



CITY OF SAMMAMISH

PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

March 16th, 2017 6:30 – 8:30 PM

SAMMAMISH CITY HALL 801-228TH AVE SE

AGENDA

Approx start time

CALL TO ORDER

6:30 pm

ROLL CALL

6:31 pm

- **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – 02/23/2017 & 3/02/17**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT – Non Agenda (3 minutes each)**

OLD BUSINESS

- **Sign Code**
- **Workshop Session**

6:50 pm

- **PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda (7 minutes each)**

ADJOURN

8:30 pm

Note: This is an opportunity for the public to address the Planning Commission. For non-agenda items, three (3) minutes are granted per person, or five (5) minutes if representing the official position of a recognized community organization. Seven (7) minutes are granted per person for agenda items.

If you are submitting written material, please supply 8 copies (7 for Planning Commission; 1 for the record). If you would like to show a video or PowerPoint, it must be submitted or emailed by 5pm the day of the meeting to Kevin Johnson at Kjohnson@sammamish.us. Please be aware that Planning Commission meetings are videotaped and available to the public.

The City of Sammamish Planning Commission is appointed and is the advisory board to the City Council on the preparation and amendment of land use plans and implementing ordinances such as zoning. Planning Commissioners are selected to represent all areas of the City and as many "walks of life" as possible. The actions of the Planning Commission are not final decisions; they are in the form of recommendations to City Council who must ultimately make the final decision.

THE COMMISSION MAY ADD OR TAKE ACTIONS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

Planning Commission meetings are wheelchair accessible. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation is available upon request. Please phone (425) 295-0500 at least 48 hours in advance. Assisted Listening Devices are also available upon request.

PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA CALENDAR

Date	Time	Type	Staff	Topics
April 6	5:00 PM	Special Meeting w/ Parks Commission	Kellye Hilde Parks Staff	Work Session: Urban Forest Management Plan Update Work Session: PRO Plan Update
	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	David Pyle David Goodman Charlotte Archer	Public Hearing / Deliberation: Sign Code Update
April 20	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Jeff Thomas Doug McIntyre David Goodman	Work Session: Neighborhood Character Work Session: Title 24 Update
May 4	Cancelled	Regular Meeting		
May 18	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Jeff Thomas Doug McIntyre David Goodman	Public Hearing / Deliberation: Title 24 Update Work Session: R-1 Land Use Density Analysis
June 1	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Kellye Hilde Public Works Staff	Work Session: Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Transportation Element Update
June 15	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Kellye Hilde Doug McIntyre Public Works Staff	Public Hearing / Deliberation: Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Transportation Element
July 6	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Doug McIntyre David Goodman Public Works Staff	Work Session: Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Capital Facilities Element Work Session: Urban Forestry Short Course Training (Video)
July 20	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting	Kellye Hilde Doug McIntyre David Goodman Public Works Staff	Public Hearing / Deliberation: Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Capital Facilities Element Work Session: Urban Forestry Short Course Training (Video)
August		No Meetings		



Memorandum

Date: March 16, 2017

To: City of Sammamish Planning Commission

From: Doug McIntyre, Senior Planner and David Goodman, Management Analyst

Re: Sign Code Amendments

Background

The Department of Community Development is drafting amendments to Chapters 21A.45 and 21B.45 of the Sammamish Municipal Code (SMC), which contain sign regulations for the City as a whole as well as the Town Center. This effort is in response to the decision in the Supreme Court case of *Reed v Gilbert*, which found content-based sign regulations, of which the SMC contains many, an unconstitutional restriction of free speech.

At a joint meeting on December 13, 2016, the City Council and Planning Commission were presented with background information on the *Reed v. Gilbert* case and its implications for Sammamish's sign code. On December 15, 2016, staff presented to the Planning Commission the specific sections of the SMC that contain content-based sign regulations, and offered examples of how other cities have transitioned from content-based to content-neutral regulations in response to the decision in *Gilbert v. Reed*. On January 19, 2017, Planning Commission provided input on the scope and focus of the proposed amendments. A full draft of the proposed revisions to Chapters 21A.45 and 21A.15 SMC were presented to the Planning Commission on February 23 for detailed input on proposed amendments to code language. The input received has been incorporated into the draft amendments to Chapters 21A.45 and 21B.45 SMC, as summarized below and detailed in the attachments.

Project Update

City staff have met regularly to develop a draft of the sign code for the Planning Commission to review. Below is a summary of the work completed on the focus areas for this effort:

1. **Compliance with *Reed v. Gilbert*.** Staff have developed a draft version of the City's sign code that has attempted to eliminate all content-based regulations and replace them with content-neutral regulations. In many cases, the general framework of the content-based regulation (for example, permitted location, duration, and quantity) has been preserved, but in other cases regulations and sign categories have been merged, amended, or eliminated.
2. **Town Center sign code (Chapter 21B.45 SMC) improvements.** The applicable content-neutrality amendments proposed to be made to Chapter 21A.45 SMC have been replicated in Chapter 21B.45 SMC. Staff plan to present the proposed amendments to 21B.45 that are unrelated to *Reed v Gilbert* to Planning Commission at the March 16 meeting. Amendments are targeted in nature and do not constitute a re-write of the entire Town Center sign code.

3. **Need for improved code enforcement mechanisms.** Staff have included a new enforcement section in the draft of Chapters 21A.45 and 21B.45 SMC.
4. **Code clean-up.** The enclosed draft of Chapters 21A.45 and 21B.45 SMC feature streamlined code language that replace wordy descriptions of regulations, reduces confusion, and no longer includes redundant and/or out-of-date programs and provisions.

Focus Areas for Planning Commission

In addition to the overall structure and content of the proposed sign code amendments, the staff is seeking the Planning Commission's guidance on the following specific issues:

1. **Town Center Sign Code Consistency with Chapter 21A.45 SMC:** For efficiency and consistency purposes, the content-neutrality amendments, proposed amendments to temporary signs, real estate signs, temporary business signs, and other regulations have been carried over from Chapter 21A.45 into Chapter 21B.45. Similarly, the purpose and intent statement (SMC 21B.45.010) has been strengthened to clearly state the reasons supporting the proposed sign regulations. These provisions will remain consistent to ensure a cohesive approach to compliance with the Supreme Court decision in the Reed v. Gilbert case.
2. **Commercial Signage in Town Center:** Town Center is distinct in that it deals more directly with commercial signage. The City desires to support a viable and vibrant commercial node in the center of the community and commercial signage is an integral part of commercial success. The current Town Center sign code is overly restrictive in regard to maximum sign area, with a maximum sign size of no greater than 32 square feet anywhere Town Center, which can only be accomplished through a Level 2 design and compatibility review. The enclosed draft amendments to Chapter 21B.45 include an increased, scaled maximum sign area for all signs in Town Center (SMC 21B.45.110(f) and (g)), which is limited to a percentage of the building façade on which the sign is located. This approach is more appropriate and will enhance the commercial viability of signs to be placed in Town Center.
3. **Community Banner Program (New Section SMC 21B.45.140(6)):** The community banner program has long operated on a content-based basis. The City has different options regarding bringing the program into compliance with the Reed v Gilbert decision. The community banner program is currently located in Chapter 21A.45 SMC, but only deals with one location within Town Center. Staff propose relocating this provision into Chapter 21B.45 SMC for consistency and ease of implementation.

Staff request that input on the proposed amendments to Chapter 21B.45 SMC (and specifically the focus areas listed above) be specific in order to facilitate a quick turnaround so that a revised final draft version can be reviewed at the April 6 public hearing.

Process

At the March 16 meeting, Planning Commission will shift its focus to the amendments proposed to Chapter 21B.45 and 21B.15 SMC, including the proposed amendments that are unrelated to content-neutrality. Community banner signs will also be discussed.

A public hearing is scheduled for April 6, at which point the Commission will submit a formal recommendation on the proposed sign code amendments to City Council for their consideration and adoption.

Attachments

Attachment A – Updated Chapters 21B.45 and 21B.15 SMC – Sign Code Draft (clean)

- Attachment B – Updated Chapters 21A.45 and 21A.15 SMC – Sign Code Draft Revised per Planning Commission Input from February 23 meeting (clean)
- Attachment C – Summary Matrix of Substantive Amendments to Chapter 21A.45 SMC
- Attachment D – Summary Matrix of Substantive Amendments to Chapter 21B.45 SMC
- Attachment E – Strikethrough/Underline Version of Current Code (Titles 21A and 21B SMC)
- Attachment F – Public Comment
- Attachment G – Legal Memo on Regulation of Banners

Chapter 21B.45

SIGNAGE

Sections:

21B.45.010	Purpose and intent.
21B.45.020	Applicability.
21B.45.030	Permit required.
21B.45.040	Application information.
21B.45.050	Prohibited signs.
21B.45.060	Exempt signs.
21B.45.070	Interpretation of tables and design standards.
21B.45.080	Table of allowed sign types and design review.
21B.45.090	Review and modifications to standards.
21B.45.100	Measurement methods.
21B.45.110	General sign design standards.
21B.45.120	Design standards for specific sign types.
21B.45.130	Design and compatibility review.
21B.45.140	Temporary signs.
21B.45.150	Legal non-conforming signs.
21B.45.160	Variance.
21B.45.170	Enforcement.

21B.45.010 Purpose and intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to enhance and protect the economic vitality and visual environment of the Town Center, allow for the expression of free speech, and promote general safety and welfare by:

- (1) Regulating the type, number, location, size, and illumination of signs; and
- (2) Recognizing the purpose of signs for identification and economic well-being of businesses in the Town Center by supporting a full range of signs necessary for commercial services in the Town Center; and
- (3) Ensuring a safe driving environment; and
- (4) Recognizing and protecting the use of the public right-of-way as a forum for non-commercial speech; and
- (5) Facilitating fair and consistent content-neutral enforcement; and
- (6) Safeguarding and enhancing property values, attracting new residents, and encouraging orderly development; and
- (7) Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way to provide commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and
- (8) Upholding the goals and policies of the Sammamish Comprehensive Plan and the Town Center Subarea Plan.
- (9) Promoting signs within the Town Center that contribute to the character of the Town Center, are integrated with natural surroundings and landscaping, and exhibit an intimate human scale;
- (10) Providing necessary signage to support central gathering places, increase social interaction, and encourage walkability;
- (11) Regulating signs in a manner that is timely, flexible, predictable, fair to all and that results in superior development; and

(12) Creating a vibrant and inviting commercial node that is reflected in the character and design of Town Center signage. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.020 Applicability.

Except as provided for in SMC 21B.45.060, Exempt signs, all signs shall be subject to the design provisions of this chapter; provided, that specific sign standards and design requirements may be further established through a unified zone development plan and shall be established through the unified zone development plan approval, pursuant to . (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.030 Permit required.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in by this chapter, no sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated within the Town Center without a permit issued by the City.

(2) No permit shall be required for repainting in like colors, cleaning, or other normal maintenance and repair of a permitted sign, or of sign face and copy changes that do not alter the size or structure of the sign or compliance with the design standards. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.040 Application information.

The applicant shall have the burden of demonstrating that a proposed sign(s) complies with this chapter as follows:

(1) All new signs requiring a permit or approval pursuant to SMC 21B.45.030 shall provide, in a form established by the City, at a minimum an accurate plan with complete dimensions, location, size, color, shape, materials, type of illumination, size and style of lettering, copy design and the proposed manner of installation. Additional information may be required as reasonably necessary for approval by the director.

(2) The size and location of every existing sign on the premises shall be noted.

(3) If a unified zone development plan was previously approved by the City and included sign approvals, an applicant whose sign conforms to that plan may refer to it in the application and may omit detailed drawings unless specifically requested to provide them.

(4) If design and compatibility review is required pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080, the applicant shall submit a compatibility analysis addressing the design criteria enumerated in SMC 21B.45.130, Design and compatibility review. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.050 Prohibited signs.

Except as indicated by this chapter, the following signs or displays are prohibited:

(1) Any sign that is otherwise allowed, but does not comply with the provisions of this chapter;

(2) Signs attached to a fence;

(3) Signs which, by reason of their size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination, may be confused with traffic control signs or signals;

(4) Temporary signs except as specifically allowed in SMC 21B.45.140;

(5) Except as specifically allowed, signs located in the public right-of-way, or within travel lanes or sidewalks, or attached to traffic control signs, utility or signal poles;

(6) Changing message center signs or signs containing moving graphics, text, or video, or that are flashing, moving, rotating, animated, or inflated;

(7) A sign that extends higher than the peak of the roof, ridge line, or parapet of a building to which it is attached;

(8) Visible ballast boxes or other sign equipment;

(9) Posters, pennants, strings of lights, moving/flashing/blinking lights, balloons, searchlights, exposed electrical conduits, and other displays of a carnival nature, except on a limited basis as provided for in SMC 21B.45.140 as temporary business displays;

(10) Box or cabinet signs;

(11) Pole-mounted freestanding signs;

(12) Roof-mounted signs; and

(13) Billboards. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.060 Exempt signs.

The following signs or displays are exempted from the regulations under this chapter:

(1) Historic plaques not exceeding 3 square feet in area, and address numbers;

(2) Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court;

(3) Traffic control signs established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) or authorized by City of Sammamish Department of Public Works;

(3) Plaques, tablets, or, which are attached flat to the face of the building, which are nonilluminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;

(4) Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings, or information when established and maintained by a public agency;

(5) Government flags; and

(6) Nonverbal religious symbols attached to a place of worship.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.070 Interpretation of tables and design standards.

(1) SMC 21B.45.080 determines whether a specific sign type is allowed in a zone district. The zone district and the public right-of-way are identified in the vertical column and the specific sign type is located on the horizontal row of these tables.

