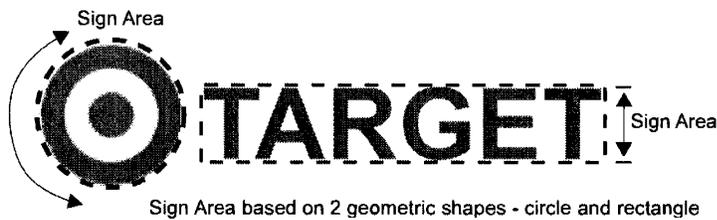
A. Wall sign area shall include the entire face of the sign, frame, and artwork incidental to its decoration and includes any spacing between letters, figures, and designs but shall not include the bracing or structure. When the sign consists only of

letters, designs, or figures, the total area of the sign shall be calculated by using no more than three (3) standard geometric shapes within which all of the fixed lettering, spacing between letters, and/or artwork is inscribed. Standard geometric shapes include the square, rectangle, circle, oval and half-circle. Proper font tails of lowercase letters will not be included in the sign area calculation. Customized or extended tails are included.

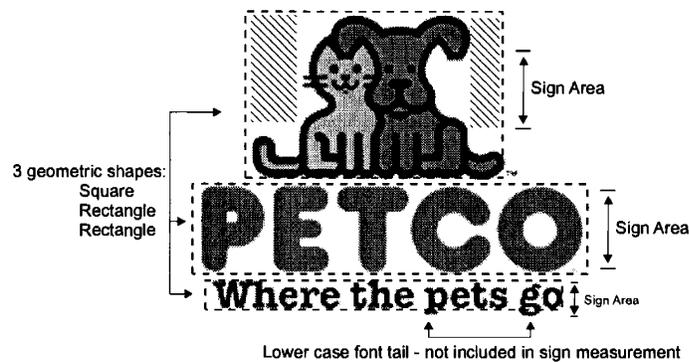
**Measurement by One Geometric Shape**



**Measurement by Two Geometric Shapes**



**Measurement by Three Geometric Shapes**

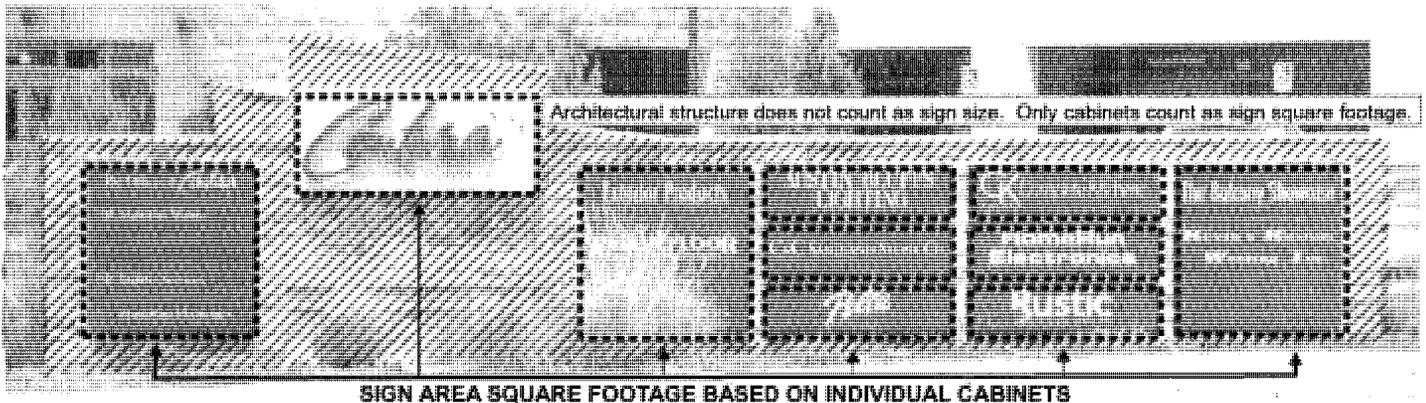
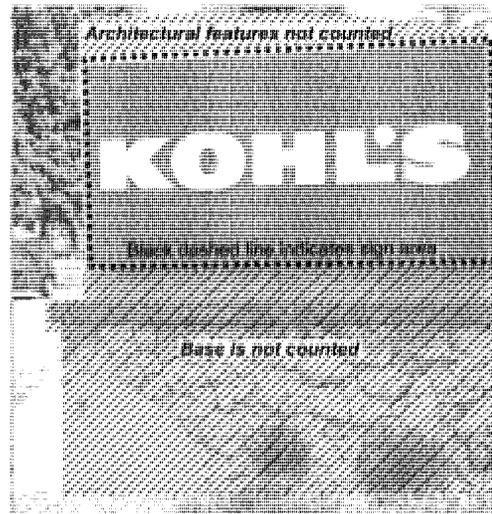
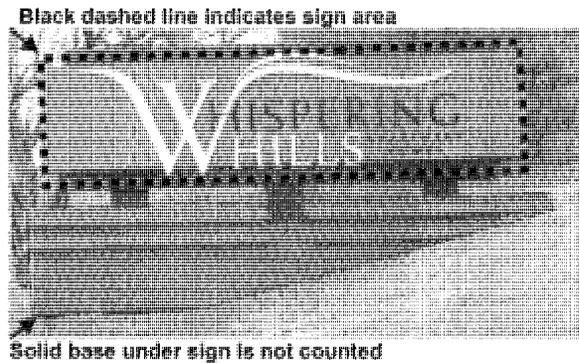


B. Freestanding sign area shall include the frame, if any, but shall not include:

1. A pole or other structural support unless the pole or structural support is internally illuminated or otherwise so designed to constitute a display device, or a part of a display device.

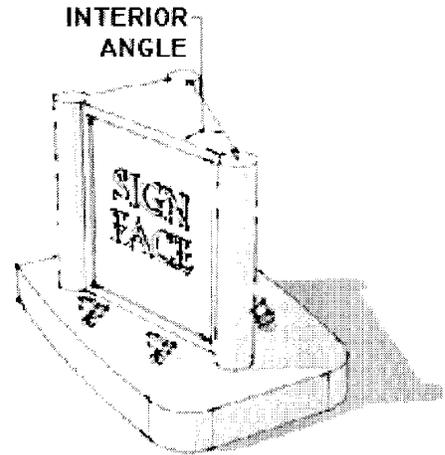
2. Architectural features that are either part of the building or part of a freestanding structure, and not an integral part of the sign, and which may consist of landscaping, building or structural forms complementing the site in general.

**Calculation of Freestanding Sign Area**



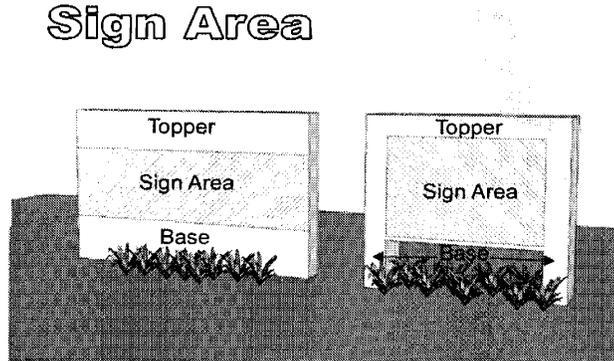
C. Clearance for projecting signs shall be measured by the smallest vertical distance between finished grade and the lowest point of the sign, including any framework or other embellishments.

D. All sides of a sign which are visible from any one (1) vantage point shall be measured in determining the area of a sign, except that only one (1) side of a sign shall be measured if the two (2) sides are back to back or separated by an angle of forty-five degrees (45°) or less. If the two (2) sides are not of equal size, the larger side shall be measured. A back to back sign shall have parallel faces, separated by not more than four feet (4').

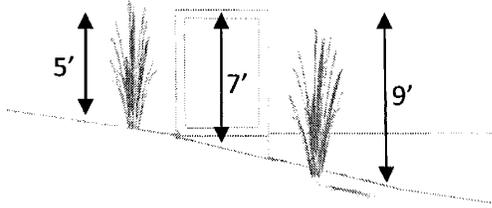


E. A line shall be drawn horizontally across the lowest point of copy or cabinet. The area below this is considered the base and will not be included as sign area. Above the base, lines shall be drawn across the top and bottom of each area of individual copy, continuous message or cabinets. These lines shall extend to the edge of the sign on monoliths and to the poles or pole covers on other types of signs. The area within these lines shall be included in the sign area calculation. If blank areas or air spaces between the copy and/or cabinet are less than six inches (6") then these areas shall also be included in the sign area calculation. Irregular spaces shall be measured at the median point. Any area above the highest point of copy or cabinet shall be considered a topper since it is not required for the support of any copy. The sign area calculation shall not include any portion of a topper so long as the topper portion does not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the total allowable sign area.

