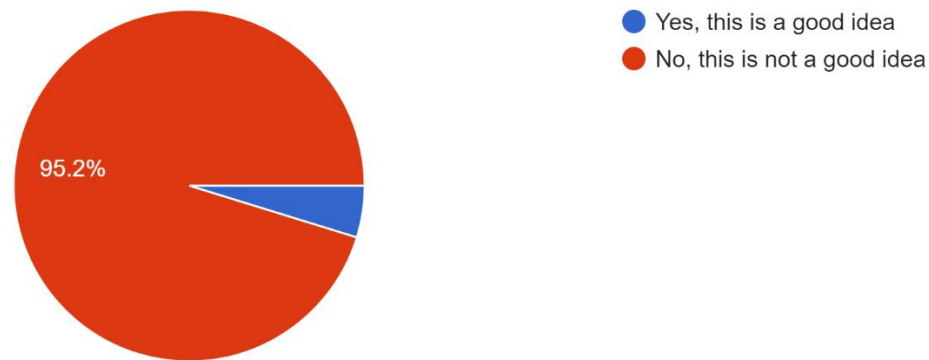


## What are your thoughts on allowing billboards at this location and within the city in general?

210 responses



Respondents were asked the above question with the option of providing additional feedback. 122 of the respondents added additional feedback. All responses are anonymous. Comments were edited to eliminate inappropriate language or minor edits relating to spacing, but otherwise appear as submitted. Many comments were concerned about costs versus benefits to the City. The City is not financing the project nor will it provide direct revenue for the City.

Frankly it would depend on what goes on the billboard. I wouldn't want it to be political.

A five story billboard that will eventually be either abandoned or battered by high winds and weather will become another eye sore. Who needs this size of billboard. The beautification committee should also have input but this sounds like a terrible precedent. A billboard on the west city limits for years had questionable language or innuendos. No control over the future management of this sounds awful

This has the potential to set a precedent, and I think that is key. Truly, more information is needed to garner opinions though. Would this be a Billy Sims themed billboard or could it be rented/purchased by anyone? More visual art in this city is needed, but I also would have concerns about this size and location.

I feel this will make the skyline crowded and look trashy. Signs that big just are not a good look

We already have too many inexperienced drivers at that intersection. No one needs another distraction such as a billboard or sign, when the main focus in town needs to be on the road, other cars, and pedestrians. Ark City is too rural to need to be adding such things in city limits. What was not told to the general public though or what I did not see, is what will the billboard say and be promoting? Because that's also important to know, not just about the billboard itself. Can more information be provided to the community for that?

Your article doesn't say how far north of Billy Sims or east inches parking lot. That big of a sign will hinder turning traffic as well as the traffic going south. I vote no.

Not enough info about the sign. What will it be for and I would think there would be more important things to spend money on than a sign! I for one, would like to not have to drive on a dirt road since I live in town.

There are far more important issues than adding a billboard to advertise already successful businesses in the proposed lot.

I'm a trucker. As such, I believe that such a sign would be a distraction to people driving on Summitt Street. With 44 yrs on the road, I must say, it takes very little to distract most drivers from the road. (Example, hey a squirrel). Thanks for the opportunity to give my thoughts, Perry Morton of Ark City

Spend the money and work on getting property owners to clean and fix up their properties to give our town more curb appeal.

It would be an eye sore. Why do we need a billboard in town?

Billboards inside city limits are tacky.

Need more information please. Purpose of sign? Detractor to businesses? Electronic? Cost?

Put it outside the city. This would be really ugly.

"50 feet high seems excessive. Concern about the wind blowing it over . Also what's the sign advertising!"

My vote is specifically for this location. It's near a very busy intersection and I feel it would be too distracting for drivers.

This is not a problem, and should not be a problem. Anything to help our businesses!!!!

Harms Local Businesses, Destroys Aesthetics, Erodes Community Identity, Decreases Property Values, Resident Dissatisfaction - eroded trust in local government.

Focus on the streets and not wasting tax payer money

Our town isn't large enough to need a billboard for anything, you can drive from one end to the other in a matter of minutes.

It would look terrible we are a small town and don't need bill cards that big in town

We already have enough eyesores, like empty buildings, in that area due to high taxes in this city. Let's not add something that in a few years will be empty and not taken care of. Big fat NO!! What happened to the plans of a convention center/library!!