(2) If no symbol appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is not allowed in that district, except for certain signs allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.140, Temporary signs.

(3) The review of all sign permit applications is administrative, and shall be conducted by the director of community development, subject to the review requirements identified below.

(4) If the number "1" appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is allowed in that district subject to the sign design standards specified in SMC 21B.45.110, 21B.45.120, and the general requirements of the code.

(5) If the number "2" appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is allowed subject to the sign design standards, general requirements, and the Design and compatibility review specified in SMC 21B.45.130. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.080 Table of allowed sign types and design review.

(1) Table of Allowed Sign Types and Design Review for Town Center Zones.

Sign Types	TOWN CENTER ZONES					
	ROW	TC-A	TC-B	TC-C	TC-D	TC-E
Building-Mounted Signs:						
Blade	2(1)	1	2	2	2	2
Opaque/Painted		2	2	2	2	2
Channel Letter/Shadow		2	2			
Hanging		1	2			
Marquee/Awning		2	2			
Window		1	2			
Freestanding Signs:						
Community Banner	1					
Directional (Pedestrian)	2	1	1	1	1	1
Directional (Vehicle)	2	1	1	1	1	1
Monument		2(2)	2	2	2	2
Changing Message Center					2	

Sign Conditions.

(1) Only allowed as part of a unified zone development plan application approved pursuant to Chapter 21B.95 SMC; and provided, that no sign shall extend into the vehicle travel lanes.

(2) Only allowed in the TC-A-4 and in the TC-A-5 zones. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.090 Review and modifications to standards.

(1) All sign permits shall be approved administratively, subject to the permit review requirements of Chapter 20.05 SMC; provided, that:

(a) Signs subject to the Level 1 sign review shall be reviewed for compliance with this chapter but shall not be subject to the provisions of SMC 21B.45.130, Design and compatibility review;

(b) Signs subject to the Level 2 Design and Compatibility Review requirements shall be reviewed for compliance with this chapter, including the provisions of SMC 21B.45.130, Design and compatibility review;

(2) Sign design may be reviewed and approved as part of a unified zone development plan review consistent with Chapter 21B.95 SMC, provided:

(a) Specific sign designs approved as part of a unified zone development plan will require a sign permit, but will not require additional design review at the time of permit application when in accordance with the approved unified zone development plan; or

(b) Additional design standards and guidelines may be adopted through the review process, subject to specific design review of signs at the time of building permit application. Additional design standards and guidelines adopted through the review process shall govern all subsequent sign design reviews including replacement signs.

(3) The director may approve applicant-proposed modifications of up to 25 percent of the sign area, height, width, and other dimensional standards as part of the Level 2 Design and Compatibility Review process, pursuant to SMC 21B.45.130; provided, that any such approval shall be based upon an overall sign concept that is integrated with the building and is consistent with the goals of SMC 21B.45.130, Design and Compatibility Review. Applicant-proposed modifications to the number of signs allowed, illumination standards, the types of signs allowed, or sign modifications that would result in a sign that is not designed consistent with this purpose of this chapter shall not be considered; and

Commented [DM1]: Justification: Due to the removal of strict size limitation of SMC 21B.45.110(1)(f) and (g), this exceedance needs to be reduced to reflect the larger allowed sign area.

(4) Applicants proposing a sign that is subject to the Level 1 basic sign review may choose to request a Level 2 Design and Compatibility Review in order to take advantage of the director's ability to modify sign standards, pursuant to SMC 21B.45.090(3). (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.100 Sign Area Calculation.

- (1) Sign area shall be calculated as follows:
 - (a) Sign area for nonmonument freestanding signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures.
 - (b) Sign area for pole signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures.
 - (c) Sign area for letters or symbols painted or mounted directly on walls or monument signs or on the sloping portion of a roof shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters and symbols.
 - (d) Sign area for signs contained entirely within a cabinet and mounted on a wall, roof, or monument shall be calculated by measuring the entire area of the cabinet.
- (2) maximum sign height.
 - (a) For a freestanding sign, the vertical distance measured from the surface of the ground to the highest point of the sign or sign structure; and
 - (b) For a building-mounted sign, the vertical distance measured from the building grade to the highest point of the sign or structure designed to support a sign.
- (3) Sign clearance is measured from the surface of the ground to the lowest portion of the sign structure.
- (4) Area of building façade is calculated by multiplying the width of the building, or tenant space associated with the commercial use, by the height of the building or tenant space.
- (5) The lineal feet of building façade is calculated by measuring the width of the building or tenant space associated with the commercial use. Building modulation(s) are not included in the lineal feet of building façade. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.110 General sign design standards.

- (1) General Requirements.
 - (a) All signs shall be constructed primarily of nonreflective materials;
 - (b) Building-mounted sign frames and other support structures shall be concealed or integrated into the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials such that they are not easily visible;
 - (c) Building-mounted signs must be in proportion to the size and design of the architectural features of the building façade;
 - (d) All signs, except directional signs and community banners, shall be on-premises signs;
 - (e) Maximum height for building-mounted signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall upon which the sign is located; provided, that blade signs shall not exceed the roofline of the building along the façade that the blade sign is attached to;

Commented [DM2]: Justification: All pictures are proposed to be removed due to the confusion and inconsistency created. This subsequently affects City Staff ability to implement Town Center signage code. If pictures are desired, they may be included in a sign handout on a limited basis.

- (f) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses occupying the ground level of a building shall not exceed 10 percent of the ground-level building façade associated with the sign;
- (g) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses that do not occupy the ground level of a building (e.g., the use is on the second or third story) shall not exceed five percent of the building façade associated with the use;
- (h) Tenants are allowed one primary sign regulated by this chapter per building façade that contains a public entry (open during all business hours), up to a maximum of two façades;
- (i) Tenants are allowed three secondary signs regulated by this chapter per building façade that contains a public entry (open during all business hours);
- (j) Wall sign width shall not exceed a width of two-thirds of the lineal width of the building façade associated with the sign;
- (k) Signs shall not cover windows, building trim, or architectural ornamentation;

(2) Illumination. Signs may be illuminated as follows:

- (a) Illumination shall be limited to indirect lighting unless otherwise specifically allowed by the specific sign type design standards; provided, that no sign may be both internally and indirectly illuminated;
- (b) Indirect sign illumination shall be no further away from the sign than the height of the sign;
- (c) Externally illuminated signs shall be arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residences or any street right-of-way;
- (d) External sign light fixtures shall complement the design of the sign and building façades or structures associated with the sign;
- (e) External sign lighting shall be "full cutoff" and shall not result in direct illumination of the sky and adjacent properties and structures, and shall be designed to minimize reflected glare to adjacent properties and structures;
- (f) Sign illumination shall automatically turn off within one hour of the close of the business, use, or activity; and
- (g) Additional illumination standards may be contained in SMC 21B.45.120, Design standards for specific sign types, or adopted through the approval of a unified zone application pursuant to Chapter 21B.95 SMC.

(3) Location. All signs shall be located as follows:

- (a) Building-Mounted Signs.
 - (i) Shall be attached to the building façade of the business or commercial enterprise they are advertising;

(ii) Shall be located on the same floor as the business or commercial enterprise they are advertising; provided, that businesses that occupy more than one floor shall place the sign on the lowest floor occupied by the business;

(iii) Shall not exceed a height of 15 feet above grade if associated with a business located on the bottom floor of a building;

(iv) Shall not conflict with the ability to view any other sign associated with the building to which the sign is attached;

(v) Shall not conflict with vehicle travel lanes if blade or hanging signs extend into the street right-of-way as otherwise allowed by the City; and

(vi) May extend over the sidewalk if they are hanging or blade signs otherwise approved by the City.

(b) Freestanding Signs.

(i) May be located on private property with the consent of the private property owner, unless otherwise allowed in this chapter;

(ii) May be located in the public right-of-way pursuant to SMC21B.45.080(1) and with the written approval by the City of Sammamish;

(iii) Located on private property shall be no further than five feet from the street; and

(iv) Shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.

(4) Sign Standards along 228th Avenue SE.

(a) The only signs visible from 228th Avenue SE shall be either monument signs no taller than six feet above grade or wall signs less than 30 square feet or 18 inches multiplied by the length of the front façade measured parallel to 228th Avenue SE (whichever is smaller);

(b) Except for wall signs on pedestrian-oriented façades built up to the sidewalk, all signs visible from 228th Avenue SE are limited to signs that advertise a commercial node or group of businesses rather than a single business; and

(c) For other design standards, see Chapter 21B.30 SMC. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.120 Design standards for specific sign types.

(1) Blade and Hanging Signs. Blade signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that blade signs:

(a) Shall provide a minimum clearance of eight feet;

(b) With horizontally oriented text or graphics shall not project or be located more than five feet from the building façade;

(c) With vertically oriented text or graphics shall not project more than three feet from the building façade;

(d) Shall be limited to two square feet of sign area per each 10 lineal feet of applicable building frontage;

(e) Buildings that contain multiple tenants shall use a similar shape and mounting technique to hanging or blade signs;

- (f) Sign text and graphics may use neon lettering, subject to provisions of SMC 21B.45.110(2); and further provided, that neon signs shall not be visible from 228th Avenue; and
- (g) May be opaque signs containing internal illumination consistent with SMC 21B.45.110;

(2) Channel Letter, Opaque, Painted, and Shadow Signs. Channel letter, opaque, painted, and shadow signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) Channel letter, opaque, painted, or shadow signs that are also wall signs shall be attached directly to the building façade, such that there is a maximum protrusion of one foot unless the sign incorporates sculptural elements or architectural devices. The sign frame shall be concealed or integrated into the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials;
- (b) Channel letter and shadow signs shall only be wall signs. Opaque and painted signs may be wall signs, hanging, or blade signs;
- (c) Lettering on opaque signs may be internally illuminated where the light only shines through the letters;
- (d) Buildings that contain multiple tenants shall use a consistent sign design in terms of lettering, size, color, and style;
- (e) Shadow signs may be illuminated by reflected lighting against the building façade located behind the sign letters or graphics;
- (f) Channel letter signs shall be open, such that internal neon lighting is visible;
- (g) Painted signs may be illuminated by indirect fully cutoff lighting;
- (h) Wall sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a maximum height of two feet;

(3) Marquee/Awning Signs. Marquee/awning signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) The sign shall provide a minimum clearance of eight feet;
- (b) The face of the sign (lettering and graphics) on a marquee or awning shall be on a parallel plane to the building façade;
- (c) The awning or marquee supporting the sign shall extend at least three feet from the face of the building, shall be located over a pedestrian walkway or sidewalk, and shall be designed to provide protection from the weather, in addition to supporting the sign;
- (d) Sign may be comprised of channel lettering, opaque, or shadow signs;
- (e) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed two feet in height;

- (f) Sign width shall be limited to no more than two-thirds of the width of the awning; and
- (g) Marquee signs may be placed on the front, above, or below the marquee associated with the sign;
- (h) Marquee and awning signs may be externally illuminated, pursuant to SMC 21B.45.110(2);

(4) Window Signs. Window signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) Permanent and temporary window signs are limited to a maximum of 25 percent of the window area in addition to the size limitations of SMC 21B.45.110(1);
- (b) Signs shall be constructed of neon, stained glass, gold leaf, cut vinyl, or etched glass;
- (c) Signs shall not be illuminated, except that a single internally lit neon or stained glass window sign is allowed;

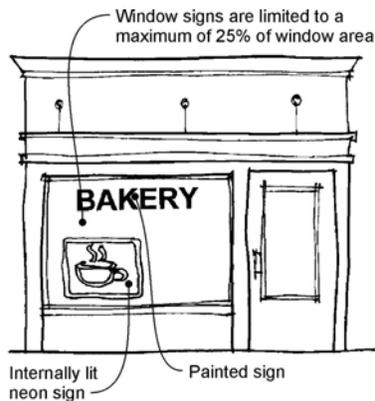


Figure 21B.45.120f. Window sign example.

(5) Monument Signs. Monument signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); and provided, that:

- (a) One monument sign is allowed per commercial, institutional, or mixed-use building subject to the following:
 - (i) The sign may be up to six feet tall;
 - (ii) Monument signs for individual businesses should include the street address number with six-inch minimum lettering that is clearly readable from the street;

- (iii) Lettering style, form, size, dimension, and color shall be consistent on signs identifying multiple tenants;
 - (b) One monument sign is allowed associated with a single-family subdivision or multifamily residential development, provided the sign shall not exceed a height of 48 inches;
 - (c) Monument signs may only be indirectly illuminated;
 - (d) Monument signs shall be designed incorporating natural materials (e.g., granite or basalt stone facing, wood, landscaping), muted colors, and design styles characteristic to the Northwest;
 - (e) The total sign area contained within a monument sign shall not exceed 48 square feet;
- (6) Directional Signs. Directional signs may be allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:
- (a) Pedestrian-Oriented Directional signs.
 - (i) Signs shall be located within 10 feet of the intersection of two or more pedestrian sidewalks or paths;
 - (ii) Signs shall not exceed a height of eight feet;
 - (iii) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of six inches;
 - (b) Vehicle-Oriented Directional signs.
 - (i) Signs shall be located within 20 feet of one of the following intersections:
 - (A) SE 4th Street and 228th Avenue SE;
 - (B) SE 8th and 228th Avenue SE; and
 - (C) As otherwise identified through a unified zone development plan application.
 - (ii) Signs shall not exceed a height of eight feet;
 - (iii) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of 10 inches; and
 - (iv) All signs located on a street corner or driveway shall conform with Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.130 Design and Compatibility Review.