## Sign Area



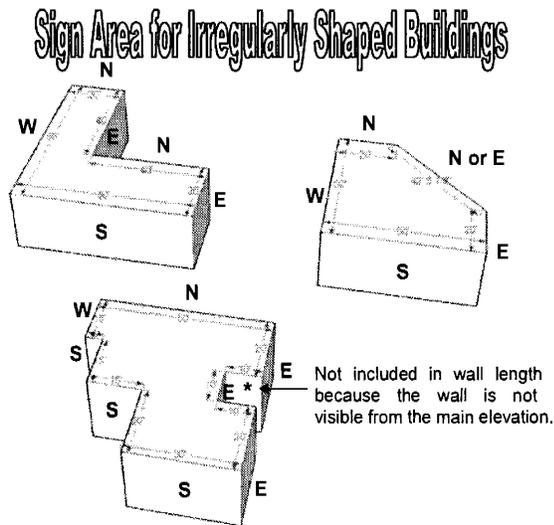
- F. The height of any sign shall be determined by the distance between the top most portion the sign structure and the ground elevation at the base of the sign. The grade may not be artificially changed to affect the sign height measurement. Signs on a slope are measured at the midpoint of the sign.



#### 7.4.408: SIGN ALLOCATION

##### A. Sign Allocation for Irregularly Shaped Buildings:

1. Sign allocation is based on the use of the property, and linear frontage of exterior walls. Signs must be placed on the frontage from which they draw their allocation, unless otherwise approved with a CSP. For the purpose of this part, all walls of a building shall be designated either north, south, east, or west.
2. Walls at a forty-five degree (45°) angle must be designated as one (1) of two (2) directions. The signs allocated to the angle wall may be placed anywhere on the wall to which it is designated.
3. If a wall is not visible from a specific elevation, it does not contribute any sign allocation to that elevation.



B. Sign Allocation for a Commercial Center: In any commercial center in which sign allocation is part of a CSP for the center as a whole, signs may advertise properties located anywhere in the center and plan area subject to the following:

1. A recommendation from the Colorado Department of Transportation ("CDOT") shall be required for signs along state or federal highways such as South Circle Drive, Nevada Avenue, Highway 24, and Interstate 25 and Powers Boulevard (State Highway 21).

2. CDOT does not necessarily recognize the same sign rights as the City. It is the responsibility of the property owner and applicant to determine the CDOT regulations as they apply to the property and insure compliance with those regulations.

C. Shared Signage:

1. In multi-tenant buildings, offices and commercial centers, tenants are permitted to share or borrow signage within the building. If a tenant wishes to have a larger sign than what is entitled based on their leased building frontage, the tenant signage may borrow from the balance of the center. Signage may not be transferred between elevations or between buildings unless outlined in a CSP. No tenant may use shared signage beyond one and one-half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) times their allocation.

2. Within a commercial center, freestanding signage may be maximized by combining allowed freestanding signs to accommodate a larger sign for multiple uses in the center, as authorized by an approved CSP in accord with section 7.4.410.

**7.4.409: SIGN TYPES AND CRITERIA BY SIGN CATEGORY**

**A. Major Sign Types:**

**1. Wall:**

<b>USE</b>	<b>PERMIT REQUIRED</b>	<b>MAXIMUM SIZE</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>MAXIMUM HEIGHT</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</b>
Residential	Yes	40 square feet	1	n/a	Allowance applies to properties with 3 or more units
Office	Yes	1 square foot multiplied by the building length	No limit, but shall not exceed maximum total square footage per elevation	Shall not project over roofline	See Section 7.4.409(B)(1)
Commercial	Yes	1.5 square feet multiplied by the building length  2 square feet multiplied by the building length when set back >200 feet from the public right-of-way	No limit, but shall not exceed maximum total square footage per elevation	Shall not project over roofline	See Section 7.4.409(B)(1)
Industrial	Yes	1.5 square foot multiplied by the building length	No limit, but shall not exceed maximum total	Shall not project over roofline	See Section 7.4.409(B)(1)

			square footage per elevation				
Mixed-use	Yes	1.5 square feet multiplied by the building length	No limit, but shall not exceed maximum total square footage per elevation	Shall not project over roofline	Shall be part of a CSP See Section 7.4.409(B)(1)		
Civic	Yes	1 square foot multiplied by the building length	No limit, but shall not exceed maximum total square footage per elevation	Shall not project over roofline	Walls adjacent to residential uses do not qualify for signage allowance See Section 7.4.409(B)(1)		

2. Freestanding

USE	PERMIT REQUIRED	LINEAR PROPERTY FRONTAGE	MAXIMUM SIZE	NUMBER	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	SETBACK	ADDITIONAL CRITERIA
Residential	Yes	All	32 square feet	1	7 feet	None	Allowance for 3 or more units
Office	Yes	<160 feet	34 square feet	1	7 feet	None	Size area and height rounded to the nearest whole number
		≥160 feet	.25 square foot per linear foot	1	0.06 foot per linear foot of lot		See Section 7.4.409(B)(2)

					frontage, maximum of 25 feet			
		$\geq 1,000$ feet	.25 square foot per linear foot of lot frontage	2 plus 1 additional sign for every additional 1,000 feet of lot frontage	25 feet			
			* Maximum for all is 100 square feet					
Commercial	Yes	<160 feet	42 square feet	1	7 feet	None	Size area and height rounded to the nearest whole number See Section 7.4.409(B)(2)	
		$\geq 160$ feet	.35 square feet per linear foot of lot frontage	1	0.07 feet per linear foot of lot frontage, maximum of 30 feet			
		$\geq 1,000$ feet	.35 square feet per linear foot of lot	2, plus 1 sign for every additional	30 feet			

Industrial	Yes			frontage	1,000 feet of lot frontage				
		$\geq 1,500$ feet	.35 square feet per linear foot of lot frontage	* Maximum of 150 square feet	2, plus 1 sign for every additional 1,000 feet of lot frontage	35 feet	7 feet	Size area and height rounded to the nearest whole number	
		$<160$ feet	.25 square feet per linear foot of lot frontage	34 square feet	1	0.06 feet per linear foot of lot frontage, maximum of 25 feet	None	See Section 7.4.409(B)(2)	
		$\geq 1,000$ feet	.25 square feet per linear foot of lot frontage		2, plus 1 sign for every additional 1,000 feet of lot	25 feet			

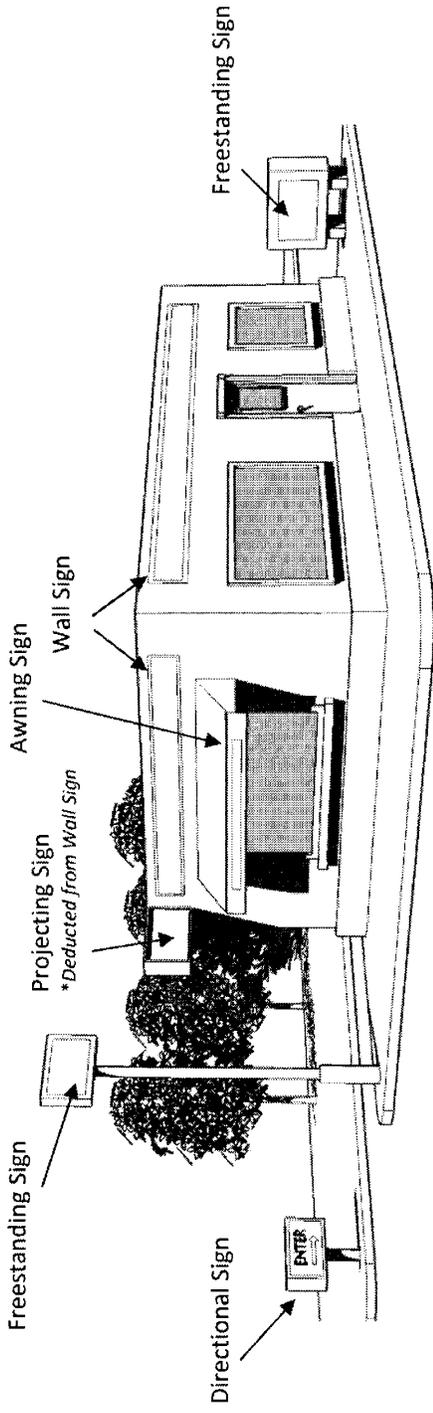
			≥ 1,500 feet	.25 square feet per linear foot of lot frontage * Maximum of 150 square feet	2, plus 1 sign for every additional 1,000 feet of lot frontage	35 feet		
Mixed-use	Yes	The size, number and height of signs is defined by the CSP. See Section 7.4.410						
Civic	Yes	All	64 square feet	1	7 feet	None	Lighting impacts to adjacent residential properties shall be limited and reviewed through the sign permit.	