I think placing it right next to Billy Sims as proposed is not an optimal location. It would take too much of the parking lot. Though, I think there are other areas within town that this could work well.

Billboard locations should be limited to commercial zones and shouldn't interfere with residential areas/views.

I like the idea of generating additional revenue, but I doubt the amount would justify the eyesores

That size billboard would look absolutely ridiculous in that area. It will look even more like a co Crete jungle than it already does.

Large billboards in town are tacky. This town looks run down enough. Stop.

This area of town is already plagued by empty storefronts, broken signage and an outdated shopping center. A billboard would further take away from the beauty of the city. If one pops up, others may follow. We need to work harder to improve the look of our main streets.

That parking lot, specifically that portion of the parking lot gets full at times. This would an eye sore.

I vote no because you refuse to give out details about it.

Wouldn't want the billboard T that location as it would be distractable for drivers at the intersecto

Please do not allow this sign. It will like tacky and add to the run down image AC already has.

I personally think adding stuff like this in town kind of makes the town look junky as people are driving around. Now I think it would not be a problem on the outskirts of town or around the bypass.

We are not in Las Vegas and don't need a big billboard to point the way

It is unnecessary and looks tacky.

Billboards like that don't belong in town. There's plenty of highway space for something like that. So much of this city is an eyesore already; adding this to it would make it so much worse.

I don't like the idea. A huge billboard is an eyesore. What needs to be advertised that big? What will be advertised? We are a small town community not some big city. If the city issues this permit it just opens the door for others to apply as well. I can't imagine our city scape being polluted with advertising. Everywhere we look these days we're overrun with ads. TV, online and this will be big oversized huge ads. Also the location is right in the middle of the busiest section of summit. Might be a distraction. I would not be opposed to billboards a long the bypass or even south of Madison. Right in the middle of our businesses just doesn't sit well.

Billboards belong outside of town.

There are too many distracions as it is. Speeders and inatinitive drivers. A real safety issue.

Billboards in the city is not a good look for us.

Most billboards will eventually suffer from poor maintenance. Having an out of town company install a billboard on Summit Street is asking for future problems. Part of the problem with our downtown building now are absentee owners.

I think it would look very tacky put it up on the bypass

I'm not a fan of that type of billboard within the city.

Very tacky, and what happens to the sign when the original owners decide they don't want it anymore? Why not just put it outside of town where they are meant to be?

That's a ridiculous size for that small area.

I don't like the extra distractions, expecaly in that location. High school drivers...

I think the best place for the billboard would be on the highway. We don't need that in the business district. It's time for the planning committee to get a real plan! Let's make policies that enhance Arkansas City.

This is extremely tacky and can only devalue property in the area. Do not allow out of town businesses to bring in billboards that will not add value to our city.

More of an eye sore. Don't need a billboard there for our small town..

In my opinion this is tacky and not the right place for a billboard. Let's explore other options to bring money into the city that doesn't make our town look cheap and desperate for ways to make money.

You didn't say what will be on the billboard would help. Is it to promote Billy Simms restaurant since it's on that property? That would help citizens to know what your advertising or promoting on billboard. Thanks!

Billboards are trashy

A giant billboard would look tacky ... .

This will help the business in the long run. If your not from Ark City most people drive by that area because of the mo signage. Help AC out and do something that will help businesses out not run them out of town.

Any business or competitor could advertise, potentially taking away business from local businesses. Also this billboard & any others would be an eyesore and nuisance for traveling within city limits

We already pay high property taxes as it is im not sure a billboard is worth the increase when it doesn't help the town out.

I would like to see this voted down. It will not help or promote anything local in this town. It will cause a major distraction at one of the busiest intersections in our town. During school time there are enough things going on at that stop light. We do not need someone staring at a bill board and causing more accidents and people getting hurt. It will effect visibility of people to drive and also people looking for businesses in the shopping center that pay property tax. La Fiesta, Anytime Fitness, Shoe Sensation, and Ark City Chiropractic are all in that center and It will really effect the view of our businesses and the signs that promote them. I am sure La Fiesta does not want a big sign advertising another eating establishment in Wichita in their parking lot. I know I do not want someone advertising another Chiropractor in my parking lot. There are plenty of spots for billboards on the edge of town in all directions. We do not need one in the middle of town on the major road to our High School distracting kids and adults. It will make this town look trashy.

What kind of division would it cause for a big red MAGA or Pro Abortion sign ? Would create alot more division in our community. Leave the Billboards to private citizens outside the city limits.

