

CH. 28 OFF-PREMISES SIGNS

10. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF ORDINANCE O-2526-72: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AMENDING SECTION 28-601 ("STANDARDS") OF ARTICLE 28-VI ("OFF-PREMISES SIGNS") WITHIN CHAPTER 28 ("SIGN REGULATIONS") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORMAN TO ADOPT CORRECTED LANGUAGE FULLY IMPLEMENTING PREVIOUSLY-APPROVED STANDARDS; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY THEREOF.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

- 1. Staff Report**
- 2. Ordinance Annotated**
- 3. Ordinance Clean**

Staff Presentation

Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney, presented the Staff Report for the Off-Premises Signs change.

Applicant Presentation

No applicant presentation as staff is the applicant.

Public Comments

A.C Raines, 3320 Heather Glen Terr, Norman, OK (Comment)

Steven Long, 3313 Heather Glen Terr, Norman, OK (Comment)

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Kindel clarified the previous agenda item involved on-premises signage, while the current request concerned an off-premises billboard. She also explained City-initiated ordinance amendments are typically scheduled at the end of Planning Commission agendas as a courtesy to other applicants. She noted Planning Commissioners independently review agenda items through site visits, aerial imagery, and other available information in addition to the materials presented at meetings. She emphasized the Commission serves in an advisory capacity and final decisions rest with the City Council. She encouraged interested residents to submit comments to the City Council and thanked members of the public for their participation in the planning process.

Commissioner Bird noted the Commission has discussed digital signage regulations on several occasions and suggested the proposed ordinance amendment was likely prompted by previous discussions rather than the current application. She asked staff to confirm that understanding.

Lora Hoggatt, Planning Services Manager, confirmed the proposed ordinance amendment resulted from earlier Commission discussions regarding off-premises signage rather than the current application. She explained the distinction between on-premises and off-premises signs and noted, during a review of the ordinance, inconsistencies were identified regarding where off-premises signs were permitted. Ms. Hoggatt explained changes to the off-premises sign section were adopted by Council previously but were never removed from the text of the ordinance in practice. When the City recodified the City codes in 2023, the language was effectively added back. She stated the amendment was intended to clarify the existing code language and emphasized the item had been prepared, published, and publicly noticed before comments were received on the current billboard application.

Commissioner Bird stated the proposed ordinance amendment was a housekeeping measure intended to clarify previously adopted code language and provide consistency in the City's signage regulations. She noted broader discussions regarding digital billboard regulations and potential updates to the City's sign code could occur in the future but expressed support for the proposed cleanup amendment.

Motion made by Commissioner Kindel, **Seconded** by Commissioner McDaniel. Voting Yea: Commissioner McClure, Chair Bird, Commissioner McDaniel, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Kindel.

The motion was approved.