3. Electronic Message Center (EMC)

USE	TYPE	PERMIT REQUIRED	MAXIMUM SIZE	NUMBER	HOLD TIME	TRANSITION DURATION	TRANSITION METHOD	ADDITIONAL CRITERIA
Residential	Integrated into free-standing sign	Not permitted	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Office	Integrated into free-standing sign	Not permitted	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Commercial	Integrated into free-standing sign	Yes	Up to 50% of allowed sign area	1 per property	10 seconds	<1 second	Fade or Dissolve	See Section 7.4.409(B)(3)
Industrial	Integrated into free-standing sign	Not permitted	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mixed-use	Integrated into free-standing sign	Yes - With CSP only	Up to 50% of allowed sign area	1 per property	10 seconds	<1 second	Fade or Dissolve	See Section 7.4.409(B)(3)
Civic	Integrated into free-standing sign	Not permitted	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

# Sign Types



## B. Additional Criteria for Major Sign Types

### 1. Wall Signs

a. The minimum sign area for each tenant shall not be less than twenty-five (25) square feet.

b. Each tenant may have multiple wall signs per elevation so long as the total wall sign area does not exceed the allowance established for each elevation

c. Additional building signs are permitted for a building with five (5) or more floors, which is eligible for double the wall signage allotment. The additional allotment must be placed at the 5<sup>th</sup> floor level or higher. All other wall sign criteria apply.

d. A wall sign extending more than twelve inches (12") from the building shall be considered a projecting sign.

e. Projecting signs are permitted, as part of the allowance for wall signs when designed and placed for the purpose of identifying the businesses for a pedestrian walking along the same side of the street as the business they seek or under a canopy projecting from the building.

(1) Signs projecting under a canopy shall have a maximum area of eight (8) square feet; the bottom of the sign shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet above the sidewalk.

(2) A sign projecting over a vehicular area shall not be less than fourteen feet (14') above finished grade.

(3) A sign projecting over a pedestrian area shall not be less than eight (8') above finished grade.

(4) The sign shall not project more than six feet (6') from the wall of the building on which the sign is placed. Adjacent projecting signs shall not be closer than twenty feet (20').

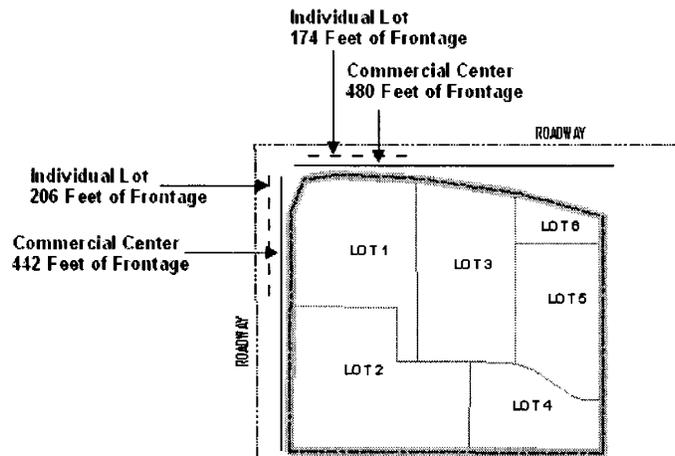
### 2. Freestanding Signs

a. Each property or parcel of land is allowed a minimum of one (1) freestanding sign with an area defined by the linear frontage of the property.

b. No portion of a freestanding sign shall be in or project over a public right-of-way. No freestanding sign shall be placed within an existing or proposed easement.

c. As part of a CSP, the total permitted sign area may be aggregated into fewer and larger signs, at the election of the property owner within a commercial center, provided that the size of any single sign does not exceed the standard permitted sign area by more than thirty percent (30%).

d. Freestanding signage area is determined based on the primary frontage of the lot. The property owner determines the primary frontage and may place the sign accordingly. A commercial center may have two (2) primary frontages approved by a CSP.



An individual corner lot can pick one (1) primary frontage for freestanding sign calculation. This lot has 206 feet of frontage for their sign calculation.

A corner commercial center with a Coordinated Sign Plan can utilize two frontages for the freestanding sign calculation. Over 900 feet of frontage can be used for freestanding calculation in this scenario.

### 3. Electronic Message Centers (EMC)

a. Shall only be allowed as part of a freestanding sign.

b. Are prohibited for residential uses, but may be allowed as part of a mixed-use CSP.

c. Shall be limited to static messages only, changed only through dissolve or fade transitions which otherwise shall not have movement or the appearance or optical illusion of movement, on any part of the sign structure, design, or pictorial part of the sign, including the movement of any illumination or the flashing, scintillating or varying of light intensity.

The transition duration between messages shall not exceed one (1) second.

d. Commercial messages displayed shall only direct attention to a business, product, service, activity or entertainment that is conducted, sold or offered on the premise on which the sign is located

e. Shall have automatic dimmer software or solar sensors to control brightness for nighttime viewing. The intensity of the light source shall not produce glare, the effect of which constitutes a traffic hazard. Lighting shall not exceed five hundred (500) NITS or 0.3 footcandles between dusk to dawn as measured from the face of the sign.

f. Documentation shall be required from the sign manufacturer which verifies compliance with auto dimming and brightness requirements.

g. Temporary signage shall be prohibited on any property that has an approved EMC (see section 7.4.409(E)).

h. Any property that wishes to add an EMC component to an existing freestanding sign must comply with current sign code standards before the EMC is approved.