It's to big and we don't need any advertising. It's heart breaking what our city considers for our town.

Let's not ugly up the cleaner part of Summit with this sign!

"Why would we need a billboard of this size within the city limits!! It seems it would block the view of existing business signs. Advertising for anything other than our own city is uncalled for! Voting NO!!!"

I believe it would be an eye sore, large billboards in a small town just doesn't fit. They belong outside of city along the highway.

The only benefit would be if the city got the money. Move on.

Sounds like an eyesore and just a way for an out of town investor with no concern for our community to make money.

I think this would cause a visibility issue as well as creating an eyesore. I see no reason we need billboards inside the city limits.

"Billy Simms is a restaurant on the way out looking to improve their economics. This is a fool hardy attempt to get an ugly building to turn a profit in short order. Please no billboards in town, beauty matters and having a beautiful place is having civic pride. Thank you"

We need our city to look nice and adding a billboard that size within the city limits would look tacky. If the billboards between Ark City and Winfield are empty (and I believe a few are) and they receive more traffic, why would anyone pay to advertise inside city limits? Please, let's keep our city looking tasteful and clean!

I would like to know who wants to put up the sign. What it's for and what it will be advertising. I think every time they wanted to change advertisers a new approval should be required.

I checked out their website gallery online and it just seems like an oversized eyesore. Like a turnpike or truck stop type billboard. If it's not strict for local business use we don't need it. What if it was a competitor for a business already in the strip mall?

Absolute eyesore. Trashy. It will open the door for many more, before we know it there will be many. Please do not do this in our town.

Ugly for the community!

That sounds like it will be tacky and not something that will improve the City

A sign that big would not be an asset to the area.

I say no! I love our city the way it is. Leave those big Billboards for bigger cities or on the hwy. Also why are we just giving others business? We need to do something that's going to 1) help the businesses that are already here & 2) bring other businesses here to our town. Not this

"Obstructive to current local business. Eye sore to thru traffic and local residents. Advertising for local business/issues is not needed in this format. Who profits? Distraction to drivers. Oftentimes these billboards are outdated or blank or simply not kept up. Especially if the owner is out of state, they're not concerned with appearances. Outskirts of city limits would be more appropriate "

"I have several concerns/thoughts on this proposal. First, what party is responsible for the funds to install it? If it would be the city, that is a negative in my opinion. City funds can be allocated for actual needs, or a project that would provide recreational use for citizens, rather than being put towards a medium for commercial advertisement. Secondly, have the businesses in that vicinity been solicited for input? The location of the billboard seems as though it may have direct impact on their visibility/traffic—supporting business already in place should be at the foremost in consideration (especially LOCALLY OWNED businesses). My third concern falls to question who would have access to use the proposed billboard. Would this give precedence to local businesses, or would it be available to out of town business that competes with what we have locally? If the billboard installation is paid for by the city (back to the first concern), is the revenue from the sign rental going to be substantial enough to truly justify the expense? Should it be installed, if not by the city, any income derived from it could be funneled away from Ark City—if done and managed by an outside entity. This again falls to my concern for the support of LOCAL businesses. This may seem like a minute issue in light of many other matters that I am sure are in discussion. However, I feel that the nature of these concerns needs to be weighed carefully on EVERY front at the decision table. Local business will equal funds generated in Ark City, for Ark City. Dollars spent with an entity that is not locally owned, but in city jurisdiction, does bring sales tax benefit and employment opportunity. However, dollars spent with a locally owned business bring those benefits along with the income of the business remaining local to feed the local economy all around. "

Billboards, like the one your voting on, should not be in our small town if you want it to grown. Maybe have them on the bypass. But not on summit st. You should also look at Facebook comments before you vote on stuff as well. There is a lot of ppl that voice there idea's but can't got to your meetings.

The are is for local traffic, no need for large advertising in this area.

Why do we continue to allow thing this community does NOT need. Yall wonder why everyone is selling their houses and moving smh.. fix our water lines, our roads, our taxes, our hospital, our schools. STOP doing the dumb ...!!

There are enough wrecks on summit street in that area without people trying to read a billboard.

It would damage the appearance of the city, creating an eye sore, it's a business that cares nothing about the town, and could be a distraction to drivers. No. Just no.

