

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING MORATORIUM ON
ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN SIGN REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, the City Council has identified various issues with the terms and conditions of City Zoning Ordinances related to “Signage”, and

WHEREAS, in order to allow the City Planning and Zoning Board to continue the opportunity to review the portions of the Ordinance related to signage, make recommendations to the Council regarding signage, and to allow the City Council to act on such recommendations, the City Council finds it appropriate to extend the stop on enforcement of certain sign regulations as described herein while said review is underway, and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the above and foregoing, until such time that the Council modifies the applicable City Code Sections; rescinds the directives of this Resolution, or one-hundred twenty days passes from the approval hereof, whichever occurs first, City Staff shall not enforce the requirement that signage placed in the following areas be removed so long as said signage meets the following categories and/or limits:

1. Area of effect: signage located within the following areas:
 - a. 1st Street East between the Wapsipinicon River and 4th Ave. NE – both sides
 - b. 4th Ave. NE from 1st Street East to 2nd Street NE – West side only
 - c. 3rd Ave. NE from 1st Street East to 2nd Street NE – both sides
 - d. 2nd Ave. NE from 1st Street East to 2nd Street NE – both sides
- ; and
2. Signage to not be removed during moratorium: Portable Pedestrian Signs (“A-frame”, “sandwich board,” or “T-frame”) placed within the public right-of-way for retail and service uses in the area identified in item 1 above, provided:
 - a. The sign is placed within the public right of way immediately adjacent to the business no more than 20’ from the main entrance to the building.
 - b. The sign is no larger than eight square feet and no taller than four feet.
 - c. The sign is placed on or near a sidewalk and maintains the required ADA clearances for pedestrians' safe passage. It must not be placed in any location that creates visual obstructions or safety hazards for users of the right-of-way.
 - d. The sign is removed from the right of way during non-business hours.
 - e. The sign is designed with durable materials and quality aesthetics for use on a recurring basis. Changeable copy, such as chalkboards, can be included as part of the design.

And

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that an extension on the temporary moratorium on the enforcement of these sign regulations consistent with the above and foregoing directives, is appropriate, in the best interest of the City, and the public in general.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, BUCHANAN COUNTY, IOWA, that the above and foregoing limits to the enforcement of sign regulations and the procedures related thereto, are hereby approved, this “moratorium” does not apply to the enforcement of sign regulations that fall outside the scope of those described within the body of this Resolution, same to continue in full force and effect.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- Passed and approved by a majority vote of the Independence City Council on the 14th day of July 2025.

Record of Voting:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- declared passed and adopted by the Mayor on this 14th day of July 2025.

Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, IA

ATTEST:

Susi Lampe, CMC, IaCMC, IaCFO,
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, IA