



Planning Services Division

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Chapter 6-25 – Business Signs

6-2502 – Definitions

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "A-board sign" means a portable A-frame sign (see "Portable sign").
- (4) "Banner sign" means a sign made of flexible materials and suspended from one edge or attached at the corners. A banner sign does not include a pennant or flag.
- (11) "Externally illuminated sign" means a sign that is illuminated by light reflecting on the sign from outside of the sign.
- (14) "Flashing sign" means an illuminated sign in which the artificial or reflected light is not intended to be maintained in a stationary or constant intensity.
- (15) "Freestanding sign" means a sign which is self-supporting in a fixed location and not attached to a building, fence or structure.
- (18) "Illegal sign" means a sign placed without proper governmental approval or permits as required by this code at the time the sign was placed. "Illegal sign" also means a nonconforming sign which has been altered, enlarged or replaced without conformance with the provisions of this chapter.
- (19) "Inflated sign" means a sign that is filled with three cubic feet or more of air or gas and is tethered to a building or to an object on the property.
- (22) "Internally illuminated" means a sign whose source of illumination is within the sign structure.
- (27) "Mobile sign" means a sign attached to, leaning against or suspended from a vehicle which is not an integrated part of the vehicle other than a bumper sticker. A mobile sign also includes a sign mounted on any type of device movable or capable of being moved by a vehicle.
- (30) "Moving sign" means a sign which has an actual or apparent moving, revolving or rotating part actuated by electrical, mechanical or other device or by wind current. The term "moving sign" does not include a time or temperature recording device, nor a sign on a motor vehicle.
- (43) "Pennant" means a flag or banner that is suspended from two corners and which tapers to a point or swallowtail.
- (47) "Portable sign" means a sign which is designed to be moved and is not attached to the ground, building, structure or other thing.
- (64) "Window sign" means a sign on the surface of a window or visible through the window from outside

6-2519 – Prohibited signs

The following signs are prohibited:

- (a) A sign which is unsafe, dilapidated or obsolete;
- (c) A sign on a tree, shrub or other natural object;
- (d) A sign placed across or in the public right-of-way, utility easement or on public or publicly maintained property without an encroachment permit approved by the city council other than notices of public

hearing placed on utility poles and city-owned banner signs placed on city-owned lampposts in the redevelopment project area along Mount Diablo Boulevard;

(f) A flashing, internally or externally illuminated, moving, rotating, animated or inflated sign except as permitted in this chapter;

(g) A sign with flags, flyers, pennants, pinwheels or which utilizes two or more light bulbs on a wire string;

(h) A sign which causes an unsafe condition by interfering with the vision of a motorist or which interferes with the safe and convenient passage of pedestrians;

(k) A portable, mobile or A-board sign, except as permitted by Section 6-2568;

6-2521 - Signs exempted from permit requirements.

Each of the following signs is permitted without a sign permit if it otherwise complies with the applicable requirements and restrictions of this chapter. Unless otherwise provided, and with the exception of temporary light bulbs on a string (subsection (j)), exempt signs are included in calculating the aggregate sign area allowance (see Sections 6-2560 and 6-2565). Unless otherwise provided no exempt sign shall exceed six feet in height.

(o) Window sign (see Section 6-2502(64));

6-2523 Permits subject to design review commission approval.

Except as provided in Sections 6-2521 (signs exempt from permit requirements) and 6-2522 (signs which the planning services manager may approve) and 6-2519 (signs which are unconditionally prohibited), each of the following signs requires design review commission approval for a permit:

(a) Banner (see Section 6-2502(4));

(c) Freestanding or monument (see Sections 6-2502(15) and (29) and 6-2554);

(h) Projecting — shingle and under-marquee, and projecting banner (see Sections 6-2502(49) and 6-2552, except as may be permitted under Section 6-2522 above);

6-2580 - Violation.

A violation of this chapter may be subject to enforcement in accordance with Chapter 1-9 and/or chapter 8-21 of this municipal code. (Ord. 565 § 2 (Exh. A) (part), 2007)

6-2582 - Abatement of illegal signs.

(a) If the code enforcement officer determines that an illegal sign poses an immediate danger to the general welfare, health and safety, the sign may be abated without the necessity for prior notice or hearing.

(b) If an illegal sign is located in the public right-of-way, the code enforcement officer may remove such signage without prior notice of hearing. The officer shall notify the sign's owner or sponsor of the removal and give 30 days notice for retrieval of the sign. If the owner or sponsor does not retrieve the sign within 30 days, the officer may dispose of the sign as it sees fit without further liability to the owner or sponsor for this action.

(c) Any other illegal signs may be subject to abatement in accordance with Chapter 8-21 of this code.

(d) The owner or sponsor of an abated sign shall be responsible for all the city's abatement and associated administrative costs. (Ord. 565 § 2 (Exh. A) (part), 2007)