

City Planning Commission  
Sacramento, California

Members in Session:

Subject:           A.    Environmental Determination  
                  B.    Ordinance Amendment of Section 3.140 of the  
                          Sacramento City Code relating to regulation of  
                          interior signs (M90-048)

Location:           City-wide

SUMMARY:

The proposed Ordinance Amendment would add language to Section 3.140 of the Sacramento City Code (Sign Ordinance) relating to interior sign regulations. The purpose of the amendment is to clarify regulations relating to interior signs.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the City's sign regulations is to eliminate the clutter and disarray presented by multiple signs on individual properties or individual uses. The exemption of interior signs from regulation which is set forth in Section 3.140(h) is so broadly stated that multiple signs displayed on the interior of a business, but oriented to be seen through the windows, by passersby, can entirely defeat the aesthetic purposes of the City's sign regulations.

Neighborhood Services, which enforces the City's sign regulations, has requested that Section 3.140(h) be clarified to specify that the only interior signs to be exempted are those which are designed, located and intended to be viewed primarily from inside the premises and not from the public right-of-way. The proposed ordinance amendment would accomplish that purpose.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

The Environmental Coordinator has determined that the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and has filed a Negative Declaration.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Planning Commission take the following actions:

- A.    Ratify the Negative Declaration;
- B.    Recommend approval of the attached Ordinance Amendment to the Sacramento City Code and forward to City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joy Patterson*

Joy Patterson  
Senior Planner

# ORDINANCE NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

## AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3.140 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE, RELATING TO REGULATION OF INTERIOR SIGNS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

### SECTION 1.

Section 3.140 of the Sacramento City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

#### § 3.140 Generally.

The provisions of this article, including the requirements for permits, shall not apply to the signs specified in this section nor shall the area of such signs be included in the area of signs permitted for any parcel or use:

- (a) **Directional or instructional signs.** Signs which provide direction or instruction and are located entirely on the property to which they pertain and do not in any way advertise a business and do not exceed four square feet in area, such as signs identifying rest rooms, public telephones, walkways, or signs providing direction such as parking lot entrance and exit signs and those of similar nature.
- (b) **Memorial signs or tablets.** Memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings, and dates of building erection when cut into the surface or facade of a building.
- (c) **Public notices.** Official notices posted by public officers or employees in the performance of their duties.

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DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

- (d) **Governmental signs.** Governmental signs for control of traffic and other regulatory purposes, street signs, danger signs, railroad crossing signs, and signs of public service companies indicating danger and aids to service or safety.
- (e) **Real estate signs.** One real estate sign on any lot or parcel, provided such sign is located entirely within the property to which the sign applies, is not directly illuminated, does not exceed six square feet in area, and is removed within seven days after the sale, rental, or lease has been accomplished.
- (f) **Flags.** The flags, emblems, or insignias of any nation or political subdivision.
- (g) **Symbols or insignias.** Religious symbols, commemorative plaques of recognized historical agencies, or identification emblems of religious orders or historical agencies, provided that no such symbol, plaque, or identification emblem shall exceed four square feet in area, and provided further that all such symbols, plaques and identification emblems shall be placed flat against a building.
- (h) **Interior signs.** Signs located within the interior of any building or stadium, or within an enclosed lobby or court of any building, and signs for and located within the inner or outer lobby, court or entrance of any theatre; provided, however, that no sign shall be exempt hereunder unless it is designed, located and intended to be viewed primarily from inside the premises and not from the public right-of-way. (Note: All illuminated signs, including interior illuminated signs, require electrical permit.)
- (i) **Temporary signs.** Temporary signs not exceeding four square feet in area pertaining to drives or events of civic, philanthropic, educational or religious organizations, provided that such signs are posted only during such drive or no more than thirty days before such event and are removed no more than fifteen days after such event.
- (j) **House numbers and name plates.** House numbers and name plates not exceeding two square feet in area for each residential building.
- (k) **Political and campaign signs.** Political or campaign signs on behalf of candidates for public office or measures on election ballots provided that such signs are subject to the following regulations:
  - (i) Such signs may be erected not earlier than ninety days prior to the election and shall be removed within fifteen days following such election.

- (ii) In any "R," "A," or "OB" Zone, only one stationary sign is permitted on any one parcel of land. Such sign shall not exceed ten square feet in area and, if detached, shall not exceed six feet in height. Such sign shall not be erected in such a manner as to constitute a roof sign.
- (iii) In any "SC," "HC," "C," or "M" Zone, one or more temporary signs are permitted on a parcel of land provided all such signs do not, in the aggregate, exceed a sign area of fifty square feet. Such signs shall not be erected in such a manner as to constitute a roof sign. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subparagraph, a sign may be placed upon any legally existing sign structure.
- (iv) No sign shall be located within or over the public right-of-way. (Ord. No. 2868, §2)

DATE PASSED FOR PUBLICATION:

DATE ENACTED:

DATE EFFECTIVE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK