

AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 62
OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE TO DELETE CHAPTER 62 OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE AND TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof:

Deletion of Chapter 62 – Signs, as follows:

Chapter 62- SIGNS

Footnotes:

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Cross reference- Buildings and building regulations, ch. 14; planning, ch. 54; zoning ordinance, app. C. State Law reference- Control of signs and signals, O.C.G.A. § 32-6-50 et seq.;unlawful placement of signs within right-of- way of public road, O.C.G.A. § 32-6-51; outdoor adverting near state highways, O.C.G.A. § 32-6-70 et seq.

ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

Secs. 62- 1-62-30. - Reserved.

ARTICLE 11. - INTERSTATE SIGNS

Sec. 62-31. - Generally.

- (a) This article shall apply to all outdoor advertising signs abutting or visible from the Interstate 16 and 95 right-of-way in the county.
- (b) No sign shall be erected or maintained unless it is in compliance with the regulations of this article.
- (c) Signs must be constructed of durable materials, maintained in good condition, and not permitted to become dilapidated.
- (d) All signs located on sites abutting or visible from the Interstate 16 and 95 right-of-way shall conform with O.C.G.A. § 32-6-70 et seq., the Georgia Outdoor Advertising Code, and shall meet all federal and state requirements necessary to obtain a permit under that code. In instances where the sign controls of this article are more strict, these regulations shall apply.

(e) This article shall also apply to any sign which advertises an activity, business, product, or service. (Ord. of 10-4-83, § I)

Sec. 62-32. - Prohibited signs.

- (a) Signs imitating warning signals are prohibited. No sign shall display lights resembling the flashing lights customarily used in traffic signals or in police, fire, ambulance, or rescue vehicles; nor shall any signs use the words, slogans, dimensional shape, and size, or colors of the governmental traffic signs.
- (b) No signs, except traffic signs and signals and informational signs erected by a public agency, are permitted within any street or highway right-of-way.

- (c) Signs painted or attached to natural features such as trees or rocks, telephone poles, utility poles, or fence posts are prohibited.
- (d) Fluttering ribbons and banners are prohibited.
- (e) Signs within 300 feet of any officially designated historical site or monument, except signs pertaining to that particular site or monument, are prohibited.

(Ord. of 10-4-83, § II)

Sec. 62-33. - Regulation for specific types of signs.

- (a) *Home occupation signs.* One nonilluminated professional or business nameplate not exceeding one square foot in area is permitted for a home occupation.
- (b) *Signs of work under construction.* One nonilluminated sign not exceeding 40 square feet in area displaying the name of the building, the contractors, the architects, the engineers, the owners, the financial, selling, and development agencies is permitted upon the premises of any work under construction, alteration, or removal. Such signs shall be removed from the site within 30 days after the completion of the project.
- (c) *Temporary subdivision signs.* Temporary signs, not exceeding 40 square feet in area announcing a land subdivision development, are permitted on the premises of the land subdivision. Such signs shall be spaced not less than 300 feet apart. They shall be removed when 75 percent of the lots are conveyed.
- (d) *Roof signs.* Not more than one roof sign structure may be erected on the roof of any one building. No roof sign structure shall extend more than 25 feet above the elevation of the roof.
- (e) *Wall signs.* Signs on the walls of a building, including signs attached flat against the wall, painted wall signs, and projecting signs, shall meet the following requirements:
 - (1) *Signs on the front surface of a building.* The total area of signs on the exterior front surface of a building shall not exceed 25 percent of the front surface of the building.
 - (2) *Signs on the side and rear surface of a building.* The total area of signs on a side or rear surface of a building shall not exceed 50 percent of the exterior side or rear surface of the building, respectively.
 - (3) *Projecting signs.* Wall signs attached flat against a wall may extend not more than 24 inches from the wall. Signs attached at an angle to a wall may extend outward from the wall of a building not more than five feet.

- (f) *Illuminated signs.* Illuminated devices shall be so placed and so shielded that light from the sign itself will not be cast directly into any residential district, sleeping rooms in any district, or the eyes of an automobile or vehicular driver.
- (g) *Outdoor advertising signs.* Outdoor advertising signs shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) *Uniform size.* The outside measurements of all such signs shall be 12 feet in height and 50 feet in length, with or without trim.
- (2) *Illumination.* All illuminated signs shall use base-mounted lights and shall be activated by photoelectric cells. Additional lighting, including but not limited to neon, animation, and running lights, is prohibited.
- (3) *Height above interstate grade.* All signs shall be a minimum of ten feet above adjacent interstate pavement measuring from the lower portion of the sign face. Signs shall not exceed 30 feet in height. Two signs in the same location (back-to-back) or V formation shall be the same height above the interstate's surface.
- (4) *Extrusions prohibited.* Extrusions beyond the face of the sign, excluding aprons, are prohibited.
- (5) *Number of signs per location.* Only one sign shall be allowed to face the same direction per location. This allows back-to-back or V formation signs but prohibits two signs (side-by-side) facing the same direction.
- (6) *Spacing.* Sign location shall be no less than 500 feet apart measuring from the two closest points.
- (7) *Distance from property lines.* Sign structures shall be no less than ten feet from any property or right-of-way line.
- (8) *Number of signs per interchange quadrant.* Three outdoor advertising signs per quadrant of any interchange adjacent to the interstate highway are allowed. These signs must be within commercially or industrially zoned area as specified in state law and are restricted to an area 1,200 feet long beginning 500 feet from the point where the pavement widens on the main traveled way to accommodate the longest entrance or exit ramp.
- (9) *Historic area locations prohibited.* No sign shall be placed in or obstruct the view of an area of designated historic interest.
- (h) *On-premises signs.* On-premises signs located within 100 feet of a regularly used part of the activity being advertised and located on the same property and for sale or for lease signs located on the property being advertised are

permitted.

(i) *Nonconforming signs.* Any legally erected sign that would become nonconforming as a result of this article will be allowed to remain until purchased by the department of transportation or the county, provided that the sign owner meets the requirements of state laws and rules and regulations governing such signs.

(Ord. of 10-4-83, § III)

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This ____ day of _____ 20__.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

FIRST READING: _____

BY: _____
CHAIRMAN

SECOND READING: _____

ATTEST:

STEPHANIE JOHNSON
EFFINGHAM COUNTY CLERK