

Sec. 21.5-20. - Sign maintenance and removal.

- (a) *Maintenance.* All signs shall be thoroughly and continuously maintained in a safe condition. All signs shall be painted at least every two years, and the paint shall be kept in good condition, except for parts made of galvanized or noncorroding metal or treated with effective wood preservative. All parts shall be free from deterioration, termite infestation, rot, or loosening. All signs shall be able to withstand safely at all times the wind pressures specified in any applicable law. If any sign is not so maintained, the sign inspector shall give written notice to the owner, lessee, or permittee thereof to so maintain the sign, and said person shall comply with said notice.
- (b) *Unsafe signs.* If any sign in the opinion of the sign inspector becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or otherwise unsafe, the sign inspector shall give written notice of the condition of the sign to the owner, lessor, or permittee of the sign. Said person shall correct the unsafe condition of the sign in a manner to be approved by the sign inspector in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.
- (c) *Unlawful signs.* If any sign is installed, erected, constructed, altered, maintained, or used in violation of any of the terms of this chapter, the sign inspector shall give written notice to the owner, lessee, permittee of the sign to alter the sign so as to comply with this chapter, and said person shall do so.
- (d) *Removal of signs.*
 - (1) Any notice to bring any sign into compliance with this chapter shall state that the sign may be subject to removal after a hearing. If such order is not complied with within 30 days, the sign inspector may initiate proceedings to revoke the permit and remove the sign at the expense of the owners, lessee, or permittee. Any sign company which received a permit for any removed sign or sign covered by a revoked permit shall be deemed to have forfeited the performance bond required by this chapter, and the sign inspector shall apply the proceeds of said bond to the removal of the sign.
 - (2) Any abandoned sign may be removed by the city at the expense of the owner, lessee, or permittee of the sign or the premises.
 - (3) The city shall be entitled to a lien against any premises from which the city removes a sign, to secure reimbursement to the city of all costs of removal.
 - (4) Any sign in violation of this chapter may be seized, transported, and impounded by the sign inspector after a hearing as provided by the Code of Ordinances. The custodian of the storage area shall maintain records of where such signs were located when they were impounded and the date of impoundment, and shall hold the signs in the storage area for a period of not more than 30 days. Any sign so held may be deemed by the owner thereof upon the payment of a fee to the city consisting of those sign seizure and daily storage fees as listed in the fee

schedule of the City of Angleton. Such fees shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any fine imposed upon such owner for violation of this chapter. Any sign impounded and stored and not redeemed by the owner thereof within 30 days may be destroyed or sold at auction by the city.

- (5) The removal of any sign by the city or the sign inspector under any provision of this chapter shall require a hearing before the board of adjustment and a determination by said board that the sign should be removed. The procedure shall be the same as for revocation of a permit.

(Ord. No. 2303, § 20, 6-15-93; Ord. No. 2507, § 20, 9-4-01; Ord. No. 20210810-009, § 49, 8-10-21)