(1) The goal of the Level 2 Design and Compatibility Review is:

- (a) To encourage interesting, creative, and unique sign design that is consistent with the character of the Town Center;
- (b) To encourage signs that are timeless, create an intimate pedestrian environment, and incorporate natural materials (e.g., granite or basalt stone, wood, landscaping) or colors (muted earthen tones) associated with the Northwest; and
- (c) To ensure that signs are part of, and consistent with, the overall design approach of a project.

(2) The following criteria are the parameters that will be used for reviewing signs for compatibility and design to achieve the goals listed above and the purpose of this chapter; these criteria are in addition to the sign design standards contained within SMC 21B.45.110 and 21B.45.120:

- (a) **Architectural Compatibility.** The signs shall be compatible in size, proportion, shape, character, and quality of design with the exterior architecture of the premises and other structures in the immediate area.
- (b) **Simplicity.** To the extent feasible, the sign should be graphic and with limited use of words, with the design emphasis on simplicity of style. A simple design or abstract graphic design is preferred. Similarly, a simple sign frame and supporting structure is preferred.
- (c) **Target Audience.** Only one sign per building façade should be designed for vehicle and pedestrian use. Signs that are targeted primarily to serve pedestrians are generally preferred over signs targeted for both pedestrian and vehicle audiences.
- (d) **Identification.** A commercial sign should be designed for the primary purpose of identifying a business or office.
- (e) **Fewer Signs.** In the use of the total sign allowance at a particular premises, the use of a minimum number of signs is preferred to the use of many signs, so that a cluttered effect is avoided.
- (f) **Shape, Size, and Orientation.** The shape of a sign should not conflict with the architectural lines of its setting. Signs should be directed toward the passing motorist or pedestrian. No sign should be designed to be readable or to attract motorists from a great distance.
- (g) **Illumination and Colors.** A sign must not overpower its surroundings through hue, saturation, or brilliance or close combination of incompatible colors. Sources of illuminations shall be screened from public view and shall be designed to avoid glare onto a street or adjacent property.
- (h) **Landscaping.** Signs shall be placed with consideration for existing and future growth of trees and other landscaping. A monument sign reviewed under this section must be placed in a landscaped area or planter, with landscaping maintained.
- (i) **Compatibility with Adjacent Uses.** The design, illumination, and location of a sign shall not impair the visibility or the design quality of existing, conforming signs, adjacent buildings, or adjacent uses.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.140 Temporary signs.

The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and, except as required by the International Building Code; Chapter 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code; or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require a sign permit, subject to the requirements set out in this chapter. All temporary signs shall not obstruct sight distances and shall follow the regulations prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC,

Public Works Standards Adopted, and by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements. No temporary signs shall be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.

(1) Non-Commercial Temporary Signs. No sign permit is required to post a non-commercial temporary sign in the public right-of-way or on private property if it meets the requirements in the following table. The director of community development or their designee, in consultation with the city engineer, and following review of applicable state and city codes, may approve temporary sign placement in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel); provided, that sign location does not conflict with subsection (4)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section.

	Temporary Sign Type I Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III Private Property (All Sign Types)(1)
Size Limit	4 sq ft	6 sq ft	16 sq ft if located less than 50 feet from a street property line; 32 sq ft if located 50 feet or more from a street property line
Height Limit	3 ft above grade	3.5 ft	8 ft
Duration	180 consecutive days	2 consecutive days	180 consecutive days

Sign conditions:

(1) Placement of off-premises temporary signs on private property is subject to the landowner's authorization.

(2) Commercial Temporary Signs.

(a) Temporary Commercial Displays.

On-premises signs, posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, and searchlights are permitted for a period of up to 30 consecutive days once each calendar year for businesses located in Sammamish in the CB, NB, or O-Zones.

(b) Signs located on property with active construction.

1. One non-illuminated, double-faced sign is permitted for each public street upon which the project fronts;
2. No sign shall exceed 32 square feet in surface area or 10 feet in height, or be located closer than 30 feet from the property line of the adjoining property; and
3. Signs must be removed by the date of first occupancy of the premises or one year after placement of the sign, whichever occurs first;

(3) Signs Associated with Properties for Sale or Rent.

	Signs Located On Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent
Sign Quantity	One (1) per public street frontage

Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Permitted Duration	Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.
Maximum Size Area	8 sq ft
Maximum Height	6 ft
Signs Located Off-Site of Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent ¹	
Sign Quantity	One (1) ²
Permitted Location	Public right-of-way adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and closest public street.
Permitted Duration	Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.
Maximum Size Area	4 sq ft
Signs on Property with Commercial or Industrial Property For Sale or Rent	
Sign Quantity	One (1)
Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Maximum Size Area	32 sq ft
Maximum Height	12 ft
Signs on Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale	
Sign Quantity	One (1)
Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Maximum Size Area	32 sq ft
Maximum Height	12 ft
Directional Signs Located Off-site Of Newly Constructed Residential Developments for sale	
Sign Quantity	Two (2)
Permitted Location	Private property (with permission); public right-of-way
Maximum Sign Area	16 sq ft

Sign Conditions:

(1) Only allowed for properties with a unit for sale or rent that is not located adjacent to a public street.

(2) When more than three off-site real estate signs are proposed for a location, the fourth proposed sign owner shall install and make available to other licensed real estate agents a frame,

designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung in a stacked fashion, to accommodate multiple signs; Frames installed to hold multiple real estate signs shall not exceed a height of six feet. Off-site signs located on a frame shall individually not exceed a height of one and a half feet, a width of two feet, and an area of three square feet.

(4) **Community Banner Signs.**

- (a) Community banner signs shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;
- (b) Letter on such signs shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;
- (c) Community banner signs shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and
- (d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.

(5) **Pedestal Signs.** Temporary pedestal signs are allowed in the TC-A and TC-B zones, subject to the following provisions:

- (a) The sign shall be placed such that there is a minimum of a six-foot-wide pedestrian access around the sign;
- (b) The sign shall not exceed a height of six feet;
- (c) The sign face shall not exceed an area of three square feet;
- (d) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of four inches;
- (e) The frames and other support structures shall be consistent with the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials such that there is a consistent design theme.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.150 Legal non-conforming signs.

(1) Any sign located within the city limits on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title, or located in an area annexed to the city thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this code, shall be considered a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided it also meets the following requirements:

- (a) The sign was covered by a permit on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title if one was required under applicable law; or
- (b) If no permit was required under applicable law for the sign in question, the sign was in all respects compliant with applicable law on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title.

(2) **Loss of legal nonconforming status.** Nonconforming signs shall not be altered in size, shape, height, location, or structural components without being brought to compliance with the requirements of this code. Repair and maintenance are allowable, but may require a permit if structural components require repair or replacement. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

Commented [DM3]: Justification: relocated from 21A.45 due to location of banner poles being in TC. Subsequently, this provision has been deleted from 21A.45.

Commented [CA4R3]: See comments pertaining to Banners, sent separately.

21B.45.160 Variance.

- (1) A sign variance is categorized as a Type 1 land use application and shall be subject to the requirements of SMC 21A.110.030. Variances from the terms of this chapter may be granted by director of community development upon complete application. Variances may be granted when, because of unique circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings, the strict interpretation of the regulations of this chapter deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity and under identical zoning classifications.
- (2) The variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with a limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.

21B.45.170 Enforcement.

- (1) Compliance with other applicable codes. All signs erected or altered under this chapter must comply with all applicable federal, state and local regulations relating to signs, including without limitation the provisions of the International Building Code as adopted in SMC 16.05.010 by the city. If any provision of this code is found to be in conflict with any provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the city, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail.
- (2) Sign maintenance. All permanent and temporary signs must be kept in good repair and in a safe manner at all times. The sign owner must repair damaged or deteriorated signs within 30 days of notification by the city. The area surrounding freestanding signs must be kept free of litter and debris at all times.
- (3) Inspection. Code enforcement officers are authorized to inspect any sign covered by this chapter for the purpose of inspection of the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of this code. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours, unless an emergency exists.
- (4) Abatement. In addition to the abatement authority provided by proceedings under SMC 21A.115.030, the city or its agents may summarily remove any sign placed on a right-of-way or public property in violation of the terms of this chapter under the following circumstances:
 - (a) When a sign is determined by the city engineer or director of community development to present an immediate threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the public;
 - (b) When a sign is illegally placed within the public right-of-way, within a landscape median, landscape island, traffic circle, attached to a utility pole or city traffic sign, upon public sidewalks or roadway, or on any public building or structure when such facilities are located on public property or within public right-of-way;
 - (c) When a sign is determined by the city to be abandoned; provided, that the city must first provide fourteen days' notice to the underlying property owner or business owner that the sign is deemed abandoned;
 - (d) Disposal of signs. When a sign has been removed by the city as authorized by this section, the city shall take the following actions:
 - (i) The city shall hold a sign for at least seven days. After seven days the city may dispose of the sign without prior notice to the sign owner. The city shall not be responsible for damage or loss during removal or storage of any signs in violation of this code. Sign owners wishing

to reacquire possession of removed signs prior to their disposal shall pay an impoundment fee pursuant to SMC 23.100.010.

(ii) For signs with a fair market value exceeding five hundred dollars, the city shall provide notice by mail to the following:

(A) Sign owner. If the mailing address can be determined by the city after reasonable efforts in investigation. "Reasonable efforts" shall include investigation efforts that take no longer than one-half hour of staff time.

(B) Underlying property owner. If the address of the sign owner cannot be reasonably ascertained, the city shall mail the notice to the underlying real property owner, as identified in the records of the King County Assessor's Office.

21B.15.341 Sign.

"Sign" means any medium, device, structure, fixture, or placard, including any necessary supporting structure and component parts, that is visible from a public right-of-way or surrounding properties, and uses graphics, symbols, or written copy to convey a message, attract attention to, or advertise a product, place, activity, business, event, good, service, or land use.

21B.15.342 Sign, awning/marquee.

"Sign, awning/marquee" means a sign painted on or attached directly to and supported by an awning or marquee. An awning may be constructed of rigid or nonrigid materials and may be retractable or

nonretractable. A marquee is a roof-like shelter, as of glass, projecting above an outer door and over a sidewalk or a terrace, which may be attached to a building or be freestanding.

21B.15.343 Sign, blade.

“Sign, blade” means a small, pedestrian-oriented building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane perpendicular to the wall of the building, projecting more than one foot from the wall of a building and vertical to the ground.



Figure 21B.15.343. Blade sign examples.

21B.15.344 Sign, box/cabinet.

“Sign, box/cabinet” means a building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane parallel to the wall of the building and where the sign or individual letters are contained within a box or cabinet and are internally illuminated.



Figure 21B.15.344. Cabinet sign examples.

21B.15.345 Sign, building-mounted.

“Sign, building-mounted” means a sign that is attached directly to a building or indirectly attached to a building by a support structure. Building-mounted signs may include, but are not limited to, wall, hanging, blade, awning, marquee, opaque, channel, painted, shadow, and window signs.

21B.15.346 Sign, changing message.

“Sign, changing message” means a sign that contains electronically controlled digital or illuminated text, or a sign that contains text that can be manually changed.



Figure 21B.15.347. Changing message sign examples.

21B.15.347 Sign, channel letter.

“Sign, channel letter” means a wall sign that is comprised of lettering that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building or a structure with the exposed face of the lettering or graphics on a plane parallel to the wall of the building, and where the letters contain an open channel into which neon lighting is inserted.



Figure 21B.15.348. Channel letter sign examples.

21B.15.348 Sign, community banner.

“Sign, community banner” means a temporary sign, located on City banner poles, which advertises an event that would provide civic, cultural, educational, philanthropic, or service opportunities hosted or

promoted by the City or a community group that is not-for-profit or nonprofit and nonpolitical with an IRS designation of Section 501(c) or (d).

21B.15.349 Sign, directional.

“Sign, directional” means a sign that is primarily designed to guide or direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic to an area, business, place, or convenience, and may include incidental graphics such as trade names and trademarks.



Figure 21B.15.349.1. Directional sign examples.

21B.15.349.1 Sign, hanging.

“Sign, hanging” means a small, pedestrian-oriented sign that is hung beneath an awning, canopy, or marquee sign or other structure.



Figure 21B.15.349.2. Hanging sign examples.

21B.15.349.2 Sign, incidental.

“Sign, incidental” means a sign, emblem or decal designed to inform the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, and may include but not be limited to signs designating:

- (a) Restrooms;

- (b) Hours of operation;
- (c) Acceptable credit cards;
- (d) Property ownership or management;
- (e) Phone booths; and
- (f) Recycling containers.

21B.15.349.3 Sign, freestanding.

"Sign, freestanding" means a sign standing directly upon the ground or having one or more supports standing directly upon the ground, and being detached from any building or fence.

21B.15.349.4 Sign, fuel price.

"Sign, fuel price" means a sign utilized to advertise the price of gasoline and/or diesel fuel.

21B.15.349.5 Sign, logo.

"Sign, logo" means a sign, graphic representation, or symbol of a company name, trademark, or abbreviation, uniquely designed for ready recognition. A logo sign may be a wall sign or a freestanding sign.

21B.15.349.6 Sign, monument.

"Sign, monument" means a freestanding sign that is above ground level and is anchored to the ground by a solid base, with no open space between the sign and the ground.

21B.15.349.7 Sign, opaque.

"Sign, opaque" means a building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building or a structure where the surface of the sign is generally comprised of two or more opaque

materials on the same plane. Where internally illuminated, the opaque material that comprises the lettering of the sign may be translucent such that it allows limited light to shine through the sign letters.



Figure 21B.15.349.8. Opaque sign examples.