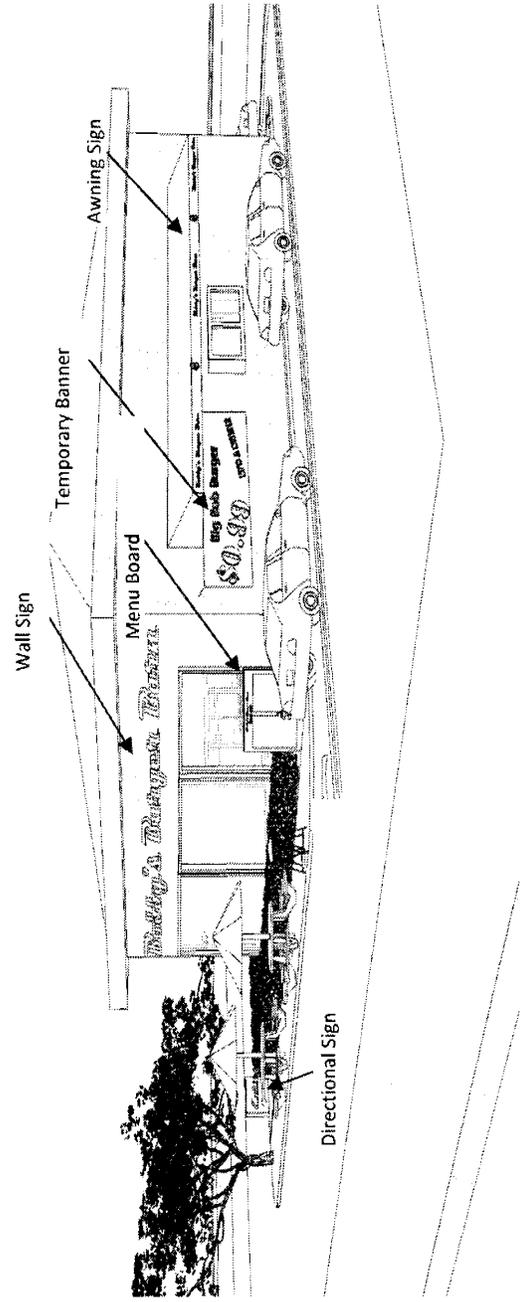
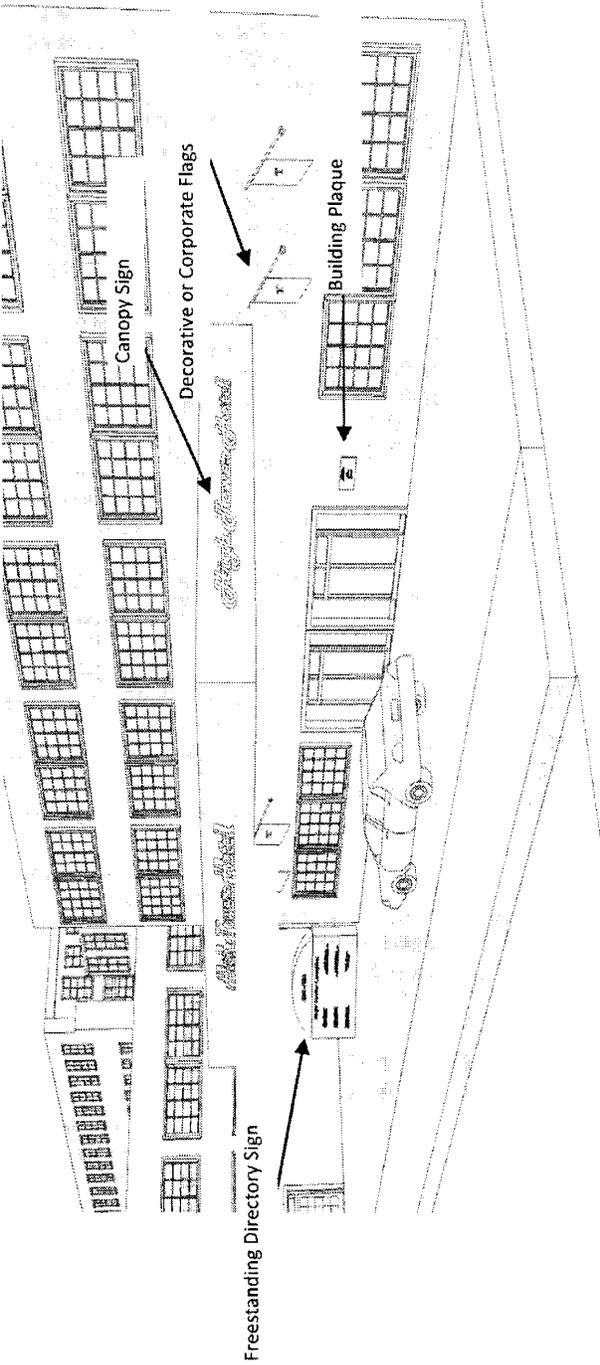
C. Minor Sign Types

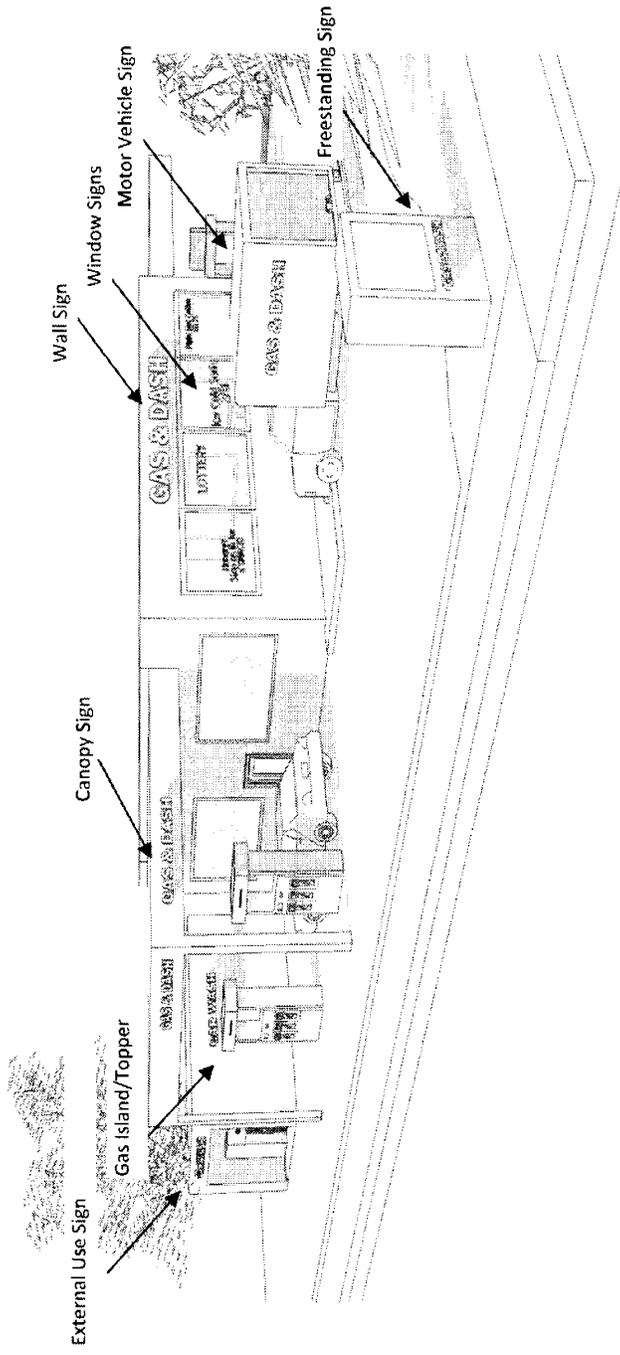
The following chart provides criteria for minor signage permitted provided that it meets the requirements of this section of the Code and all other applicable City regulations are met. See Section 7.4.409(D) for additional information related to minor signs.

USE	TYPE	PERMIT REQUIRED	MAXIMUM SIZE	NUMBER	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	SETBACK	ADDITIONAL CRITERIA
All	Awning	Yes	A maximum of 0.5 square feet for each linear foot	n/a	n/a	May extend 6 feet from the face of building	At least 8 feet above pedestrian way or 14 feet above vehicular way  Valance may extend 1 foot below awning  Not permitted above 1 <sup>st</sup> story level of building  See Section 7.4.409(D)(1)
All	Building Plaque	No	6 square feet	1 per building	8 feet attached to building	n/a	Built into building or mounted flat against the wall of a building  Lighting permitted

All	Canopy	Yes	A maximum of 0.5 square feet for each linear foot	1 per canopy elevation	n/a	n/a	Mounted flush on the face of the canopy Lighting is permitted
All	Corporate flags	No	Not to exceed 3 feet by 5 feet	1	Maximum height of zone district	Must meet required setback for accessory uses	See Section 7.4.405
All	Decorative Flags	No	Not to exceed 3 feet by 5 feet	1 per 20 feet of lot frontage	Maximum height of zone district	Must meet required setback for accessory uses	See Section 7.4.405
All	Directional Signs	Yes	6 square feet	Per permit	4 feet	None	On-premise only
All	Directory (freestanding)	Yes	64 square feet	2 per entrance	6 feet	15 feet from right-of-way	Additional directories may be approved through a CSP
All	External Use	No	40 square feet	n/a	n/a	None	Area is total for all external uses on the site, may be used in any combination
Commercial	Gas Island	No	32 square feet total	1 per gas topper	n/a	n/a	Copy oriented to the right-of-way shall not exceed 2 inches in height

		Sign and structure must be at least 50 years old to qualify See Section 7.4.409(D)(2)					
All	Historic signs	Yes					
Commercial	Menu Board/ Drive-Through	Yes	75 square feet per drive through lane	2 per drive through lane	6 feet	10 feet	Readable only by traffic in the drive through land  Lighting permitted  See Section 7.4.409(D)(4)
All	Monument Sign	Yes	128 square feet	2 signs per access from a major arterial or collector	7 feet	None	
All	Motor Vehicle Signs	Signs that are permanently painted or affixed to a vehicle for advertising purposes See Section 7.4.409(D)(3)					
All	Mural	No	Any portion of the mural which is considered a sign will deduct from the wall signage for that wall.				
All	Window Signs	No	25% of the window(s)	None	n/a	n/a	Permitted on first floor windows only  Lighting permitted
All	Yard/wall	No	6 square feet	1	4 feet when freestanding	n/a	





D. Minor Sign Types, Additional Criteria

1. Awning and Canopy

- a. The sign or signs must be placed on the side of the awning or canopy from which it draws its allowed square footage,
- b. Signs may not extend above, below or beyond the awning or canopy.
- c. Awnings and canopies may be back-lit.

