

BILL NO: 26-31
ORDINANCE NO:260713A

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILLARD, MISSOURI, REGULATING THE
PLACEMENT OF TEMPORARY SIGNS WITHIN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND
AUTHORIZING THEIR REMOVAL.**

WHEREAS, the City of Willard is responsible for maintaining public rights-of-way for the benefit of the public; and

WHEREAS, temporary signs placed within public rights-of-way interfere with mowing, maintenance activities, and the safe and efficient operation of City equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen finds that regulating the placement of temporary signs within public rights-of-way serves legitimate governmental interests including public safety, preservation of public property, and efficient maintenance of City infrastructure;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF WILLARD, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect public rights-of-way, facilitate routine maintenance, promote public safety, and preserve the efficient use of City resources through content-neutral regulation of temporary signs located within areas maintained by the City.

Section 2. Definitions.

For purposes of this section:

Public Right-of-Way means any street, highway, alley, sidewalk, easement, utility corridor, drainage area, parkway, median, or other property owned, dedicated, maintained, or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the City for transportation or public infrastructure purposes.

Temporary Sign means any sign, banner, placard, stake sign, portable sign, or similar display intended for temporary placement, regardless of message or purpose, including but not limited to political signs, campaign signs, real estate signs, garage or yard sale signs, business advertising, directional signs, event signs, or promotional displays.

Section 3. Prohibited Placement.

No person shall erect, place, install, or maintain any temporary sign within any public right-of-way owned, maintained, or under the jurisdiction of the City.

Section 4. Removal.

A. The City is authorized to remove any temporary sign located within a public right-of-way without prior notice.

B. Removal may occur whenever City personnel determine removal is necessary to facilitate mowing, maintenance, construction, utility work, or other municipal operations, or to protect public safety.

C. The City assumes no responsibility for damage to or loss of any sign removed pursuant to this ordinance.

Section 5. Storage and Disposal.

It is the intent of this ordinance that removed signs shall be disposed of upon removal.

Section 6. No Duty to Preserve.

Nothing in this ordinance shall require the City to preserve, protect, reinstall, relocate, or provide notice regarding any temporary sign placed within a public right-of-way.

Section 7. Content Neutrality.

This ordinance applies equally to all temporary signs regardless of the viewpoint expressed, subject matter, political affiliation, commercial purpose, or other message displayed.

Section 8. Other Remedies.

The remedies provided herein are cumulative and do not limit any other authority available to the City under state law or the City Code.

Section 9. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 10. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective upon passage and approval as provided by law.

Mayor, City of Willard

Attest:

City Clerk