

City of Eustis

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- TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION
- FROM: TOM CARRINO, CITY MANAGER

DATE: December 13, 2022

RE: Resolution Number 22-91: New Ace Hardware Conditional Sign

Introduction:

Resolution Number 22-91 approves a Conditional Sign for Ace Hardware at 1750 N. SR 19 (Alternate Key Number 3812025) to permit a total of 181.3-square foot wall signs in the Suburban Corridor District design district that only allows a total of 100 square feet.

Recommended Action:

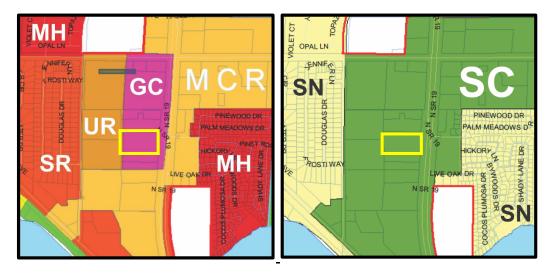
If the City Commission finds that the requested conditional sign meets the required findings, they have discretion to approve, or if not, to deny.

Background:

- 1. Pertinent Site Information:
 - a. The site subject to this request is 1750 N. SR 19 and comprises approximately 3.5 acres. The site is located on the west side of N. SR 19, five (5) parcels south of the southwest side of the intersection of SR 19 and CR 44.
 - b. The site and surrounding properties' land uses, design district designations, and existing uses are shown below.

	Future Land Use	Existing Use	Design District
Site	General Commercial District	Commercial	Suburban Corridor
North	General Commercial District	Commercial	Urban Center
South	General Commercial District	Commercial	Urban Corridor
East	Mixed Commercial/Residential	Vacant Commercial	Urban Center
West	Urban Residential District	Multi-Family	Urban Center

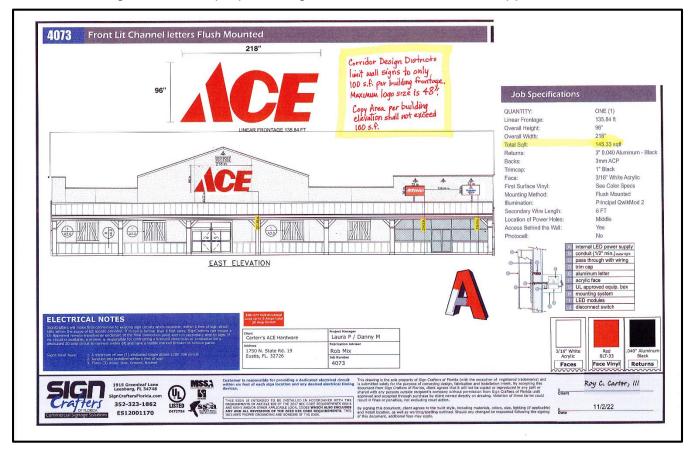
Future Land Use

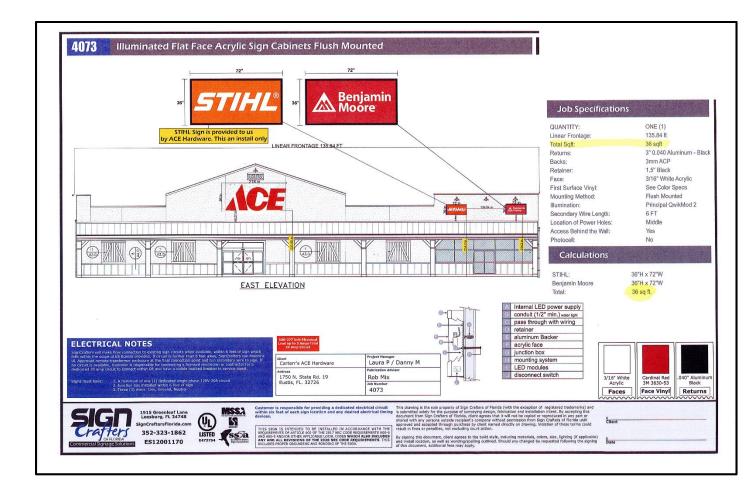


Applicant's Request:

The applicant is, requesting "permission to install three (3) wall signs which total more than 180 square feet on the front of their building (along N. SR 19). In addition, the Ace logo is also proposed at 96" when the code maximum is 48" for each logo letter. The applicant's justification statement is as follows: "To provide a better sign option for the owners that can be seen from the highway by passerby traffic."

The below images show the proposed signs, which will be erected if approved.





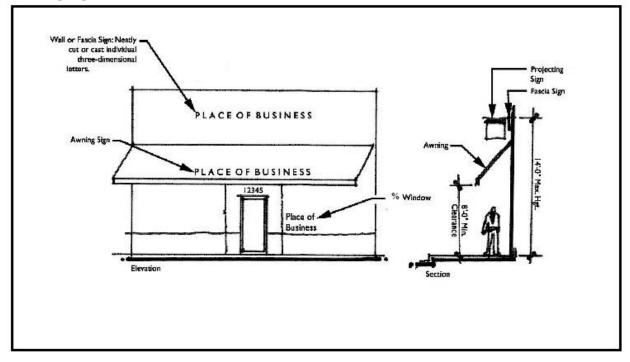
Applicable Land Development Regulations & Analysis of Request

Sec. 115-11.2(d) - Sign standards.