2. Historic Signs. May be kept, used, maintained and displayed, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The applicant must provide documentation that the sign has been at its present location for a minimum of fifty (50) years prior to approval of a sign permit.
- b. The sign is structurally safe or capable of being made structurally safe without substantially altering its historic character. The property owner is responsible for making all structural repairs and restoration of the sign to its original condition.
- c. The sign is representative of signs from the era in which it was constructed and provides evidence of the historic use of the building or premises.
- d. Approved historic signs will not be considered abandoned so long as they continue to meet the conditions above.
- e. Historic signs may be retained on a property in addition to new signs permitted by Section 7.4.409.

3. Motor Vehicle Signs. Signs may be placed on motor vehicles provided:

- a. Each sign must be permanently painted or affixed to the vehicle.
- b. No sign shall project more than one foot (1') above the roofline of the vehicle to which it is attached.
- c. The vehicle upon which the sign is affixed must be used for the normal operation of the business and not primarily used to display signage.

- d. The vehicle must be moved at least once every seventy-two (72) hours.
- e. When not in use, the vehicle must be parked on the premises of the business that it advertises.
- f. The vehicle must be parked in a legal parking space.
- g. The vehicle may not block any other legally permitted signs.
- h. Special event vehicles are exempt from this subsection (D)(3).

4. Monument Sign or Subdivision Monument. Permanent subdivision monument signs must be incorporated into entryways from major arterials or collector streets. Monument or Subdivision Monument signs:

- a. Shall include the name of the subdivision or development.
- b. Shall be located at the principal street entrance to the subdivision or development.
- c. Shall not be located in the public right-of-way without obtaining a revocable permit pursuant to section 3.2.201.
- d. Shall be constructed of masonry or other substantial materials.
- e. May be placed on a subdivision wall, or other background, provided a sign permit is approved.
- f. Shall be limited to two (2) signs per subdivision entrance (one (1) sign on each side of the entryway).
- g. Shall be insured and maintained by the homeowners' association or other appropriate entity. Adequate provisions to maintain the sign must be provided by covenant or through the homeowners' association.

**E. Temporary Signage Criteria**

Temporary signs shall be allowed per property in addition to the permanent signage permitted in this section unless otherwise stated in this Zoning Code. The following chart provides criteria for temporary signage permitted provided that it meets the requirements of this section and all other applicable City regulations. See Section 7.4.409(F) for additional information related to temporary signs.

<b>USE</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>PERMIT REQUIRED</b>	<b>MAXIMUM SIZE</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>MAXIMUM HEIGHT</b>	<b>SETBACK</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</b>
All	Banner	Yes				Not attached to t-posts, walls or fences	Criteria vary for residential and non-residential uses
All	Construction	No	6 square feet	5 per lot frontage	n/a	Not permitted in landscape areas 2 feet from street or public sidewalk	See Section 7.4.409(F)(1) Additional allowances based on lot size and additional criteria
All	Election	No	6 square feet	5 per lot frontage	n/a	2 feet from street or public sidewalk	See Section 7.4.409(F)(3) Additional allowances based on lot size and additional criteria

All	Garage Sale	No	3 square feet	1	n/a	n/a	Used only during the duration of the garage sale and used only on the lot where the garage sale occurs
Non-residential	Inflatable Displays	Yes	n/a	5 per commercial event	Maximum height of the zone district	1½ times the height of the display	See Section 7.4.409(F)(2)
All	Model Home Sign	No	24 square feet	1 per model	6 feet	n/a	
All	Off Premise Open House	No	6 square feet	4 per open house – put up one (1) hour before and removed one (1) hour after	4 feet	n/a	Private property only, landowner permission required May not be placed in public rights-of-way or medians without a revocable permit

All	Off Premise Real Estate	No	32 square feet	1	4 feet	n/a	Private property only, landowner permission required  May not be placed in public rights-of-way or medians without a revocable permit  Removed 14 days after sale or lease
All	Pennants	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Non-residential	Portable A-Frames	No	4 feet by 2 feet	1 per individual storefront or 1 per shared entrance	4 feet	Within 10 feet of the main entrance, on the ground surface and not on any vehicle or structure	Lighting not permitted  Located only in front of the establishment to which the sign pertains  Displayed only during business hours  The sign cannot block a sidewalk
All	Real Estate	No	6 square feet	5 per lot frontage	n/a	2 feet from street or public	Additional allowances based on lot size and

Non-residential	Temporary Retail	No	32 square feet	1 wall or freestanding	7 feet	None	sidewalk	additional criteria See Section 7.4.409(F)(3) Removed when the use ends. Attached to a structure or mounted on posts which are anchored securely into the ground Copy on price signs for merchandise which is displayed outside shall be limited to 2" in height
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F. Temporary Sign Types Additional Criteria

1. Banners

a. Banners associated with residential uses:

(1) Size shall not exceed two-tenths (0.20) square foot for each linear foot of property line.

(2) May be displayed for a maximum of ninety (90) days per calendar year. Display time may be any combination of consecutive days or equal weekend periods and is cumulative for all banners displayed on the property.

(3) Vertical banners attached to existing private light poles on residential properties shall be no larger than twenty four inches by forty eight inches (24" x 48") and must be hung eight feet (8') from the ground in pedestrian areas and fourteen feet (14') from the ground in vehicular areas.

(4) Each banner must be kept in good repair (not frayed, faded or sagging) and must remain firmly attached to the building or structure from which it is displayed.

(5) Banners hung between T-posts, attached to fences, retaining walls and/or vehicles and banners in landscape areas are prohibited.

(6) No banner may be illuminated, animated or constructed of reflective materials.

(7) All banners shall display a City permit approval sticker on the bottom left hand corner of the banner.

b. Banners associated with non-residential uses:

(1) Banners attached to single-story buildings shall not exceed three-fourths (0.75) square foot for each linear foot of exterior building wall. For multiple-story buildings, banners shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the area of the exterior building wall on which the banners are displayed. A banner must be attached to the exterior building wall from which it draws its allowed square

footage. The allowed square footage can be split among several banners or allocated to one (1) single banner.

(2) Vertical banners attached to existing private light poles shall be no larger than twenty four inches by forty eight inches (24" x 48") and must be hung eight feet (8') from the ground in pedestrian areas and fourteen feet (14') from the ground in vehicular areas.

(3) Banners may be displayed for a maximum of ninety (90) days per calendar year. Display time may be any combination of consecutive days or equal weekend periods and is cumulative for all banners displayed on the property.

(4) Each banner must be kept in good repair (not frayed, faded or sagging) and remain firmly attached to the building or private light pole from which it is displayed.

(5) All banners shall display the City permit approval sticker on the bottom left hand corner of the banner.

(6) No banner may be illuminated, animated or constructed of reflective materials.

(7) Banners hung between T-posts, attached to fences, retaining walls or vehicles and banners located in landscape areas are prohibited.

(8) Banners shall be removed at the permittee's expense at the expiration of the applicable permit.

## 2. Inflatable Displays

a. Inflatable displays are not permitted for residential uses.

b. Inflatable displays may be displayed for fourteen (14) days per commercial event.

c. No more than two (2) temporary sign permits for inflatable displays may be issued to a business, development or property during a calendar year.

- d. A maximum of five (5) inflatable displays are allowed per commercial event.
- e. Inflatable displays shall be securely anchored or attached to prevent dislocation, entanglement or encroachment onto adjacent properties or public streets, and to prevent undue hazards to motorists or pedestrians.
- f. Ground mounted inflatable displays must be set back from the property line one and one-half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) times the height of the inflatable display.
- g. Roof mounted inflatable displays must not exceed the maximum height for the zone district. A tether is required to secure the inflatable display and shall not exceed fifteen feet (15') in length.
- h. Inflatable displays shall not be attached to fences, landscaping, utility poles or private light poles.
- i. Inflatable displays that wave, lightly or rapidly, in an irregular manner and portable inflatable billboards are prohibited in all zone districts.