21B.15.349.8 Sign, painted.

“Sign, painted” means a sign, mural or graphic design painted directly onto a building facade or onto a flat wood or metal surface that is then attached to the building facade.



Figure 21B.15.349.9. Painted sign examples.

21B.15.349.9 Sign, permanent residential development identification.

“Sign, permanent residential development identification” means a permanent monument or wall sign identifying the residential development upon which the sign is located.

21B.15.349.10 Sign, pedestal.

“Sign, pedestal” means a temporary, pedestrian-oriented sign placed atop a pedestal that is affixed to a heavy horizontal base.



Figure 21B.15.349.11. Pedestal sign examples.

21B.15.349.11 Sign, primary.

“Sign, primary” means a painted, opaque, awning, marquee, or channel letter sign that is designed to be the primary source of business identification to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

21B.15.349.12 Sign, secondary.

“Sign, secondary” means a window, logo, blade, or hanging sign that generally contains secondary, pedestrian-oriented business identification, business product information, or hours of operation.

21B.15.349.13 Sign, shadow.

(24) “Sign, shadow” means a wall sign comprised of individual letters or graphics that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign lettering or graphics on a plane parallel to the wall of the building, where the surface of the sign is generally comprised of a

completely opaque material. The sign lettering or graphics are separated from the building facade such that during daylight hours the lettering generates a shadow on the building facade.



Figure 21B.15.349.14. Shadow sign examples.

21B.15.349.14 Sign, temporary.

“Sign, temporary” means a sign that is designed to be displayed for a limited amount of time and is not permanently placed or affixed such as to prevent its removal;

21B.15.349.15 Sign, window.

“Sign, window” means a sign that is constructed of neon, stained glass, gold leaf, cut vinyl, etched glass, or similar material in a window.

21B.15.349.16 Sign, wall.

“Sign, wall” means any sign painted on, or attached directly to and supported by, the wall of a building or structure. All wall signs are building-mounted signs. Wall signs may include, but are not limited to, window, opaque, shadow, painted, channel letter, and logo signs. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

Contents

21A.45.010 - Purpose.....	1
21A.45.020 – Permit Requirements.....	1
21A.45.030 – Exempt Signs.....	2
21A.45.040 – Prohibited Signs	2
21A.45.050 – Sign Area Calculation	3
21A.45.060 – Permanent Signs	3
21A.45.070 – Temporary Signs	7
21A.45.080 – Legal Non-Conforming Signs.....	10
21A.45.090 – Variance	10
21A.45.100 – Enforcement	11

21A.45.010 - Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to enhance and protect the economic vitality and visual environment of the City, allow for the expression of free speech, and promote general safety and welfare by:

1. Regulating the type, number, location, size, and illumination of signs; and
2. Recognizing the purpose of signs for identification and economic well-being of businesses in Sammamish; and
3. Ensuring a safe driving environment; and
4. Recognizing and protecting the use of the public right-of-way as a forum for non-commercial speech; and
5. Facilitating fair and consistent content-neutral enforcement; and
6. Safeguarding and enhancing property values, attracting new residents, and encouraging orderly development; and
7. Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way, to provide a flow of commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and
8. Upholding the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

21A.45.020 – Permit Requirements

1. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, no sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated within the City without a permit issued by the City.
2. No permit shall be required for repainting, cleaning, or other normal maintenance and repair of a permitted sign, or for sign face and copy changes that do not alter the size or structure of the sign.

21A.45.030 – Exempt Signs

The following signs or displays are exempted from the permitting requirements of this chapter, but shall conform to the other requirements set out in this chapter:

1. Historic plaques, gravestones, and address numbers;
2. Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court; or
3. Traffic control signs established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) or authorized by City of Sammamish Department of Public Works;
4. Plaques, tablets, or inscriptions which are an integral part of the building structure or are attached flat to the face of the building, which are non-illuminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;
5. Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs when established and maintained by a public agency;
6. Government flags; and
7. Nonverbal religious symbols attached to a place of worship.

21A.45.040 – Prohibited Signs

1. Portable signs including, but not limited to, sandwich/A-frame signs and mobile readerboard signs, and excluding signs permitted under SMC 21A.45.070;
2. Signs which, by reason of their size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination may be confused with traffic control signs or signals;
3. Signs located in the public right-of-way, except where permitted in this chapter; provided, that in no case shall temporary signs permitted under SMC 21A.45.070 be located within travel lanes or sidewalks, or be attached to traffic control signs, utility or signal poles;
4. Posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, searchlights, and other displays of a carnival nature; except as architectural features, or on a limited basis as seasonal decorations or as provided for in SMC 21A.45.070 as temporary commercial displays;
5. Changing message center signs, where the message changes more frequently than every three minutes; and
6. Billboards.

21A.45.050 – Sign Area Calculation

1. Sign area for pole signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures.
2. Sign area for letters or symbols painted or mounted directly on walls or monument signs or on the sloping portion of a roof shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters and symbols.
3. Sign area for signs contained entirely within a cabinet and mounted on a wall, roof, or monument shall be calculated by measuring the entire area of the cabinet. (Ord. 099-29 § 1)

21A.45.060 – Permanent Signs

1. Table of Permitted Signs

The table below outlines the regulations for permanent signs in the City of Sammamish. All permanent signs must be approved through the permitting process. Unless otherwise stated herein, all permanent signs must be on-site. No permanent sign may be placed in the City's right-of-way.

Key

X – Prohibited

N/A – Not Applicable – Sign Type Not Allowed in Zone

	Residential Zone	Community Business Zone(1)(2)	Neighborhood Business Zone(1)(2)	Office Zone(1)(2)
Freestanding Signs(3)				
Quantity(4)	X	One per street frontage(5)		One per street frontage
Maximum Sign Area	N/A	85 sq ft, + 20 sq ft for each additional business in a multiple tenant structure up to 145 sq ft.	50 sq ft	
Combined Sign Area Limit for Lots with Multiple Freestanding Signs(6)	N/A	250 sq ft	150 sq ft	80 sq ft
Maximum Height	N/A	20 feet	15 feet	
Home Business Signs				
Maximum Sign Area(7)	6 sq ft	N/A		
Permanent Residential Development Identification Signs				
Quantity	One	One (8)		
Maximum Sign Area	32 sq ft	32 sq ft		
Maximum Sign Height	6 ft (9)	N/A		
Projecting or Awning Signs Mounted on the Sloping Portion of Roofs (10)				
Quantity (11)	X	One Allowed in Lieu of Wall Signs		
Maximum Sign Area	N/A	No greater than 15% of building façade	No greater than 10% of building façade	
Minimum Clearance above Finished Grade (12)	N/A	8 ft		
Maximum Projection, Perpendicular from Supporting Building Façade	N/A	6 ft		
Signs on Property with Public Agency Facilities (13)				
Quantity	2 per Facility	X		

	Residential Zone	Community Business Zone(1)(2)	Neighborhood Business Zone(1)(2)	Office Zone(1)(2)
Maximum Sign Area	30 sq ft	N/A		
Maximum Height	6 ft	N/A		
Sign on Residentially Zoned Property with Nonresidential Use (14)				
Quantity	One	X		
Maximum Sign Area	25 sq ft	N/A		
Maximum Height	6 ft	N/A		
Wall Signs				
Maximum Sign Area (15)	N/A (16)	15% of building façade	10% of building façade	10% of building façade (17)

Development Conditions

1. Directional signs for surface parking areas or parking structures located in the R-, CB, NB, and O-Zones shall not be included in the sign area or number limitations stated in this table, provided that they shall not exceed six square feet in surface area and are limited to one for each entrance or exit.
2. Fuel price signs shall not be included in sign area or number limitations referenced in this table, provided such signs do not exceed 20 square feet per street frontage.
3. Changing message center signs and time and temperature signs can be wall or freestanding signs, and shall not exceed the size permitted for wall or freestanding signs.
4. Corner lots with a street frontage of less than 100 feet on each street shall be permitted only one freestanding sign.
5. Multiple tenant developments in the CB and NB zone that have more than 300 feet of street frontage on one street may have one additional freestanding sign for each 300 feet of street frontage, or portion thereof. Such signs shall be separated from one another by a minimum of 150 feet, if located on the same street frontage.
6. On lots where more than one freestanding sign is permitted, the sign area permitted for individual freestanding signs may be combined.
7. Home business signs may only be wall signs.
8. Permanent residential identification signs are only allowed in the NB, CB, and O-Zones as part of a mixed-use development.

9. Applicable only to freestanding signs.
10. Any sign attached to the sloping surface of a roof shall be installed or erected in such a manner that there are no visible support structures, shall appear to be part of the building itself, and shall not extend above the roof ridge line of the portion of the roof upon which the sign is attached.
11. Maximum height for awning signs shall not extend above the height of the awning upon which the awning sign is located.
12. Maximum height for projecting signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall upon which the projecting sign is located.
13. See SMC 21A.15.915 for a list of permitted public agencies.
14. Non-residential uses of residential property as outlined in Chapter 21A.20 SMC.
15. Maximum height for wall signs and changing message center signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall or structure upon which the sign is located.
16. Wall signs are allowed in Residential zones to identify schools, home businesses, and other non-residential uses, subject to the regulations listed in this table.
17. Only on building facades with street frontage.

2. Illumination of Permanent Signs

The table below outlines the regulations for illumination of permanent signs in the City of Sammamish. Temporary signs, governed by SMC21A.45.070, shall not be illuminated. All permanent signs, including the requested illumination, must be approved through the permitting process. All electrical components for signs shall be governed by Chapter 19.28 RCW and Chapter 296-46-910 WAC.

Key

P – Permitted, pursuant to Permit issued by City

X – Prohibited

	R-Zone	CB-Zone	NB-Zone	Office Zone
Internal Illumination (1)	X	P		

Indirect Illumination (1)(2)	P		
Signs with an On/Off Operation	X	P	X

Development Conditions

1. The light source for indirectly illuminated signs shall be no farther away from the sign than the height of the sign.
2. Indirectly illuminated signs shall be arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residences or any street right-of-way.

21A.45.070 – Temporary Signs

The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and except as required by the International Building Code, Chapter 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code, or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require permits. All temporary signs shall not obstruct sight distances and shall follow the regulations prescribed by Chapter [14.01](#) SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and by SMC [21A.25.220](#), Sight distance requirements. No temporary signs shall be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.

1. **Non-Commercial Temporary Signs.**

No permit is required to post a temporary non-commercial sign in the public right-of-way or on private property subject to the following requirements.

	Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) (1)
Size Limit	4 sq ft	6 sq ft	16 sq ft if located less than 50 feet from a street property line; 32 sq ft if located 50 feet or more from a street property line
Height Limit	3 ft above grade	3.5 ft	8 ft
Duration	180 consecutive days	2 consecutive days	180 consecutive days

Development Conditions

1. Placement of off-premises temporary signs on private property is subject to the landowner's authorization.

The Director of Community Development or their designee, in consultation with the City engineer, and following review of applicable state and City codes, may approve placement of temporary non-commercial signs in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel).

2. Temporary Commercial Displays

Signs, posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, and searchlights are permitted for a period of up to 30 consecutive days once each calendar year at businesses located in Sammamish in the CB, NB, or O-Zones.

3. Signs Located on Property with Active Construction

1. One non-illuminated, double-faced sign is permitted for each public street upon which the project fronts;
2. No sign shall exceed 32 square feet in surface area or 10 feet in height, or be located closer than 30 feet from the property line of the adjoining property; and
3. Signs must be removed by the date of first occupancy of the premises or one year after placement of the sign, whichever occurs first.

4. Signs Associated with Properties for Sale or Rent

Signs Located On Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent	
Sign Quantity	One per public street frontage
Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Permitted Duration	Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.
Maximum Sign Area	8 sq ft
Maximum Height	6 ft
Signs Located Off-Site of Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent (1)	
Sign Quantity	One (2)
Permitted Location	Public right-of-way adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and closest public street.
Permitted Duration	Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.
Maximum Sign Area	4 sq ft
Portable Off-Premises Residential Directional Signs for Active Open Houses for Sale or Rent (3)	
Maximum Sign Area	6 sq ft
Maximum Height	42 inches
Signs on Property with Commercial or Industrial Property for Sale or Rent	
Sign Quantity	One
Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Maximum Sign Area	32 sq ft
Maximum Height	12 ft
Signs on Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale	
Sign Quantity	One
Permitted Location	Public street frontage
Maximum Sign Area	32 sq ft
Maximum Height	12 ft
Directional Signs Located Off-site Of Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale	
Sign Quantity	Two
Permitted Location	Private property (with permission); public right-of-way
Maximum Sign Area	16 sq ft

Development Conditions

1. Only allowed for properties with a unit for sale or rent that is not located adjacent to a public street.
2. When more than three off-site real estate signs are proposed for a location, the fourth proposed sign owner shall install and make available to other licensed real estate agents a frame, designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung in a stacked fashion, to accommodate multiple signs; Frames installed to hold multiple real estate signs shall not exceed a height of six feet. Off-site signs located on a frame shall individually not exceed a height of one and a half feet, a width of two feet, and an area of three square feet.
3. Such signs shall be permitted only when the agent or seller is in attendance at the property for sale or rent and may be located on the right-of-way outside of vehicular and bicycle lanes.

21A.45.080 – Legal Non-Conforming Signs

1. Any sign located within the city limits on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title, or located in an area annexed to the city thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this code, shall be considered a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided it also meets the following requirements:
 - a) The sign was covered by a permit on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title if one was required under applicable law; or
 - b) If no permit was required under applicable law for the sign in question, the sign was in all respects compliant with applicable law on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title.
2. Loss of Legal Nonconforming Status.