(d) Building signs nonresidential uses. Building signs are permitted in commercial, industrial, mixed use, public institutional and agricultural land use districts, or on any property with an approved a conditional use permit for a nonresidential use, or on any property in a Residential land use district where an existing legally conforming or non-conforming nonresidential use exists, with the following provisions:

(1) Types of signs. Building signs shall be limited to wall, canopy, awning, marquee, and projecting signs.

(2) Maximum number of signs. In corridor districts, up to two building signs are permitted per building elevation. In all other design districts, up to two building signs are permitted per building frontage.



(3) Placement . The permitted building signs may be placed on the wall, awnings, or be a projecting sign in compliance with the following standards:

a. Building signs (wall, awning, marquee, canopy) .

1.Wall signs shall display only one surface, shall not be mounted more than 6 inches from any wall, and shall not project more than 12 inches from the building.

2. The maximum combined copy area for building signs, including any sign backgrounds, shall be as follows:

<u>Corridor design districts</u>: One hundred square feet per building frontage, maximum letter size 36 inches, maximum logo size 48 inches. Maximum copy area may be distributed per sign and along building elevations as desired by the business consistent with the maximum number of signs permitted above; however, copy area per building elevation shall not exceed 100 square feet.

The property is located in a corridor design district (Suburban Corridor District) so the sign standards for corridor design districts apply. Generally, a maximum copy area of 100-square feet is permitted, but this property desires to have three wall signs which total more than 181 square feet. In addition, the Land Development Regulations regulates the maximum height of a logo letter to 48" when the applicant desires to have a 96" logo.

Section 115-14 (e) Structural requirements and construction standards.

All construction inspections and determinations shall be in accordance with Chapter 118, Construction Standards, of this Land Development Regulation.

A separate sign permit has been submitted for the sign. However, until the City Commission makes its determination, the application will remain open.

Section 115-11.5 Conditional Signs:

Permitted. Signs that are not addressed or permitted in this section may be permitted as conditional signs when there are unique situations or circumstances which require individual review of the location, size, and impact in order to determine the appropriateness of the sign on a particular site and its compatibility with adjacent uses.

Public hearing. The City Commission may approve a conditional sign by resolution in a public hearing in accordance with section 102-12.

Conditions. The City Commission may attach conditions and limitations to the approval as necessary to carry out the spirit and purpose of the Land Development Regulations and the Comprehensive Plan and to prevent or minimize adverse impacts. These conditions may include, but are not limited to size, duration, landscaping and lighting.

In approving conditional signs, the City Commission shall make the following findings:

There are special circumstances and conditions peculiar to the site, the business, or the sign that are not applicable to other sites or businesses.

The property subject to the request is located along N. SR 19 on the west side of the road. This is a heavily traveled, major roadway in the City. The special circumstances appear to be that the building is of significant size to warrant a larger sign than allowed by the Land Development Regulations.

The approval does not grant any special privilege denied to other sites or businesses.

The purpose and intent of Section 115-11 of the Land Development Regulations is to, "create the legal framework for signage regulation that is intended to facilitate an easy and agreeable communication between people. This Code recognizes the need for adequate business identification and advertising and communication in addition to the need to protect the safety and welfare of the public and provide a well-maintained, attractive appearance in the community."

Approval could be perceived as a special privilege denied to other sites and businesses and could set a precedent for other conditional sign approvals in the future.

The sign is compatible with its environment and does not create any unsafe conditions or detriments to the public welfare.

If this conditional sign request is approved, the applicant's building permit application will be approved. However, it will still require approval of the engineered drawings by the Building Official confirming compliance with the Florida Building Code.

Community Input

The Department has notified adjacent property owners, advertised the resolution, and the applicant posted the site. There has been no community contact regarding the notice as of the writing of this report. The community will have an opportunity for additional input at the meeting.

Budget / Staff Impact:

There is no budget or staff impact associated with this resolution, beyond regular review time.

Alternatives:

- 1. Approve Resolution Number 22-91
- 2. Deny Resolution Number 22-91

Discussion of Alternatives:

- 1. Alternative 1 approves the resolution. Advantages:
 - The applicant could move forward with obtaining sign permit approval for the installation of the signs.

Disadvantages:

- A precedent could be set for approving other conditional signs in the future.
- 2. Alternative 2 denies the resolution. Advantages:
 - A precedent would not be set for other conditional sign approvals in the future. Disadvantages:
 - The applicant would need to redesign the signs to meet the size and height limitations.

Prepared By: Mike Lane, Development Services Director

Attachments:

• Resolution No. 22-91 with Exhibit A (Signs)