3. Election Signs, Construction Signs, Real Estate Signs: In addition to the allowances outlined in the temporary signs table in Section 7.4.409(E), the following allowances and standards apply to political/election, construction and real estate sign:

- a. Residential uses/property/lots:
  - (1) One to five (1-5) acres: One (1) sign per street frontage not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet per sign.
  - (2) Five (5) to ten (10) acres: Two (2) signs not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet per sign or one (1) sign not to exceed sixty four (64) square feet.
  - (3) Greater than ten (10) acres: Three (3) signs not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet per sign or two (2) signs not to exceed forty eight (48) square feet per sign or one (1) sign not to exceed ninety six (96) square feet.
- b. All other uses/property/lots:
  - (1) Less than one (1) acre: One sign per street frontage not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet per sign.

(2) One to five (5) acres: One sign per street frontage not to exceed sixty four (64) square feet per sign.

(3) Five (5) to ten (10) acres: Two (2) signs not to exceed sixty four (64) square feet per sign or one sign not to exceed one hundred twenty eight (128) square feet.

(4) Greater than ten (10) acres: Three (3) signs not to exceed sixty four (64) square feet per sign or two (2) signs not to exceed one hundred twenty eight (128) square feet per sign.

c. Removal: These signs must be removed not later than fourteen (14) days after:

(1) Sale, lease or removal of the property from the market.

(2) Issuance of a certificate of occupancy or final building inspection.

d. Placement:

(1) Landowner permission is required before placing one of these sign types on or within the right-of-way in front of private or publicly owned property in accord with section 7.4.406 of this part.

(2) Signs may not be placed within City owned right-of-way unless a revocable permit has been granted in accord with section 3.2.217(D) of this Code.

(3) Signs may not be placed within state right-of-way without the express approval of CDOT.

(4) Signs are not permitted to be attached to public or City owned infrastructure, facilities, utility poles or signposts.

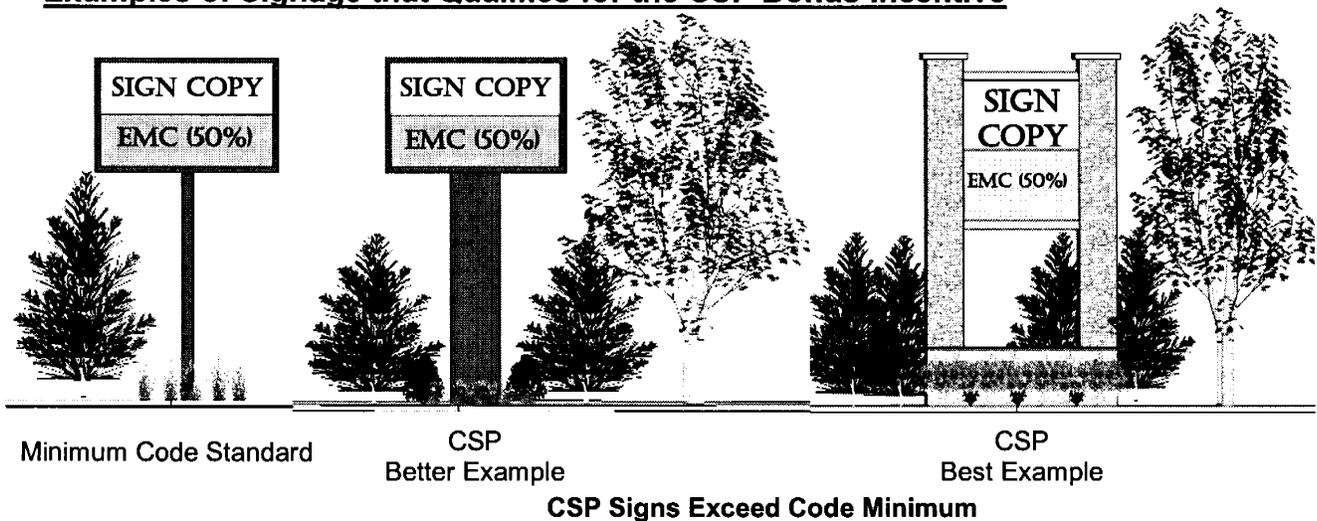
#### **7.4.410: COORDINATED SIGN PLAN**

Owners or developers of property that desire signage that varies from the requirements of this Sign Code or owners that would like unified commercial center signage may apply for approval of a Coordinated Sign Plan (CSP) for the entire site. This plan will be reviewed and approved by Community Development staff and may be referred to Planning Commission for approval. A CSP shall include the design, color, size, height, lighting, location, number and construction type of all signs in the area proposed for the CSP. Each CSP shall be subject to review and approval as required.

The coordinated sign plan shall be for the use of commercial centers only or three or more properties/lots together as a center with planned signage.

A CSP may be submitted that permits consideration of unique conditions, flexibility and creativity. The application of such plan may permit additional signs and/or sign area based on the applicant's demonstration of unique characteristics of the design, building, and/or site and appropriate landscaping associated with the freestanding signs. The CSP bonus incentive for the commercial center shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the standards in Section 7.4.409 without the approval of a non-use variance. This may be applied to any sign standard and applied to multiple sign standards. Once a CSP has been approved subsequent sign permits shall be approved administratively when the proposed sign is in compliance with the approved CSP.

### **Examples of Signage that Qualifies for the CSP Bonus Incentive**



### **7.4.411: PROHIBITED SIGNS**

The following signs and sign types shall be prohibited:

- A. Any sign erected or painted upon light poles, retaining walls, fences, rocks, trees, or natural features unless the sign meets the definition of a low profile or freestanding signs as described in this part.
- B. Any sign displaying flashing or intermittent lights or lights of varying intensity.
- C. Any sign with a digital electronic message that changes in any manner except those permitted by Section 7.4.409 of this Code.

D. Any sign with direct or indirect lighting that causes direct glare into or upon any lot or tract with a residential use that is adjacent to the lot or tract where the sign is located.

E. Signs which advertise activities that are unlawful and not recognized as permitted or conditional uses per Section 7.3.103 and 7.3.203.

F. Any private sign that is an imitation of an official government protective or warning sign, including signs using the words "Stop" or "Danger" to imply a need or requirement to stop or a caution for the existence of danger, and including signs that are copies of, or which are likely to be confused with, any official government protective or warning sign.

G. Any sign that obstructs a window, door, fire escape, stairway, ladder, or opening intended to provide light, air, ingress, or egress for any building as required by law.

H. The parking of any motor vehicle recreational vehicle, trailer or other movable device in a manner that the vehicle constitutes a billboard or off-premise sign.

I. Any sign projecting over the façade of the building or attached directly to the roof of a building.

#### **7.4.412: SIGNS ALONG STATE HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES**

For the purpose of regulating signs visible from an interstate highway as defined by C.R.S. § 43-2-101(2), there are hereby created four (4) zones, each zone measured perpendicularly from the boundary of the interstate highway right of way. Frontage roads shall be considered as lying outside the interstate right-of-way.

A. Zone No. 1: This zone shall be the area within two hundred twenty feet (220') of the interstate right-of-way boundary. No freestanding, roof, projecting, or low profile signs, the faces of which are visible from the highway, shall exceed one hundred (100) square feet or the area specified in the applicable zone requirement, whichever is more restrictive.

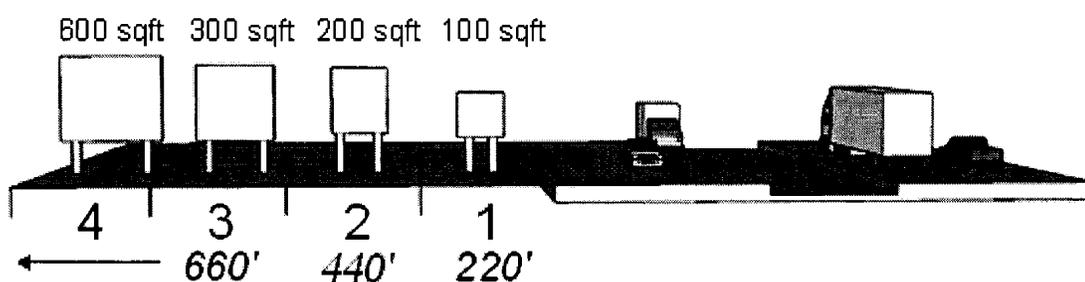
B. Zone No. 2: This zone shall be that area from two hundred twenty feet (220') to four hundred forty feet (440') from the interstate right-of-way boundary. No freestanding, roof, projecting, or low profile signs, the face of which are visible from the highway, shall exceed two hundred (200) square feet or the area specified in the applicable zone requirement, whichever is more restrictive.