Nonconforming signs shall not be altered in size, shape, height, location, or structural components without being brought to compliance with the requirements of this code. Repair and maintenance are allowable, but may require a permit if structural components require repair or replacement.

21A.45.090 – Variance

1. A sign variance is categorized as a Type 1 land use application and shall be subject to the requirements of SMC 21A.110.030. Variances from the terms of this chapter may be granted by Director of Community Development upon proper application. Variances may be granted when, because of unique circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings, the strict interpretation of the regulations of this chapter deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity and under identical zoning classifications.
2. The variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with a limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.

21A.45.100 – Enforcement

1. Compliance with other applicable codes.

All signs erected or altered under this chapter must comply with all applicable federal, state and local regulations relating to signs, including without limitation the provisions of the International Building Code as adopted in SMC 16.05.010 by the city. If any provision of this code is found to be in conflict with any provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the city, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail.

2. Sign maintenance.

All permanent and temporary signs must be kept in good repair and in a safe manner at all times. The sign owner must repair damaged or deteriorated signs within 30 days of notification by the City. The area surrounding freestanding signs must be kept free of litter and debris at all times.

3. Inspection.

Code enforcement officers are authorized to inspect any sign covered by this chapter for the purpose of inspection of the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of this code. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours, unless an emergency exists.

4. Abatement.

In addition to the abatement authority provided by proceedings under SMC 21A.115.030, the City or its agents may summarily remove any sign placed on a right-of-way or public property in violation of the terms of this chapter under the following circumstances:

- a) When a sign is determined by the City Engineer or Director of Community Development to present an immediate threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the public;
- b) When a sign is illegally placed within the public right-of-way, within a landscape median, landscape island, traffic circle, attached to a utility pole or city traffic sign, upon public sidewalks or roadway, or on any public building or structure when such facilities are located on public property or within public right-of-way;
- c) When a sign is determined by the City to be abandoned; provided, that the city must first provide fourteen days' notice to the underlying property owner or business owner that the sign is deemed abandoned;
- d) Disposal of Signs. When a sign has been removed by the City as authorized by this section, the City shall take the following actions:
 - i. The City shall hold a sign for at least seven days. After seven days the City may dispose of the sign without prior notice to the sign owner. The City shall not be responsible for damage or loss during removal or storage of any signs in violation of this code. Sign owners wishing to reacquire possession of removed signs prior to their disposal shall pay an impoundment fee pursuant to SMC 23.100.010.

- ii. For signs with a fair market value exceeding five hundred dollars, the City shall provide notice by mail to the following:
 - A. Sign Owner. If the mailing address can be determined by the City after reasonable efforts in investigation. "Reasonable efforts" shall include investigation efforts that take no longer than one-half hour of staff time.
 - B. Underlying Property Owner. If the address of the sign owner cannot be reasonably ascertained, the City shall mail the notice to the underlying real property owner, as identified in the records of the King County Assessor's Office.

23.100.010 Assessment schedule.

Code Enforcement Penalties:	
Infraction	up to \$500
Stop Work Order	up to \$500
Noncompliance:	
1 – 15 days	\$100 up to \$250 per day
16 – 31 days	\$250 up to \$500 per day
31+ days	\$500 up to \$1,000 per day (up to \$50,000 maximum)
Environmental Damage/Critical Areas Violations:	
Up to \$25,000 plus the cost of restoration.	
Unlawful Tree Removal or Damage:	
\$1,500 per inch of diameter at breast height of tree removed or damaged.	
\$25 fee per sign illegally placed on public property or in the City's right-of-way.	

Chapter 21A.15

TECHNICAL TERMS AND LAND USE DEFINITIONS

21A.15.469.1 Flag.

“Flag” means a fabric sheet of square, rectangular or triangular shape which is mounted on a pole, cable or rope at one (1) end.

21A.15.469.2 Flag, government.

“Flag, government” means Any flag or badge or insignia of the United States, State of Washington, King County, City of Sammamish, or official historic plaque of any governmental jurisdiction or agency.

21A.15.1085 Sign.

“Sign” means any device, structure, fixture, or placard that is visible from a public right-of-way or surrounding properties and uses graphics, symbols, or written copy for the purpose of advertising or identifying any establishment, product, goods, or service. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1090 Sign, awning.

“Sign, awning” means a sign painted on or attached directly to and supported by an awning. An awning may be constructed of rigid or nonrigid materials and may be retractable or nonretractable. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

2A.15.1095 Sign, changing message center.

“Sign, changing message center” means an electrically controlled sign that contains advertising messages that changes at intervals of three minutes or greater. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1096 Sign, community banner.

“Sign, community banner” means a temporary sign, located on City banner poles, which advertises an event that would provide civic, cultural, educational, philanthropic, or service opportunities hosted or promoted by the City or a community group that is not-for-profit or nonprofit and nonpolitical with an IRS designation of Section 501(c) or (d). (Ord. O2005-180 § 1)

2A.15.1097 Sign, commercial.

Sign, Commercial. A sign erected for a business transaction or advertising the exchange of goods and services.

21A.15.1105 Sign, directional.

“Sign, directional” means a sign designed to guide or direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic to an area, place or convenience, and may include incidental graphics such as trade names and trademarks. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1110 Sign, freestanding.

“Sign, freestanding” means a permanent sign fixed directly to the ground or having one or more supports fixed directly to the ground, and being detached from any building or fence. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1115 Sign, fuel price.

“Sign, fuel price” means a sign utilized to advertise the price of gasoline and/or diesel fuel. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1120 Sign, incidental.

“Sign, incidental” means a sign, emblem or decal designed to inform the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, and may include but not be limited to signs designating:

- (1) Restrooms;
- (2) Hours of operation;
- (3) Acceptable credit cards;
- (4) Property ownership or management;
- (5) Phone booths; and
- (6) Recycling containers. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1125 Sign, indirectly illuminated.

“Sign, indirectly illuminated” means a sign that is illuminated entirely from an external artificial source. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1130 Sign, monument.

“Sign, monument” means a freestanding sign that is above ground level and is anchored to the ground by a solid base, with no open space between the sign and the ground. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1131 Sign, non-commercial.

“Sign, non-commercial” means any sign that is not a commercial sign. This definition also includes signs regarding fund raising or membership drive activities for noncommercial or nonprofit entities or groups..

21A.15.1135 Sign, off-premises directional.

“Sign, off-premises directional” means a sign that contains no advertising of a commercial nature that is used to direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic circulation to a facility, service, or business located on other premises within 660 feet of the sign. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1140 Sign, on-premises.

“Sign, on-premises” means a sign that displays a message that is incidental to and directly associated with the use of the property on which it is located. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1144 Sign, permanent

“Sign, permanent” Any sign which is intended to be lasting and is constructed from an enduring material such as masonry and metal which remains unchanged in position, character, and condition (beyond normal wear), and is permanently affixed to the ground, wall or building, provided the sign is listed as a permanent sign in the ordinance.

21A.15.1145 Sign, permanent residential development identification.

“Sign, permanent residential development identification” means a permanent sign identifying the residential development upon which the sign is located. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1146 Sign, pole.

“Sign, pole” means a freestanding sign having one or more supports standing directly upon the ground, and being detached from any building or fence.

21A.15.1150 Sign, portable.

“Sign, portable” means a sign that is capable of being moved and is not permanently affixed to the ground, a structure, or building. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1155 Sign, projecting.

“Sign, projecting” means any sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane perpendicular to the wall of the building, projecting more than one foot from the wall of a building and vertical to the ground. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1159 Sign, temporary.

“Sign, temporary ” means any sign, banner, pennant, or valance constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other like materials. Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, wall or building, intended to be displayed for a short period of time only.

21A.15.1160 Sign, time and temperature.

“Sign, time and temperature” means an electrically controlled sign that contains messages for date, time, and temperature, which changes at intervals of one minute or less. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1165 Sign, wall.

“Sign, wall” means any sign painted on, or attached directly to and supported by, a building or structure, with the exposed face of the sign on a plane parallel to the portion of the building or structure to which it is attached, projecting no more than one foot from the building or structure, including window signs that are permanently attached. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1166 Sign, window.

“Sign, window” means any sign applied to or mounted on a window.

21A.15.1250 Street frontage.

“Street frontage” means any portion of a lot or combination of lots that directly abut a public right-of-way. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

	Original Section	February 23, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	March 16, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	Rationale																
1	21A.45.010(7) - Purpose	7. Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way, to provide a flow of truthful and legitimate commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and	7. Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way, to provide a flow of truthful and legitimate commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and	Change made based on Planning Commission comment on 2/23/17.																
2	21A.45.060 – Permitted Signs	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>R- Zone</td> <td>CB-Zone^{1,2}</td> <td>NB-Zone^{1,2}</td> <td>Office Zone^{1,2}</td> </tr> </table>	R- Zone	CB-Zone ^{1,2}	NB-Zone ^{1,2}	Office Zone ^{1,2}	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Residential R-Zone</td> <td>Community Business CB-Zone^{1,2}</td> <td>Neighborhood Business NB-Zone^{1,2}</td> <td>Office Zone^{1,2}</td> </tr> </table>	Residential R -Zone	Community Business CB -Zone ^{1,2}	Neighborhood Business NB -Zone ^{1,2}	Office Zone ^{1,2}	Zoning districts spelled out to improve comprehension.								
R- Zone	CB-Zone ^{1,2}	NB-Zone ^{1,2}	Office Zone ^{1,2}																	
Residential R -Zone	Community Business CB -Zone ^{1,2}	Neighborhood Business NB -Zone ^{1,2}	Office Zone ^{1,2}																	
3	21A.45.070(1) – Temporary Signs - Non-Commercial Temporary Signs	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)</td> <td>Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)</td> <td>Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types)¹</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Duration</td> <td>180 days</td> <td>48 hours</td> <td>180 days</td> </tr> </table>		Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) ¹	Duration	180 days	48 hours	180 days	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)</td> <td>Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)</td> <td>Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types)¹</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Duration</td> <td>180 <u>consecutive</u> days</td> <td>48 hours <u>2 consecutive days</u></td> <td>180 <u>consecutive</u> days</td> </tr> </table>		Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) ¹	Duration	180 <u>consecutive</u> days	48 hours <u>2 consecutive days</u>	180 <u>consecutive</u> days	Changed to be consistent with rest of table.
	Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) ¹																	
Duration	180 days	48 hours	180 days																	
	Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)	Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) ¹																	
Duration	180 <u>consecutive</u> days	48 hours <u>2 consecutive days</u>	180 <u>consecutive</u> days																	
4	21A.45.070(4) – Temporary Signs - Real Estate Signs	Open house sign regulation removed.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>Portable Off-Premises Residential Directional Signs for Active Open Houses for Sale or Rent³</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Maximum Sign Area</u></td> <td><u>6 sq ft</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Maximum Height</u></td> <td><u>42 inches</u></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>3. Such signs shall be permitted only when the agent or seller is in attendance at the property for sale or rent and may be located on the right-of-way outside of vehicular and bicycle lanes.</u></p>		<u>Portable Off-Premises Residential Directional Signs for Active Open Houses for Sale or Rent³</u>	<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>	<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>42 inches</u>	Provision mistakenly removed from first draft. Provision, in its original form, has been added back.										
	<u>Portable Off-Premises Residential Directional Signs for Active Open Houses for Sale or Rent³</u>																			
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>																			
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>42 inches</u>																			

	Original Section	February 23, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	March 16, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	Rationale
5	21A.45.070(5) – Temporary Signs - Community Banner Sign	<p>a) Community banners shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;</p> <p>b) Letters on the sign shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;</p> <p>c) Banners shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and</p> <p>d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.</p>	Provision removed.	Provision removed and moved to 21B.45, as the community banner poles are within the boundaries of Town Center.
6	21A.45.100 – Variance	3. For signs placed within the right-of-way, a right-of-way permit is required.	Provision removed.	Provision is not consistent with code, which allows temporary sign placement in the right-of-way without a permit.

	Original Section	February 23, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	March 16, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting	Rationale
7	21A.15.1159 – Sign, temporary	“Sign, time and temperature” means any sign, banner, pennant, or valance constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other like materials. Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, wall or building, intended to be displayed for a short period of time only.	“Sign, Sign, temporary time and temperature” means any sign, banner, pennant, or valance constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other like materials. Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, wall or building, intended to be displayed for a short period of time only.	Fixed typo.

