



City of McCleary

Memorandum

To: Mayor Orffer

From: Todd Baun- Director of Public Works

Date: September 3rd, 2021- For September 8th Council Meeting

Subject: Sign Code Clarification

RECOMMENDATION

Please advise on the sign code

BACKGROUND

We have a sign compliant that was submitted. We started investigating our code, the state RCW, and WAC about the rules of placement of political signs. What we have found is, the first step that should happen is the sign placement issue will have to go in front of the Council for clarification of the type of signs at the next council meeting

Our code states the following:

17.28.090 Signs.

- A. The construction and placement of all signs shall conform to the International Building Code.
- B. **No sign, except for traffic signs, portable signs, or other signs approved by the city council, shall be located within the right-of-way of any street or highway, nor project beyond authorized property lines,** except as provided below:
Projecting signs in the C-1 and C-2 districts and authorized by the city shall extend no closer than two feet to the edge of the roadway and provide a minimum clearance of ten feet from the highest existing grade.
- C. Off-premise signs are not allowed in any zoning district except for the following so long as they do not constitute a hazard to life or property:
 - 1. Traffic signs and control devices;

2. Political signs not larger than thirty-two square feet;
3. Public notice signs;
4. Special event signs and banners for periods not to exceed sixty days when such placement is authorized by the city;
5. Real estate sale signs not larger than four square feet; and
6. Two-sided portable signs with each side no larger than nine square feet.
7. Subject to prior approval by the city administrator, off-premises directional signs providing guidance to the location of an assisted care facility licensed by the State of Washington subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The use is located upon property at least one block from Simpson Avenue, South 3rd Street, or North Summit Road.
 - b. The sign shall be directional in nature indicating only the name of the facility and the direction of travel required to reach the facility.
 - c. No more than two signs for each facility.
 - d. The sign or signs requested to be placed shall be obtained and installed by the city. Prior to ordering of the sign/s, the applicant shall pay to the city the estimated cost of such acquisition and the placement by city staff. In the event the estimate is less than the actual cost incurred, the applicant shall pay such cost upon the billing therefore: Provided that, in the event of the failure to pay within thirty days of such billing, the city may remove the sign/s. If the estimate is higher than the actual costs incurred, the applicant shall be reimbursed the excess.
- D. The maximum height for projecting signs or freestanding signs shall not extend more than five feet above the highest exterior wall of the building it serves or, if mounted on the roof ridge line, more than two feet above that ridge line.
- E. The property owner is responsible for removing any sign advertising a commercial use that has been discontinued for longer than thirty days.

(Ord. 709 § 1 (part), 2004)

(Ord. No. 749, § I, 7-25-2008)

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 47.42, the Highway Advertising Control Act, regulates signing on Interstate Highways, primary highways, and highways that are part of the Scenic and Recreational System. Signs erected on private property that are adjacent to these highways must comply with the Highway Advertising Control Act, rules contained in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 468-66, and applicable local agency sign codes.