C. Zone No. 3: This zone shall be that area from four hundred forty feet (440') to six hundred sixty feet (660') from the interstate right-of-way boundary. No freestanding,

roof, projecting, or low profile signs, the face of which is visible from the highway, shall exceed three hundred (300) square feet or the area specified in the applicable zone requirement, whichever is more restrictive.

D. Zone No. 4: This zone shall be that area more than six hundred sixty feet (660') from the interstate right-of-way boundary. No freestanding, roof, projecting, or low profile signs, the face of which is visible from the highway boundary, shall exceed six hundred (600) square feet, or the area specified in the applicable zone requirement, whichever is the more restrictive.

## Signs Along Interstate Highways



### 7.4.413: NONCONFORMING AND ABANDONED SIGNS

**Nonconforming Signs:** Any legally established sign in existence at the time of the enactment of this part<sup>1</sup> is considered nonconforming and may remain. A nonconforming sign may continue so long as it is not enlarged, replaced or abandoned. If a nonconforming sign is removed for any reason, it may not be replaced. If fifty percent (50%) or more of the sign area of a nonconforming sign is destroyed, the nonconforming sign may not be repaired or replaced and shall be removed.

Any nonconforming sign upgraded to incorporate an EMC component will lose its legal nonconforming designation. Upgrading to an EMC will require the sign to comply with the provisions of this part.

A nonconforming sign may continue in existence and function provided the sign is maintained in good condition.

An abandoned sign that deemed to be in disrepair and structurally unsound with the potential to cause health, safety and welfare concerns must be removed and will lose its nonconforming designation.

#### **7.4.414: OFF PREMISE ADVERTISING (BILLBOARDS):**

All new billboards shall comply with the following:

A. **Purposes And Intent:** The purpose of this part is to limit the impact of billboards on the community; to improve the appearance of the Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass and Municipal Airport entryway corridors; to enhance the urban design of the greater downtown area; to ensure compatibility between billboards and adjacent land uses; and to limit the impact that billboards have on sign clutter in the community. The City recognizes that billboards are a necessary and appropriate advertising medium, and that there are acceptable and viable locations for billboards within the community.

It is the intent of this part to address the following specific concerns regarding the impact of billboards upon the community:

1. The citizens of Colorado Springs and others visiting or traveling through the City are very concerned about the urban design and visual integrity of the City.
2. Billboards are often incongruous with the City's natural setting and features due to their large scale figures, numbers, letters and colors.
3. A billboard can dominate the view from vehicles and interfere with the occupants' enjoyment of the City's natural setting and features.
4. A high concentration of billboards may create traffic safety problems and distract attention away from public safety signs.
5. Billboards of excessive size or height should be downsized within a reasonable time period.
6. Billboards are incompatible with residential uses.
7. The Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass and Municipal Airport entryway corridors are major entryways to the City which are of particular importance in terms of urban design and public perception to citizens, visitors and tourists.
8. The downtown planning area is an area in which urban design significantly influences the health and vitality of the total community.

B. **Area, Height And Face Standards:** All billboards shall be constructed in accord with the Uniform Sign Code as set forth in this part and shall conform to the following standards:

1. Sign Area: New billboard faces and supporting framework shall not exceed the following sign areas:

a. New billboards shall be a maximum of two hundred forty five (245) square feet.

b. Replacement billboards, existing billboards four hundred (400) square feet or larger in face area may be replaced at a size up to four hundred (400) square feet; billboards with face areas between three hundred ninety nine (399) and two hundred forty five (245) square feet shall be replaced at a size up to two hundred forty five (245) square feet. Existing billboards of less than two hundred forty five (245) square feet shall be restricted to their current size in the event they are relocated.

2. Height: Billboards shall not exceed the maximum height permitted for freestanding signs in the zone district in which they are located.

3. Faces: There shall be no more than two (2) billboard faces per supporting structure.

C. Location Standards: All billboards shall be located in accord with the following standards:

1. Zones: Billboards shall be allowed as conditional uses in the following zones: C-6, M-1, M-2 and PIP-2.

2. Conditional Uses: All new billboards shall be required to obtain a conditional use approval in accord with article 5, part 7 of this chapter.

3. Location Standards:

a. Billboards shall be set back the same distance required for freestanding signs in the zone district in which they are located.

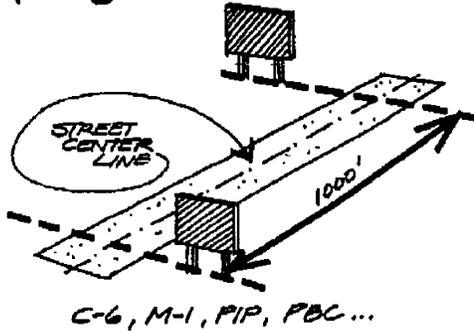
b. No billboard shall be placed on the roof of any building or structure.

c. No billboard shall cantilever over any building or structure.

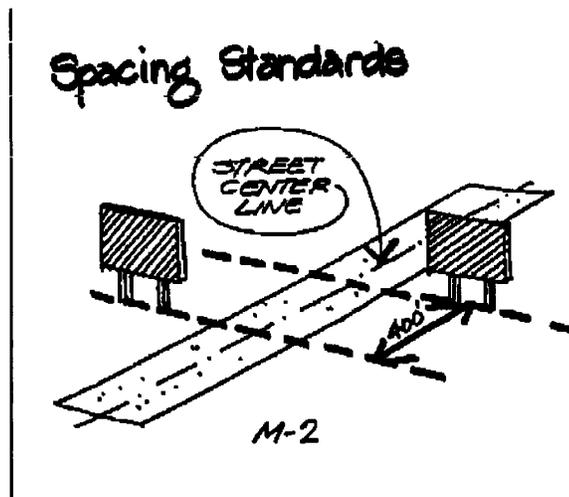
4. Spacing Standards:

a. No billboards shall be spaced less than one thousand feet (1,000') from the nearest billboard, except billboards in M-2 zones shall be spaced no less than four hundred feet (400') from the nearest billboard. In determining the physical spacing of billboards, the City will consider existing billboards and approved conditional use billboard locations.

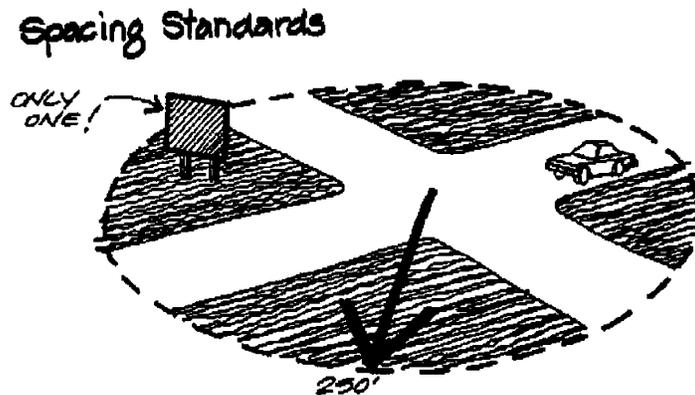
### Spacing Standards



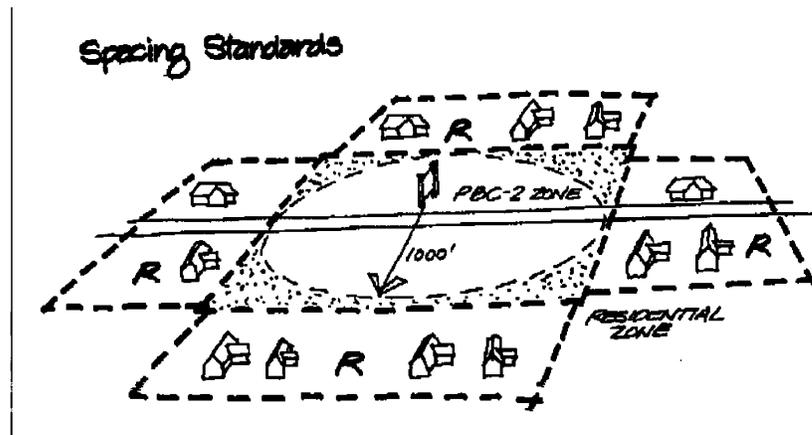
b. Distances between billboards shall be measured horizontally along the center line of the street or highway to which the sign is directed as set forth in following picture:



c. Only one billboard shall be placed within a radius of two hundred fifty feet (250') from the center point of any street or highway intersection as set forth in following picture:



- d. No billboard shall be placed within five hundred feet (500') of any residential zone as set forth in following picture:



5. Railroad Rights Of Way:

- a. New billboards shall not be allowed to be placed within any railroad rights of way.
- b. Existing billboards within a railroad right of way shall be grandfathered and allowed to remain in their current locations with the exception of the billboard located south of and adjacent to Woodman Road which may remain until March 13, 2000, at which time it shall be removed.