Index	Original Code Section	<u>Original Code Language</u>	<u>Proposed Amended Code Language</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
-------	-----------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------

<p><u>1</u></p>	<p><u>21B.45.010 - Purpose</u></p>	<p>21B.45.010 Purpose and intent.</p> <p>The purpose of the Town Center sign code chapter is to:</p> <p>(1) Promote signs within the Town Center that contribute to the character of the Town Center, are integrated with natural surroundings and landscaping, and exhibit an intimate human scale;</p> <p>(2) Provide necessary signage to support central gathering places, increase social interaction, and encourage walkability;</p> <p>(3) Support a full range of signs necessary to support commercial services in the Town Center;</p> <p>(4) Regulate signs in a manner that is timely, flexible, predictable, fair to all and that results in superior development; and</p> <p>(5) Create a “sense of place” reflected in the Town Center signs. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	<p>21B.45.010 Purpose and intent.</p> <p>The purpose of this chapter is to enhance and protect the economic vitality and visual environment of the Town Center, allow for the expression of free speech, and promote general safety and welfare by:</p> <p>(1) Regulating the type, number, location, size, and illumination of signs; and</p> <p>(2) Recognizing the purpose of signs for identification and economic well-being of businesses in the Town Center by supporting a full range of signs necessary for commercial services in the Town Center; and</p> <p>(3) Ensuring a safe driving environment; and</p> <p>(4) Recognizing and protecting the use of the public right-of-way as a forum for non-commercial speech; and</p> <p>(5) Facilitating fair and consistent content-neutral enforcement; and</p> <p>(6) Safeguarding and enhancing property values, attracting new residents, and encouraging orderly development; and</p> <p>(7) Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way to provide commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and</p> <p>(8) Upholding the goals and policies of the Sammamish Comprehensive Plan and the Town Center Subarea Plan.</p> <p>(9) Promoting signs within the Town Center that contribute to the character of the Town Center, are integrated with natural surroundings and landscaping, and exhibit an intimate human scale;</p> <p>(10) Providing necessary signage to support central gathering places, increase social interaction, and encourage walkability;</p> <p>(11) Regulating signs in a manner that is timely, flexible, predictable, fair to all and that results in superior development; and</p> <p>(12) Creating a vibrant and inviting commercial node that is reflected in the character and design of Town Center signage. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	<p>Strengthening the purpose section of the Sign Code is crucial for justifying the regulations that follow.</p>
-----------------	------------------------------------	---	---	--

Index	Original Code Section	<u>Original Code Language</u>	<u>Proposed Amended Code Language</u>	<u>Rationale</u>

<p><u>2</u></p>	<p><u>21B.45.060 - Exempt Signs</u></p>	<p>21B.45.060 Exempt signs. The following signs or displays are exempted from the regulations under this chapter:</p> <p>(1) Historic site markers or plaques, and address numbers;</p> <p>(2) Signs required by law, including but not limited to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) Traffic directional or warning signs;</p> <p>(3) Plaques, tablets, or inscriptions indicating the name of a building, date of erection, or other commemorative information, which are an integral part of the building structure or are attached flat to the face of the building, which are nonilluminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;</p> <p>(4) Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings, or information when established and maintained by a public agency;</p>	<p>21B.45.060 Exempt signs. The following signs or displays are exempted from the regulations under this chapter:</p> <p>(1) Historic plaques not exceeding 3 square feet in area, and address numbers;</p> <p>(2) Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court;</p> <p>(3) Traffic control signs established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) or authorized by City of Sammamish Department of Public Works;</p> <p>(3) Plaques, tablets, or, which are attached flat to the face of the building, which are nonilluminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;</p> <p>(4) Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings, or information when established and maintained by a public agency;</p> <p>(5) Government flags; and</p> <p>(6) Nonverbal religious symbols attached to a place of worship.</p> <p>(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	<p>These changes were made to make the regulations content-neutral, and to clarify the City’s jurisdiction over traffic directional and warning signs.</p> <p>Commercial flag provision removed to avoid promoting commercial speech over non-commercial speech.</p>
-----------------	---	---	--	--

Index	Original Code Section	Original Code Language	Proposed Amended Code Language	Rationale
		<p>(5) State or federal flags;</p> <p>(6) Religious symbols; and</p> <p>(7) The flag of a commercial institution, provided no more than one flag is permitted per business premises; and further provided the flag does not exceed 20 square feet in surface area. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>		
3	<p><u>SMC</u> <u>21B.45.100 –</u> <u>Sign area</u> <u>calculation</u></p>	<p>21B.45.100 Measurement methods.</p> <p>(1) Sign area shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters, graphics, and symbols.</p>	<p>21B.45.100 Sign Area Calculation.</p> <p>(1) Sign area shall be calculated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Sign area for nonmonument freestanding signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures. (b) Sign area for pole signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures. (c) Sign area for letters or symbols painted or mounted directly on walls or monument signs or on the sloping portion of a roof shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters and symbols. (d) Sign area for signs contained entirely within a cabinet and mounted on a wall, roof, or monument shall be calculated by measuring the entire area of the cabinet. 	<p>Clarify and strengthen the sign area calculation provision.</p>

Index	Original Code Section	Original Code Language	Proposed Amended Code Language	Rationale
5	<u>21B.45.110(1) (f) and (g) - General sign requirements.</u>	<p>(f) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses occupying the ground level of a building shall not exceed 10 percent of the ground-level building facade associated with the sign; provided, that no single sign shall exceed an area of 24 square feet;</p> <p>(g) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses that do not occupy the ground level of a building (e.g., the use is on the second or third story) shall not exceed five percent of the building facade associated with the use; provided, that no single sign shall exceed an area of 20 square feet;</p>	<p>(f) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses occupying the ground level of a building shall not exceed 10 percent of the ground-level building façade associated with the sign;</p> <p>(g) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses that do not occupy the ground level of a building (e.g., the use is on the second or third story) shall not exceed five percent of the building façade associated with the use;</p>	Enhance commercial viability of signs in Town Center while ensuring that the sign size is scaled to the building façade as appropriate.
6	<u>21B.45.130 – Community bulletin board signs</u>	<p>One community bulletin board sign is permitted within the Sammamish Commons Comprehensive Plan designated center with the following limitations:</p> <p>(1) A community bulletin board sign, which may be a changing message center sign, may not exceed 32 square feet and is only permitted at City Hall. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	Section removed.	Not in effect.

Index	Original Code Section	<u>Original Code Language</u>	<u>Proposed Amended Code Language</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>21B.45.150 – Signs or displays of limited duration - Preamble</u>	The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and, except as required by the International Building Code; Chapter 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code; or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require building permits:	21B.45.140 Temporary signs. The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and, except as required by the International Building Code; Chapter 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code; or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require a sign permit, subject to the requirements set out in this chapter. All temporary signs shall not obstruct sight distances and shall follow the regulations prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements. No temporary signs shall be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.	Added language to clarify that all temporary signs must follow Public Works regulations and may not be placed in certain locations in the public right-of-way.
<u>8</u>	<u>21B.45.150</u>	All temporary signs	All temporary signs	Amended to read as content-neutral and for consistency with proposed changes to SMC 21A.45

Index	Original Code Section	Original Code Language	Proposed Amended Code Language	Rationale
9	<u>21A.45.120(6)</u>	<p>(6) Community Banners Sign. Community banners are allowed subject to the following provisions:</p> <p>(a) Community banners shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;</p> <p>(b) Letters on the sign shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;</p> <p>(c) Banners shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and</p> <p>(d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.</p>	<p>(4) Community Banner Signs.</p> <p>(a) Community banner signs shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;</p> <p>(b) Letter on such signs shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;</p> <p>(c) Community banner signs shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and</p> <p>(d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.</p>	<p>Relocated from 21A.45 due to location of banner poles being in TC.</p> <p>Subsequently, this provision has been deleted from 21A.45.</p>

Index	Original Code Section	Original Code Language	Proposed Amended Code Language	Rationale
10	<u>21B.45.160 – Compliance clause</u>	Legally established signs that do not conform to the design standards of SMC 21B.45.110, General sign design standards, or 21B.45.120, Design standards for specific sign types, shall be brought into compliance when there is a change in use associated with the sign or when the sign is entirely removed or replaced. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))	<p>21B.45.150 Legal non-conforming signs.</p> <p>(1) Any sign located within the city limits on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title, or located in an area annexed to the city thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this code, shall be considered a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided it also meets the following requirements:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The sign was covered by a permit on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title if one was required under applicable law; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) If no permit was required under applicable law for the sign in question, the sign was in all respects compliant with applicable law on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title.</p> <p>(2) Loss of legal nonconforming status. Nonconforming signs shall not be altered in size, shape, height, location, or structural components without being brought to compliance with the requirements of this code. Repair and maintenance are allowable, but may require a permit if structural components require repair or replacement. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	Strengthen language
11	None	None	<p>21B.45.160 Variance.</p> <p>(1) A sign variance is categorized as a Type 1 land use application and shall be subject to the requirements of SMC 21A.110.030. Variances from the terms of this chapter may be granted by director of community development upon complete application. Variances may be granted when, because of unique circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings, the strict interpretation of the regulations of this chapter deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity and under identical zoning classifications.</p> <p>(2) The variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with a limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.</p>	Need for a variation process to address unique circumstances.

12	None	None	<p>21B.45.170 Enforcement.</p> <p>(1) Compliance with other applicable codes. All signs erected or altered under this chapter must comply with all applicable federal, state and local regulations relating to signs, including without limitation the provisions of the International Building Code as adopted in SMC 16.05.010 by the city. If any provision of this code is found to be in conflict with any provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the city, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail.</p> <p>(2) Sign maintenance. All permanent and temporary signs must be kept in good repair and in a safe manner at all times. The sign owner must repair damaged or deteriorated signs within 30 days of notification by the city. The area surrounding freestanding signs must be kept free of litter and debris at all times.</p> <p>(3) Inspection. Code enforcement officers are authorized to inspect any sign covered by this chapter for the purpose of inspection of the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of this code. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours, unless an emergency exists.</p> <p>(4) Abatement. In addition to the abatement authority provided by proceedings under SMC 21A.115.030, the city or its agents may summarily remove any sign placed on a right-of-way or public property in violation of the terms of this chapter under the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) When a sign is determined by the city engineer or director of community development to present an immediate threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the public; (b) When a sign is illegally placed within the public right-of-way, within a landscape median, landscape island, traffic circle, attached to a utility pole or city traffic sign, upon public sidewalks or roadway, or on any public building or structure when such facilities are located on public property or within public right-of-way; (c) When a sign is determined by the city to be abandoned; provided, that the city must first provide fourteen days' notice to the underlying property owner or business owner that the sign is deemed abandoned; (d) Disposal of signs. When a sign has been removed by the city as authorized by this section, the city shall take the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The city shall hold a sign for at least seven days. After seven days the city may dispose of the sign without prior notice to the sign owner. The city shall not be responsible for damage or loss during removal or storage of any signs in violation of this code. Sign owners wishing to reacquire possession of removed signs prior to their disposal shall pay an impoundment fee pursuant to SMC 23.100.010. (ii) For signs with a fair market value exceeding five hundred dollars, the city shall provide notice by mail to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Sign owner. If the mailing address can be determined by the city after reasonable efforts in investigation. "Reasonable efforts" shall 	Strengthen enforcement process.
----	------	------	---	---------------------------------

Index	Original Code Section	Original Code Language	Proposed Amended Code Language	Rationale
			<p>include investigation efforts that take no longer than one-half hour of staff time. (B) Underlying property owner. If the address of the sign owner cannot be reasonably ascertained, the city shall mail the notice to the underlying real property owner, as identified in the records of the King County Assessor's Office</p>	
13	<u>21B.45.170 Electronic Reader Board Pilot Program</u>	<p>The provisions of Chapter 21A.45 SMC, Article II, shall apply to the Town Center sub-area, including SMC 21A.45.130 through 21A.45.180. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))</p>	<p>Article removed; electronic reader boards installed under pilot program will be covered under new non-conforming signs section of code.</p>	<p>This pilot program should have ended in 2014. Rather than create a separate category for these specific signs (of which there are 3 currently operating), these will fall under the non-conforming sign section. The signs will be allowed to remain where they are provided they are not relocated, replaced, or otherwise altered in a structural way.</p>

DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS – SIGNS SMC and Chapter 21A.15 SMC

Sections:

Article I. General Provisions

- ~~21A.45.010 Purpose.~~
- ~~21A.45.020 Permit requirements.~~
- ~~21A.45.030 Exempt signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.040 Prohibited signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.050 Sign area calculation.~~
- ~~21A.45.060 General sign requirements.~~
- ~~21A.45.070 Community bulletin board signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.080 Residential zone signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.090 Office zone signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.100 Neighborhood business zone signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.110 Community business zone signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.120 Signs or displays of limited duration.~~

Article II. Electronic Reader Board Pilot Program

- ~~21A.45.130 Pilot program established – Applicability.~~
- ~~21A.45.140 Definition of electronic reader board sign.~~
- ~~21A.45.150 Location of electronic reader board signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.160 Specifications of electronic reader board signs.~~
- ~~21A.45.170 Pilot program monitoring.~~
- ~~21A.45.180 Duration of pilot program.~~

Article I. General Provisions

21A.45.010

Contents

21A.45.010 - Purpose 2

21A.45.020 – Permit Requirements 2

Style Definition: Heading 2: Font: (Default) +Headings (Calibri Light), 13 pt, Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1, Space Before: 2 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: Multiple 1.08 li, Keep with next, Keep lines together

Style Definition: Heading 3: Font: (Default) +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1, Space Before: 2 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: Multiple 1.08 li, Keep with next, Keep lines together

Style Definition: Hyperlink: Font color: Hyperlink

Formatted: Left, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 8 pt, Line spacing: Multiple 1.08 li

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Not Bold, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Not Bold, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

21A.45.030 – Exempt Signs 3

21A.45.040 – Prohibited Signs 3

21A.45.050 – Sign Area Calculation 4

21A.45.060 – Permanent Signs 4

21A.45.070 – Temporary Signs 12

21A.45.080 – Legal Non-Conforming Signs 24

21A.45.090 – Variance 24

21A.45.100 – Enforcement 25

21A.45.010 - Purpose    

The purpose of this chapter is to enhance and protect the economic vitality and visual environment of the City, allow for the expression of free speech, and promote general safety and welfare by:

1. ~~(1) Establishing standards that regulate~~Regulating the type, number, location, size, and lighting illumination of signs; and
2. ~~(2) Recognizing the private purposes purpose~~ of signs for the identification and economic well-being of businesses in Sammamish; and promotion
3. Ensuring a safe driving environment; and
4. Recognizing and protecting the use of the public right-of-way as a forum for non-commercial speech; and
5. Facilitating fair and consistent content-neutral enforcement; and
6. Safeguarding and enhancing property values, attracting new residents, and encouraging orderly development; and
7. Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way, to provide a flow of commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of products and services; and purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and
8. ~~(3) Recognizing the public purposes of signs that includes considerations of traffic safety, economic, and aesthetic welfare~~Upholding the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

~~(Ord. 099-29 § 1)~~

21A.45.020 - Permit requirements     **Requirements**

1. ~~(1) Except as otherwise permitted by provided in~~ this chapter, no sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated without approval by within the City; without a permit issued by the City.
2. ~~(2) No building~~ permit shall be required for repainting, cleaning, or other normal maintenance and repair of a permitted sign, or for sign face and copy changes that do not alter the size or structure of the sign. ~~(Ord. 099-29 § 1)~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Footer

21A.45.030 – Exempt signs.      Signs

The following signs or displays are exempt from the ~~regulations under permitting requirements~~ of this chapter, but shall conform to the other requirements set out in this chapter:

1. ~~(4)~~ Historic ~~site markers or~~ plaques, gravestones, and address numbers;

~~(2) Signs required by law, including but not limited to:~~

2. ~~(a)~~ Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court; or

~~(b) Traffic directional or warning signs;~~

3. ~~(3)~~ Traffic control signs established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) or authorized by City of Sammamish Department of Public Works;

4. Plaques, tablets, or inscriptions ~~indicating the name of a building, date of erection, or other commemorative information,~~ which are an integral part of the building structure or are attached flat to the face of the building, which are non-illuminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;

5. ~~(4)~~ Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs ~~providing directions, warnings, or information~~ when established and maintained by a public agency;

6. ~~(5)~~ ~~State or federal~~ Government flags; and

~~(6) Religious Nonverbal religious symbols; and~~

7. ~~(7)~~ The flag ~~attached to a place~~ of a commercial institution, ~~provided no more than one flag is permitted per business premises; and further provided the flag does not exceed 20 square feet in surface area. (Ord. 099-29 § 4)~~ worship.

