

CHAPTER 16

SIGNS

16-1. INTENT

16-1.01 The purpose of this chapter is to promote and to protect the public health, welfare, and safety by regulating existing and proposed outdoor advertising, outdoor advertising signs, and outdoor signs of all types. It is intended to protect property values, to create more attractive economic and business climates, to enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, and to preserve the scenic and natural beauty of designated areas. It is intended to reduce those distractions and obstructions from signs or reduce those distractions and obstructions from signs or other advertising which contribute to traffic accidents, to reduce the hazards produced by signs which overhang public rights-of-way, to provide more open space, to curb the deterioration of the natural environment, and to enhance community development.

16-2. PUBLIC SIGNS EXCLUSION

16-2.01 For the purpose of this Ordinance, "sign" does not include those signs erected and maintained in the discharge of governmental functions or those required by law, ordinance, or governmental authorization.

16-3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All signs shall be constructed to the Uniform Building Code and adopted County regulations. The regulations contained in this section shall apply to all signs and all zones. (Amended 10-15-96)

16-3.01 Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall emit a light of constant intensity; a sign shall not be illuminated by nor contain flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving light(s). An illuminated light or lighting device shall not be placed nor directed to permit its beams or illumination to fall upon a public thoroughfare, highway, sidewalk or adjacent premises in a manner that would cause glare or a reflection that might cause a traffic hazard or nuisance.

16-3.02 A sign shall not have parts or elements, which revolve, rotate, whirl, spin, or otherwise make use of motion to attract attention. Subsections 16-3.01 and 16-3.02 shall not apply to electronic message boards, performing a public service function indicating time, temperature, stock market quotations and commercial advertising. (Amended 10-15-96)

16-3.03 All wiring, fittings, and materials used in the construction, connection, and operation of electrically illuminated signs shall be in accordance with the provisions of the local electric code, Uniform Building Code or any applicable adopted code for sign construction. (Amended 10-15-96)

- 16-3.04 A sign shall not be erected or maintained so that it projects more than eight (8) feet from the front or face of the building or shall not project over public property or right-of-way. This provision includes those signs projecting from the face of any theatre, hotel, or motel marquee. The construction of projecting signs is discouraged. A canopy and awning's visible graphic lettering on the face should not exceed 30% of vertical surface letter height not to exceed 18", and must have a minimum of eight (8) feet pedestrian clearance. (Amended 10-15-96)
- 16-3.05 A sign shall not be placed on the roof of any building unless the supporting structure for the sign is screened so that it appears to be a continuation of the face of the building.
- 16-3.06 A portable or temporary sign shall not be placed on the front or the face of a building or on any premises except as herein provided.
- 16-3.07 A sign shall not consist of nor contain banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, or other similar moving devices. Such devices may not be used separately from the sign in order to attract attention to the sign except in Commercial or Industrial zoned areas. (Amended 10-26-00)
- 16-3.08 No sign, of any classification, shall be installed, erected, or attached in any way to a fire escape or to any door or window affording access to a fire escape.
- 16-3.09 All signs in use shall bear an indication of the agent responsible for its care and maintenance and an indication of the ownership of the sign.
- 16-3.10 Any sign declared by the Administrator and/or Building Official to be unsafe or in danger of falling shall be removed or placed in a safe and secure condition by its owner or other responsible agent. The Administrator and/or Building Official shall notify the responsible agent of the unsafe condition, and he shall indicate the time period within which the condition shall be corrected. (Amended 1-12-98)
- 16-3.11 Only public owned signs shall be placed in a public right-of-way, i.e. traffic control and directional signs. Traffic control signs on private property shall be permitted not to exceed six (6) square feet. (Amended 10-15-96)
- 16-3.12 Signs along interstate and primary highways shall conform to Idaho State Transportation Department regulations.

16-4. MEASUREMENT OF SIGN AREA.

- 16-4.01 The surface area of a sign shall be computed to include the entire area within a regular, geometric form or combination of regular, geometric forms which comprise all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. Frames and structural members which do not bear advertising matter

shall not be included in the computation of total surface area of the sign.

16-5. PERMITTED SIGNS. The following signs are permitted:

- 16-5.01 Only one sign advertising the sale, lease, or rental of the premises upon which the sign is located shall be allowed. Such signs shall not exceed one hundred twenty eight (128) square feet in a commercial and industrial area, thirty two (32) square feet in agriculture area and six (6) square feet in residential districts. (Amended 10-15-96)
- 16-5.02 Professional nameplates, which shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area.
- 16-5.03 Signs denoting the names and addresses of occupants of the premises. The sign shall not exceed two (2) square feet.
- 16-5.04 Temporary signs which announce special public or institutional events, subdivisions and planned unit developments, the erection of a building, the architect, the builders, or the contractors. Only two (2) signs that shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet in each area and then they shall not be erected for more than a period equal to the construction period plus sixty (60) days. (Amended 10-15-96; 7-17-03)
- 16-5.05 On-premise wall signs in the Area of City Impact with an approved commercial or industrial use, in a commercial or manufacturing zone wall signs shall not project more than eight (8) feet from the front or face of the main building. The area of a permanent on-premises sign for any single business enterprise in all zones shall not exceed an area equivalent to three (3) square feet of sign for each linear foot of building wall or part of a building occupied by such enterprise. (Amended 10-15-96; 7-17-03; 3-31-05, 01-19-2016)
- 16-5.06 In the Area of City Impact with an approved commercial or industrial use, in a commercial or manufacturing zone, one (1) off-premise sign having a total area not exceeding eight hundred (800) square feet may be permitted on a single parcel, lot or tract of land. Off-premises signs shall conform to all applicable yard and height regulations for the appropriate zoning district, except that such signs intended to be viewed from an elevated highway shall be not more than thirty five (35) feet above the level of the roadway at its nearest point and located not closer than ten (10) feet to any street right-of-way and not closer than thirty (30) feet to any adjoining lot line. Off-premises wall signs shall have all structural and supporting members concealed from view. (Amended 10-15-96; 9-16-04; 3-31-05)
- 16-5.07 In the Area of City Impact with an approved commercial or industrial use, in a commercial or manufacturing zone a freestanding, on-premises sign not over thirty (30) feet in height, having a maximum total sign area of two hundred (200) square feet per display area, and located not closer than ten (10) feet to any street right-of-way and not closer than thirty (30) feet to any adjoining lot line may be erected to serve a group of business establishments. There shall be only one (1) freestanding

sign for each building, regardless of the number of businesses conducted in the said building. Businesses located near an interstate or Federal highway may have one (1) high-rise sign not to exceed four hundred (400) square feet with a maximum height of eighty-five (85) feet. More than one business may combine signs on a single structure not to exceed eight hundred (800) square feet. (Amended 10-15-96; 3-31-05)

- 16-5.08 Political signs are permitted, but they shall not be placed in a place or manner that is destructive to public property upon either the posting or the removal of the sign. Political signs shall not be posted in any public right-of-way or on a utility pole. Political signs shall not be posted more than sixty (60) days prior to an election. Political signs shall be removed within two (2) weeks following the appropriate election day by either the advertised candidate(s), the appropriate campaign committee(s) or other agent(s) responsible for the posting of the campaign material. (Amended 10-15-96)
- 16-5.09 A maximum of two (2) monument signs per entrance per subdivision or planned unit development. (Amended 7-17-03)
- 16-6 SPECIALLY PERMITTED SIGNS. The following signs are allowed upon the issuance of a Special Use Permit by the Planning and Zoning Commission. (Amended 11-9-06, 10-20-08)
- 16-6.01 Signs or bulletin boards customarily incidental to places of worship, libraries, museums, social clubs, or societies. Such signs shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet in area, and they shall be located on the premises of the activity advertised. (Amended 10-15-96)
- 16-6.02 Signs advertising a commercial enterprise, including real estate developers or subdividers, in a residentially zoned district shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and shall advertise only the names of the owners, trade names, products sold and/or the business or activity conducted on the premises where the sign is located.
- 16-6.03 In the Area of City Impact with an approved agriculture or agriculture residential use, in an agriculture or agriculture-residential zone, one freestanding on-premise sign not over thirty (30) feet in height, having a maximum total sign area of thirty two (32) square feet per display and located no closer than ten (10) feet to any street right-of-way and not closer than thirty (30) feet to any adjoining lot line may be erected to serve a group of business establishments. That shall be only one freestanding sign for each building, regardless of the number of businesses conducted in the said building. (Amended 10-15-96; 3-31-05)
- 16-6.04 One (1) freestanding, off-premise sign not over thirty (30) feet in height, having a maximum total sign area of one hundred fifty (150) square feet adjacent to a State or Federal highway and one hundred (100) square feet adjacent to a County road and located not closer than ten (10) feet to any street to any street right-of-way and not

closer than thirty (30) feet to any adjoining lot line. (Amended 10-15-96)

16-7. SIGN SET-BACK REQUIREMENTS.

16-7.01 All On-premises and Off-premises signs shall not be erected in front of the required set-back line for the appropriate zoning district nor will the signs obstruct traffic visibility at street or highway intersections. (Amended 10-15-96)

16-8. VIOLATIONS.

16-8.01 If any sign is installed, erected, constructed or maintained in violation of the terms of this Ordinance, the Administrator shall notify, in writing, the owner or the lessee thereof to alter such sign so that it complies with this Ordinance. Political signs posted in violation of this Ordinance are subject to removal by the Administrator five (5) days after written notice of the violation.