I think outside entities are taking notice of opportunities we somehow have gotten it's time to capitalize on it. If u build it they will come

Why would someone in Ohio want to build a billboard that dwarfs the local businesses in the area? Those businesses are more important than any billboard that I can imagine being built there. Based on just the little I know, no - I am not in favor of billboards (with "billboards" being signs that a) signs that are larger/taller than business signs on the same block and b) advertising entities that are not related to the buildings adjacent to it) in town (with "in town" defined as the North Caseys to the south bridge and the railroad track to the Arkansas River) because of concerns about economic fallout (with "economic fallout" referring to a) obstructing the view and beauty of local businesses/scenery and b) resulting in possible blight as no local owner is being held responsible for the structure and its condition/maintenance/repair). Who owns the land that they want to build on? Certainly that also plays into this.

I fear that if they are allowed to put this sign up more places will want to have them put up. Thus causing a cluttered skyline and detracting from local businesses signage. Not to add at this particular location I believe it will add to more car accidents especially if ppl at the new supposed Starbucks are sidetracked as the ones at Sonic are in the mornings. It would be a different story if the sign would be placed by a raised highway or something but this one is in the main intersection of town.

It would be an eyesore

Not in town, too distracting

Don't need these large billboards within city limits

Billboards are made to draw your attention to the city or area, why are we putting it in the city? why not out by the highways?

ARK CITY does not need a billboard in the business area of town. This is NOT a good idea. It will be an eyesore for our town.

I feel this is improperly placed. I would be fine with it out on the highway about a mile north of Summit.

I feel that it would make the intersection more dangerous.

Big eye sore and no specifics o. What can and will be permitted for advertisement.

This is something you see in busy parts of large cities and to put it inside the city limits of a small town would make it our nice little town trashy looking. Keep the billboards outside the city limits please!!

"There is absolutely no need for that in this town. Billboards are not a positive look, rather, they look like junk and typically are just sleazy "lawyers" or other scammed stuff on it. Also, the location is awful. Would make the town look like

trash and out of place. We need to work on cleaning up the town, not trashing it up. There is more important things that's needed than a huge billboard. "

A large billboard would be an eyesore inside of city limits.

Billboards this large should be placed outside the city limits along the highway. Not in a city the size of Arkansas Coty.

I would be more willing if it were a local business advertising, but that doesn't appear to be the case. Seems unsightly to let anyone randomly advertise in this way in this area.

This is make our town look tacky & unprofessional. These types of advertisements needs to be kept outside of town where there is ample room and in an open area. We don't want advertisements that are distasteful & have no bearing on our town.

"There is a billboard there for current businesses, but what's wrong with another one for other businesses in A.C.? As long as they don't advertise for out of Town businesses!

This is too tall and too large for the middle of town in my opinion.

I think it's tacky and not necessary at all!

Wind, weather, upkeep, and tacky. Keep them on the outskirts. If the city does not allow commercial traffic, why advertise???

Distracting to drivers

It would be a big eyesore as people enter Ark City

I do not believe, for safety reasons, that billboard needs to be at a major intersection in town. Who is going to control what's put on it? What if the weather causes damage to it and other nearby properties? This should not be granted.

What purpose would it serve as it's not a local advertising?

Not enough information and sounds like an eye sore.

There have been multiple wrecks due to I attention to lights I worry this would cause an I crease of inattentive drovers

The sign would be another eye sore to the downtown landscape. There are busy signs already in the parking lot for local businesses. It could potentially block their signs and view of business fronts. It is a busy intersection and would be a distraction. There will be increased traffic in the area with Starbucks opening, last thing the city needs to do is approve another distraction.

Changing the view along our main streets and opening the door for more is not something I would like see as a large revenue for the city. Second is the no control of the ad displayed. Even if it is a legitimate business advertising it probably is not a local business so why allow this when local business us invested in our community.

This would be an eyesore in our community

"It will look junky! Also it will be advertising for a business that is not in Ark City. Support Local ALWAYS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ALWAYS!!!! "

Seems like it would block businesses behind it? Making it hard to see? Billboards don't typically appear in the middle of town do they?

No reason to put up such a large billboard. Too costly.

Let's do things to beautify the city or enhance life in the city. Billboards are eye sores!

Billboards in town would be an ugly eyesore

Ugly

We don't need this!!

It looks trashy, if you let one on, more are sure to follow. Not the image Ark City wants to perpetuate.

Keep AC small, local, not an advert for another town.

I think billboards will be eyesores, and should not be allowed

It will cause a lot of accidents, put more business in there