21A.45.040 – Prohibited signs.      Signs

Except as indicated by this chapter, the following signs or displays are prohibited:

1. ~~(4)~~ Portable signs including, but not limited to, sandwich/A-frame signs and mobile readerboard signs, and excluding signs permitted under SMC ~~21A.45.120; 21A.45.070;~~

~~(2) Private signs on utility poles;~~

2. ~~(3)~~ Signs which, by reason of their size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination may be confused with traffic control signs or signals;

3. ~~(4)~~ Signs located in the public right-of-way, except where permitted in this chapter; provided, that in no case shall temporary signs permitted under SMC ~~21A.45.120; 21A.45.070~~ be located

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

within travel lanes or sidewalks, or be attached to traffic control signs, utility or signal poles;

4. ~~(5)~~ Posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, searchlights, and other displays of a carnival nature; except as architectural features, or on a limited basis as seasonal decorations or as provided for in SMC ~~21A.45.120 as grand opening displays; 21A.45.070 as temporary commercial displays;~~

5. ~~(6)~~ Changing message center signs, where the message changes more frequently than every three minutes; and

6. ~~(7)~~ Billboards. ~~(Ord. O2005-180 § 1; Ord. O99-29 § 1)~~

21A.45.050 – Sign area calculation.     Area Calculation

1. ~~(1)~~ Sign area for ~~nonmonument freestanding pole~~ signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures.
2. ~~(2)~~ Sign area for letters or symbols painted or mounted directly on walls or monument signs or on the sloping portion of a roof shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters and symbols.
3. ~~(3)~~ Sign area for signs contained entirely within a cabinet and mounted on a wall, roof, or monument shall be calculated by measuring the entire area of the cabinet. (Ord. O99-29 §-1)

21A.45.060 General sign requirements.     Permanent Signs

~~(1) All signs, except billboards, community bulletin boards, community identification signs, political signs, real estate signs, and special event signs shall be on-premises signs; provided, that uses located on lots without public street frontage in business and office zones may have one off-premises directional sign of no more than 16 square feet.~~

~~(2) Fuel price signs shall not be included in sign area or number limitations of SMC 21A.45.090 through 21A.45.110, provided such signs do not exceed 20 square feet per street frontage.~~

~~(3) Projecting and awning signs and signs mounted on the sloping portion of roofs shall not be permitted for uses in the residential zones. In other zones, projecting and awning signs and signs mounted on the sloping portion of roofs may be used in lieu of wall signs, provided:~~

~~(a) They maintain a minimum clearance of eight feet above finished grade;~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Footer

(b) They do not project more than six feet perpendicular from the supporting building facade;

(c) They meet the standards of subsection (10) of this section if mounted on the roof of a building; and

(d) They shall not exceed the number or size permitted for wall signs in a zone.

(4) Changing message center signs and time and temperature signs, which can be wall or freestanding signs, shall not exceed the size permitted for wall or freestanding signs, and shall be permitted only in the NB, CB, and O zones, except that changing message center signs may be permitted in the R zone, subject to the provisions of SMC ~~21A.45.070~~. Changing message center signs and time and temperature signs shall not exceed the maximum sign height permitted in the zone.

1. ~~(5) Directional signs shall not be included in the sign area or number limitation of SMC 21A.45.080 through 21A.45.110, provided~~ Table of Permitted Signs

The table below outlines the regulations for permanent signs in the City of Sammamish. All permanent signs must be approved through the permitting process. Unless otherwise stated herein, all permanent signs must be on-site. No permanent sign may be placed in the City's right-of-way.

Key

X – Prohibited

N/A – Not Applicable – Sign Type Not Allowed in Zone

	<u>Residential Zone</u>	<u>Community Business Zone(1)(2)</u>	<u>Neighborhood Business Zone(1)(2)</u>	<u>Office Zone(1)(2)</u>
<u>Freestanding Signs(3)</u>				
<u>Quantity(4)</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>One per street frontage(5)</u>		<u>One per street frontage</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>85 sq ft, + 20 sq ft for each additional business in a multiple tenant structure up to 145 sq ft.</u>	<u>50 sq ft</u>	
<u>Combined Sign Area Limit for Lots with Multiple Freestanding Signs(6)</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>250 sq ft</u>	<u>150 sq ft</u>	<u>80 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>20 feet</u>	<u>15 feet</u>	
<u>Home Business Signs</u>				
<u>Maximum Sign Area(7)</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Permanent Residential Development Identification Signs</u>				
<u>Quantity</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>One (8)</u>		
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>		
<u>Maximum Sign Height</u>	<u>6 ft (9)</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Projecting or Awning Signs Mounted on the Sloping Portion of Roofs (10)</u>				
<u>Quantity (11)</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>One Allowed in Lieu of Wall Signs</u>		
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No greater than 15% of building façade</u>	<u>No greater than 10% of building façade</u>	
<u>Minimum Clearance above Finished Grade (12)</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>8 ft</u>		
<u>Maximum Projection, Perpendicular from Supporting Building Façade</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>6 ft</u>		
<u>Signs on Property with Public Agency Facilities (13)</u>				
<u>Quantity</u>	<u>2 per Facility</u>	<u>X</u>		

	<u>Residential Zone</u>	<u>Community Business Zone(1)(2)</u>	<u>Neighborhood Business Zone(1)(2)</u>	<u>Office Zone(1)(2)</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>30 sq ft</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>6 ft</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Sign on Residentially Zoned Property with Nonresidential Use (14)</u>				
<u>Quantity</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>X</u>		
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>25 sq ft</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>6 ft</u>	<u>N/A</u>		
<u>Wall Signs</u>				
<u>Maximum Sign Area (15)</u>	<u>N/A (16)</u>	<u>15% of building facade</u>	<u>10% of building facade</u>	<u>10% of building facade (17)</u>

Development Conditions

- Directional signs for surface parking areas or parking structures located in the R-, CB, NB, and O-Zones shall not be included in the sign area or number limitations stated in this table, provided that they shall not exceed six square feet in surface area and are limited to one for each entrance or exit to surface parking areas or parking structure.

(6) Sign Illumination and Glare.

- (a) All fuel price signs shall not be included in the NB-, CB-, sign area or O-zones, number limitations referenced in this table, provided such signs do not exceed 20 square feet per street frontage.
- Changing message center signs and time and community bulletin board temperature signs can be wall or freestanding signs, and shall not exceed the size permitted for wall or freestanding signs.
- Corner lots with a street frontage of less than 100 feet on each street shall be permitted only one freestanding sign.
- Multiple tenant developments in the RCB and NB zone, that have more than 300 feet of street frontage on one street may be internally illuminated; have one additional freestanding sign for each 300 feet of street frontage, or portion thereof. Such signs shall be separated from one another by a minimum of 150 feet, if located on the same street frontage.

Formatted: List Paragraph, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: List Paragraph, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

~~(b) Unless otherwise provided for in subsection (6)(a) of this section, signs in the R zones may only be indirectly illuminated, provided the light source for indirectly illuminated signs shall be no farther away from the sign than the height of the sign;~~

~~(c) Indirectly illuminated signs shall be arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residences or any street right-of-way;~~

~~(d) Electrical requirements for signs shall be governed by Chapter 19.28 RCW and Chapter 296-46-910 WAC; and~~

~~(e) Signs with an on/off operation shall be permitted only in the CB zone.~~

~~(7) Maximum height for wall signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall or structure upon which the sign is located.~~

~~(8) Maximum height for projecting signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall upon which the projecting sign is located.~~

~~(9) Maximum height for awning signs shall not extend above the height of the awning upon which the awning sign is located.~~

6. (40) On lots where more than one freestanding sign is permitted, the sign area permitted for individual freestanding signs may be combined.

7. Home business signs may only be wall signs.

8. Permanent residential identification signs are only allowed in the NB, CB, and O-Zones as part of a mixed-use development.

9. Applicable only to freestanding signs.

10. Any sign attached to the sloping surface of a roof shall be installed or erected in such a manner that there are no visible support structures, shall appear to be part of the building itself, and shall not extend above the roof ridge line of the portion of the roof upon which the sign is attached.

~~(11) Except as otherwise permitted by this chapter, off-premises directional Maximum height for awning signs shall not exceed four square feet in sign area.~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

(12) Mixed use developments in extend above the NB, CB, or O zones are permitted one permanent residential identification sign not exceeding 32 square feet in addition to the maximum sign area requirements in the zone where the mixed use development is located. (Ord. O2004-153 § 2; Ord. O99-29 § 1)

21A.45.070 Community bulletin board signs. 

One community bulletin board sign is permitted within the Sammamish Commons Comprehensive Plan designated center with the following limitations:

(1) Community bulletin board signs may not exceed 32 square feet and are only permitted at City Hall. (Ord. O2004-153 § 3; Ord. O99-29 § 1)

21A.45.080 Residential zone signs. 

Signs in the R zone are limited as follows:

(1) Nonresidential Use.

(a) One sign identifying nonresidential uses on the same residential parcel, not otherwise regulated by this section, not exceeding 25 square feet and not exceeding six feet in height is permitted;

11. (b) Schools are permitted one sign per school or school facility entrance, not exceeding 25 square feet and not exceeding six feet in height, of the awning upon which may be located in the setback. Two additional wall signs not exceeding 25 square feet attached directly to the school or school facility are permitted; the awning sign is located.

Maximum height for projecting signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall upon which the projecting sign is located. (c) Public agency facilities, including but not limited to civic centers, community centers, public agency offices, and public utility yards, are permitted two signs for each facility. Each sign shall be limited to a sign area of not more than 30 square feet and not exceeding a height of more than six feet for freestanding signs;

(d) Home occupation and home industry signs are limited to wall signs not exceeding six square feet.

(2) Residential Use.

12. (a) One

13. See SMC 21A.15.915 for a list of permitted public agencies.

Non-residential identification sign not exceeding two square feet is permitted; and

14. (b) One permanent uses of residential development identification sign not exceeding 32 square feet is permitted per development. The maximum height for the sign shall be six feet. The sign may be freestanding or mounted on a wall, fence, or other structure. (Ord. O2009-249 § 1; Ord. O2005-180 § 1; Ord. O99-29 § 1)property as outlined in Chapter 21A.20 SMC.

21A.45.090 Office zone signs. 

Signs in the O-zones shall be limited as follows:

15. (4) Maximum height for wall signs and changing message center signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall or structure upon which the sign is located.

16. Wall signs are permitted, provided they do not total an area more than 10 percent of the building facade on which they are located and provided they are limited to allowed in Residential zones to identify schools, home businesses, and other non-residential uses, subject to the regulations listed in this table.

17. Only on building facades with street frontage.

(2) Freestanding

2. Illumination of Permanent Signs.

(a) One freestanding sign not exceeding 50 square feet is permitted for each street frontage of the lot, provided corner lots with a street frontage of less than 100 feet on each street shall be permitted only one freestanding sign;

(b) On lots where more than one freestanding sign is permitted, the sign area permitted for individual freestanding signs may be combined; provided the combined sign does not exceed 80 square feet; and

(c) The maximum height for freestanding signs shall be 15 feet. (Ord. O99-29 § 1)

21A.45.100 Neighborhood business zone signs. 