D. Maintenance and Discontinuance:

1. Maintenance: All sign supports, braces, guys and anchors, shall be kept in good repair. Faces of all signs shall be kept neatly painted or posted at all times. The City shall notify the sign owner or its agent, of any sign which is not in proper state of repair. If corrective action is not taken within thirty (30) days, the City official may order the removal of the sign.
2. Discontinuance: The City may order the removal of any billboard, without compensation, upon which the advertising or other message has been discontinued for more than sixty (60) continuous days. The billboard shall be removed by the owner within thirty (30) days of notification by the City.

E. Billboard Credit: Permits to erect new billboards shall only be issued to those persons possessing a "Billboard Credit".

1. Billboard Credit: Billboard credits shall be issued by the City to those billboard owners who have removed a previously existing, lawfully erected

billboard after the effective date hereof. It will be the responsibility of the permit applicant to show the ownership, location and date of removal of the billboard.

2. **Credit Basis:** Billboard credits shall be issued on a per face and per structure basis. One credit shall be issued for each billboard face removed and one credit for each structure removed. If a billboard is not located upon a separate supporting structure, the building or other structure to which the billboard is attached shall constitute a single structure for the purpose of receiving one credit.

a. No credit shall be granted for the partial removal of faces.

b. No credit shall be granted for the removal of billboard faces which are less than eighty four (84) square feet.

3. **Credit Utilization:** A billboard credit may only be used in a location which meets all standards of this Zoning Code.

4. **Transfer of Credits:** Credits may be transferred between parties through legal means.

5. **Size:** Credits will allow billboards to be reconstructed in the following sizes:

a. A credit for a new four hundred (400) square foot billboard will be issued for billboards which are removed that are in excess of three hundred ninety nine (399) square feet.

b. A credit for a new two hundred forty five (245) square foot billboard will be issued for billboards which are removed that are between two hundred forty five (245) and three hundred ninety nine (399) square feet.

c. A credit will be issued for a new billboard of equal size for billboards which are removed that are less than two hundred forty five (245) square feet.

F. **Removal from Downtown Core:** All existing billboards shall be removed from the downtown core within sixty (60) days of the passage of this part. No compensation will be paid by the City to the billboard owners for the removal of these billboards under mutual consent; however, credit under Section 7.4.414 shall be issued allowing each billboard removed to be relocated to a new location which meets all standards of this Code. No new billboards shall be allowed within the downtown core. See following map:



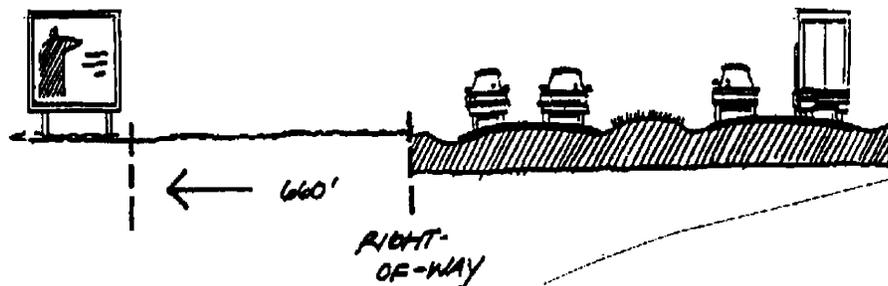
**DOWNTOWN CORE**

**G. Downsizing:**

1. **Restricted Corridors:** All existing billboards which are directed toward and visible from and within six hundred sixty feet (660') of Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass and airport entryway (Powers Boulevard between Fountain Boulevard and Milton Proby Parkway, Airport Entrance Road between Powers Boulevard and the airport terminal) corridors shall be downsized as follows:

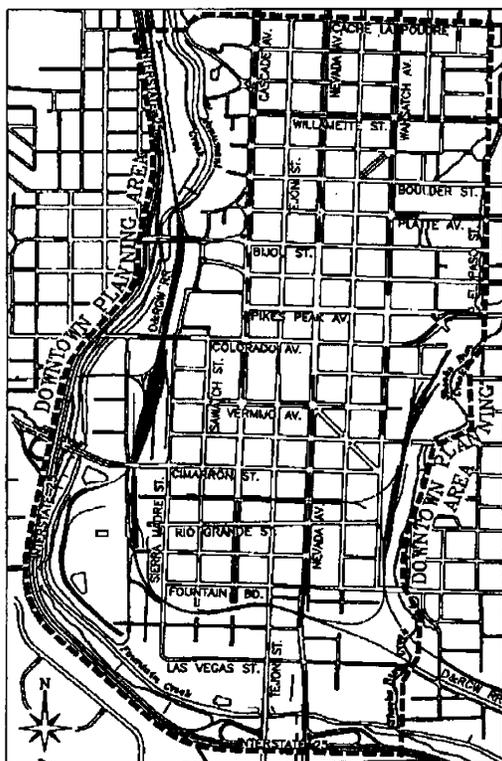
- a. Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area to four hundred (400) square feet by December 31, 1996.

## Interstate Highways



b. Billboards containing between two hundred forty five (245) and three hundred ninety nine (399) square feet in face area to two hundred forty five (245) square feet by December 31, 1996.

2. Downtown Planning Area: All existing billboards with the downtown planning area as illustrated in the following map shall be downsized as follows:



DOWNTOWN PLANNING AREA

- a. Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area to four hundred (400) square feet by December 31, 1996.
  - b. Billboards containing between two hundred forty five (245) and three hundred ninety nine (399) square feet in face area to two hundred forty five (245) square feet by December 31, 1996.
3. Nonrestricted Areas: All existing billboards, in areas other than the restricted corridors or downtown planning area, shall be downsized as follows:
- a. Billboards larger than four hundred (400) square feet in face area to four hundred (400) square feet by December 31, 1996.
  - b. Billboards containing between two hundred forty five (245) and three hundred ninety nine (399) square feet in face area to two hundred forty five (245) square feet by December 31, 1996.
  - c. Billboards less than two hundred forty five (245) square feet are not required to be downsized.

H. Cap on Number of Billboards:

1. Restricted Corridors And Downtown Planning Area: There shall be a cap on the number of billboards within the restricted corridors or Interstate 25, Highway 24, Highway 24 bypass, Powers Boulevard (between Fountain Boulevard and Milton Proby Parkway and the airport entrance road (between Powers Boulevard and the airport terminal) as well as within the downtown planning area (map shown above). No new billboards shall be allowed within these areas except with the removal of an existing billboard from the same corridor/area. Permits for new billboards within the restricted corridors or downtown planning area will only be issued to those persons possessing a "billboard credit" indicating they have removed a billboard from the same corridor or downtown planning area. All new billboards within restricted corridors or the downtown planning area shall comply with the design standards as set forth in this Section.
2. Citywide Cap: There shall be a limit of two hundred eight (208) total billboard locations within the corporate limits.

I. Exemptions: This section shall not pertain to the following types of off premises signs:

1. State approved signs within Colorado State highway rights of way.
2. Signs approved by the revocable permit process as set forth in chapter 3, article 2, part 2 of this Code.

3. Off premises temporary signs which comply with the provisions of Section 7.4.409.F.

4. Signs announcing a "special event" as defined in section 3.2.403 of this Code.

J. General Provisions: All billboards are subject to the applicable provisions for signs as set forth in this section, except Section 7.4.413 of this part shall not apply. All billboards are subject to the provisions set forth in article 5, part 12 of this chapter except where any provision of this part imposes a more specific requirement than imposed by article 5, part 12 of this chapter, then that specific requirement shall govern.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its final adoption and publication as provided by Charter.

Section 3. Council deems it appropriate that this ordinance be published by title and summary prepared by the City Clerk and that this ordinance shall be available for inspection and acquisition in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this 13th day of March, 2012.

**Finally passed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

**Mayor's Action:**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved: \_\_\_\_\_, based on the following objections:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**Council Action:**

- Finally adopted on a vote of \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_
- Amended and resubmitted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy N. Conway, Interim City Clerk