Signs in the NB-zones shall be limited as follows:

(1) Wall signs are permitted, provided they do not total an area more than 10 percent of the building facade on which they are located;

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 3, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Footer

(2) Freestanding Signs-

(a) One freestanding sign not exceeding 50 square feet is permitted for each street frontage of the lot, provided corner lots with a street frontage of less than 100 feet on each street shall be permitted only one freestanding sign;

(b) Multiple tenant developments that have more than 300 feet of street frontage on one street may have one additional freestanding sign for each 300 feet of street frontage, or portion thereof. Such signs shall be separated from one another by a minimum of 150 feet, if located on the same street frontage;

(c) On lots where more than one freestanding sign is permitted, the sign area permitted for individual freestanding signs may be combined; provided the combined sign does not exceed 150 square feet; and

(d) The maximum height for freestanding signs shall be 15 feet. (Ord. O99-29 § 1)

The table below outlines the regulations for illumination of permanent signs in the City of Sammamish. Temporary signs, governed by SMC21A.45.070, shall not be illuminated. All permanent signs, including the requested illumination, must be approved through the permitting process. All electrical components for signs shall be governed by Chapter 19.28 RCW and Chapter 296-46-910 WAC.

Key

P – Permitted, pursuant to Permit issued by City

X – Prohibited

	<u>R-Zone</u>	<u>CB-Zone</u>	<u>NB-Zone</u>	<u>Office Zone</u>
<u>Internal Illumination (1)</u>	X	P		
<u>Indirect Illumination (1)(2)</u>	P			
<u>Signs with an On/Off Operation</u>	X	P		X

Development Conditions

1. The light source for indirectly illuminated signs shall be no farther away from the sign than the height of the sign.

2. Indirectly illuminated signs shall be arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residences or any street right-of-way.

21A.45.110 Community business zone signs. ... 070 – Temporary Signs

Signs in the CB zone shall be limited as follows:

(1) Wall signs are permitted, provided they do not total an area more than 15 percent of the building facade on which they are located;

(2) Freestanding Signs-

(a) One freestanding sign not exceeding 85 square feet, plus an additional 20 square feet for each additional business in a multiple tenant structure but not to exceed 145 square feet total, is permitted for each street frontage of the lot, provided corner lots with a street frontage of less than 100 feet on each street shall be permitted only one freestanding sign;

(b) Multiple tenant developments that have more than 300 feet of street frontage on one street may have one additional freestanding sign for each 300 feet of street frontage, or portion thereof. Such signs shall be separated from one another by a minimum of 150 feet, if located on the same street frontage;

(c) On lots where more than one freestanding sign is permitted, the sign area permitted for individual freestanding signs may be combined provided the combined sign area does not exceed 250 square feet; and

(d) The maximum height for freestanding signs shall be 20 feet. (Ord. O99-29 § 1)

21A.45.120 Signs or displays of limited duration. ...

The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and except as required by the International Building Code, Chapter ~~16.20~~ 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code, or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require ~~building permits~~ permits. All temporary signs shall not obstruct sight distances and shall follow the regulations prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements. No temporary signs shall be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 2, None, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Font Alignment: Auto, Border: Bottom: (No border)

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), Not Bold, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

1. ~~(4) Grand Opening~~ Non-Commercial Temporary Signs.

No permit is required to post a temporary non-commercial sign in the public right-of-way or on private property subject to the following requirements.

	<u>Temporary Sign Type I – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)</u>	<u>Temporary Sign Type II – Placed in Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)</u>	<u>Temporary Sign Type III – Private Property (All Sign Types) (1)</u>
<u>Size Limit</u>	<u>4 sq ft</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>	<u>16 sq ft if located less than 50 feet from a street property line; 32 sq ft if located 50 feet or more from a street property line</u>
<u>Height Limit</u>	<u>3 ft above grade</u>	<u>3.5 ft</u>	<u>8 ft</u>
<u>Duration</u>	<u>180 consecutive days</u>	<u>2 consecutive days</u>	<u>180 consecutive days</u>

Development Conditions

1. Placement of off-premises temporary signs on private property is subject to the landowner’s authorization.

The Director of Community Development or their designee, in consultation with the City engineer, and following review of applicable state and City codes, may approve placement of temporary non-commercial signs in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel).

2. Temporary Commercial Displays.

(a) Signs, posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, and searchlights are permitted for a period of up to one month to announce the opening of a new enterprise or the opening of an enterprise under new management; and 30 consecutive days once each calendar year at businesses located in Sammamish in the CB, NB, or O-Zones.

(b) All grand opening displays shall be removed upon the expiration of 30 consecutive days;

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 3, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 2 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: p3, Indent: Left: 0"

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Footer

3. ~~(2)~~ Signs Located on Property with Active Construction Signs

~~(a)~~ Construction signs identifying architects, engineers, planners, contractors, or other individuals or firms involved with the construction of a building and announcing the character of the building or the purpose for which the building is intended may be displayed;

a) ~~(b)~~ One non-illuminated, double-faced sign is permitted for each public street upon which the project fronts;

b) ~~(c)~~ No sign shall exceed 32 square feet in surface area or 10 feet in height, or be located closer than 30 feet from the property line of the adjoining property; and

~~(d)~~ Construction signs must be removed by the date of first occupancy of the premises or one year after placement of the sign, whichever occurs first;

c) ~~(3)~~ Political

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 3, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 2 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Footer

~~Signs. Political signs are allowed, subject to the following requirements:~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(a) Location:~~

~~(i) Political signs may be displayed on private property Associated with the consent of the property owner;~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(ii) Political signs may be displayed within public easements or streets; provided, that signs shall not be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials (as defined) or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands;~~

~~(iii) Political signs located pursuant to subsection (3)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements.~~

~~(b) Specifications:~~

~~(i) Political signs located on private property may have a maximum sign area of up to 32 square feet;~~

~~(ii) Freestanding political signs on private property may be up to eight feet tall;~~

~~(iii) Political signs located on or within public easements or streets may have a maximum sign area of up to four square feet and may be up to three feet tall above grade;~~

~~(iv) Political signs located within 15 feet of a street corner or driveway, as further identified in Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements, shall be further limited in sign area and height as necessary to satisfy sight distance limitations;~~

~~(c) Removal:~~

~~(i) Political signs shall be removed within seven days following the election;~~

Formatted: Footer

4. (ii) ~~Property owners shall be responsible for the removal of political signs located on private property; Sale or Rent~~

(iii) ~~The campaign officer or responsible official shall be responsible for the removal of political signs located on or within public easements or streets;~~

(4) ~~Real Estate Signs. All temporary real estate signs may be single- or double-faced signs:~~

~~(a) Signs advertising an individual residential~~

<u>Signs Located On Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One per public street frontage</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Permitted Duration</u>	<u>Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>8 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>6 ft</u>
<u>Signs Located Off-Site of Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent (1)</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One (2)</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public right-of-way adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and closest public street.</u>
<u>Permitted Duration</u>	<u>Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>4 sq ft</u>
<u>Portable Off-Premises Residential Directional Signs for Active Open Houses for Sale or Rent (3)</u>	
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>42 inches</u>
<u>Signs on Property with Commercial or Industrial Property for Sale or Rent</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>12 ft</u>
<u>Signs on Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>12 ft</u>
<u>Directional Signs Located Off-site Of Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale</u>	

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Heading 3, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 2 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Font Alignment: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Headings (Calibri Light), 12 pt, Font color: Accent 1

Formatted: Footer

<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>Two</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Private property (with permission); public right-of-way</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>16 sq ft</u>

Development Conditions

~~Only allowed for properties with a unit for sale or rent are allowed without city permits, subject to the following:~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(i) Location:~~

~~(A) One on-site sign per street frontage;~~

~~(B) One off-site sign is allowed on private property or city street right-of-way between the effective date the ordinance codified in this section and December 31, 2010, subject to the following:~~

~~1. (1) The individual residential unit or property for sale or rent that is not located adjacent to a public street;~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(2) The off-site sign is located on private property or city street right-of-way, adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and closest public street;~~

Formatted: List Paragraph, Space After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.5" + Indent at: 0.75", Font Alignment: Auto

~~(3) When more than three off-site real estate signs are proposed for a location, the fourth proposed sign owner shall install and make available to other licensed real estate agents a frame, designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung in a stacked fashion, to accommodate multiple signs;~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(4) Off-site real estate signage displayed on private property shall be with the consent of the property owner; and~~

Formatted: Font: +Body (Calibri), 11 pt, Font color: Auto

~~(5) Signs located in the city street right-of-way shall be located outside of the improved portion of the right of way (behind the sidewalk, roadway shoulder, drainage ditch, etc., whichever is furthest from the traveled roadway), and may be removed by the city if~~

Formatted: Footer

determined to be a hazard or if the placement is otherwise in conflict with the public use of the right-of-way;

~~(C) All signs located on a street corner or driveway shall conform with Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements.~~

~~(ii) Specifications.~~

~~(A) On-site signs shall not exceed eight square feet in area;~~

~~(B) On-site signs shall not exceed six feet in height;~~

~~(C) Individual off-site signs shall not exceed an area of four square feet;~~

~~(D) Frames installed to hold multiple real estate signs shall not exceed a height of six feet;~~

~~(E) Off-site signs located on a frame shall be designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung, in a stacked fashion;~~

~~(F) Real estate offices or individual realtors that are advertising the sale or lease of more than one property at a corner shall be limited to one sign; and~~

2. ~~(G)~~ Off-site signs located on a frame shall individually not exceed a height of one and a half feet, a width of two feet, and an area of three square feet.

~~(iii) Removal.~~

~~(A) Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.~~

~~(b) Portable off-premises residential directional signs announcing directions to an open house at a specified residence that is offered for sale or rent shall not exceed six square feet in area for each sign, and shall not exceed 42 inches in height.~~

3. Such signs shall be permitted only when the agent or seller is in attendance at the property for sale or rent and may be located on the right-of-way outside of vehicular and bicycle lanes.

~~(c) On-site commercial (nonresidential) or industrial property for sale or rent signs shall be limited to one sign per street frontage, and shall not exceed 32 square feet in area. The sign shall not exceed 12 feet in height. The sign shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property. A building permit is required and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit is renewable for one-year increments up to a maximum of three years.~~

~~(d) On-site residential development for sale or rent signs shall be limited to one sign per development. The sign shall not exceed 32 square feet in area, and shall not exceed 12 feet in height. A building permit is required and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit is renewable annually for up to a maximum of three years.~~

~~(e) Off-site directional signs for residential developments shall be limited to six signs. Each sign shall not exceed 16 square feet in area, and shall include only the name of and directions to the residential development. The sign(s) shall be placed a maximum of two road miles from the nearest residential development entrance. No two signs for one residential development shall be located closer than 500 feet from one another on the same street. A single building permit is required for all signs and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit number and the permit expiration date must be clearly displayed on the face of each sign. The permit is renewable for one-year increments up to a maximum of three years; provided, that extensions will only be granted if the sign permit applicant has complied with the applicable regulations.~~

~~(f) Residential on-premises informational signs shall be limited to one sign per feature, including but not limited to signs for information centers, model homes, parking areas or announcing features such as parks, playgrounds, or trails. Each sign shall not exceed 16 square feet in area, and shall not exceed six feet in height;~~

(5) Community Event Signs. Community event signs are allowed, subject to the following requirements:

(a) Location.

(i) Community event signs may be displayed on private property with the consent of the property owner.

(ii) Community event signs may be displayed within public easements or streets; provided, that:

(A) Signs shall be A-frame signs as specified in subsection (5)(b) of this section; and

(B) Signs shall not be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials (as defined) or within roundabouts, traffic circles or islands.

(iii) Community event signs located pursuant to subsection (5)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements.

(iv) The director, in consultation with the City engineer, and following review of applicable state and City codes, may approve temporary sign placement in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel); provided, that sign location does not conflict with subsection (5)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(b) Specifications.

(i) Community event signs on private property may have a maximum sign area of 32 square feet;

(ii) Community event signs on public easements or streets shall be "A-frame" signs that shall not exceed six square feet in area for each sign, and shall not exceed 42 inches in height;

(iii) Community event signs located within 15 feet of a street corner or driveway, as further identified in Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements, shall be further limited in sign area and height as necessary to satisfy sight distance limitations; and

(iv) Community event signs shall be stationary and shall not be illuminated.

(c) Removal.

(i) Community event signs shall be removed within seven days following the end of the community fair, festival, or event; provided, that the signs shall not be displayed for more than a total of 24 calendar days; and

(ii) Sign removal shall be the responsibility of the event sponsor;

(6) Community Banners Sign. Community banners are allowed subject to the following provisions:

~~(a) Community banners shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;~~

~~(b) Letters on the sign shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;~~

~~(c) Banners shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and~~

~~(d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.~~

~~(7) Fundraising Sign. Fundraising signs are allowed subject to the following provisions:~~

~~(a) Location:~~

~~(i) Fundraising signs may only be located on private property as follows:~~

~~(A) On any property zoned office (O), community business (CB), neighborhood business (NB), and Town Center A (TC-A); or~~

~~(B) On property with a residential zoning designation (R), where such property abuts a principal, minor, or collector arterial.~~

~~(ii) No more than one fundraising sign may be located on any one property;~~

~~(iii) Any fundraising sign authorized located on a street corner or driveway shall conform to Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards, and SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements; and~~

~~(iv) All signs shall be located on private property with the written permission of the property owner.~~

~~(b) Specifications. Fundraising signs may be attached to a wall or be freestanding signs subject to the following design specifications:~~

~~(i) Fundraising signs located on property zoned O, CB, NB, and TC-A shall be limited to a maximum area of 32 square feet;~~

~~(ii) Fundraising signs located on property zoned residential (R):~~

(A) Shall be limited to a maximum area of 16 square feet if located less than 50 feet from a street property line; and

(B) Shall be limited to a maximum area of 32 square feet if located 50 feet or more from a street property line;

(iii) Signs shall not be illuminated;

(iv) Freestanding signs shall not exceed a height of eight feet;

(v) All signs shall be constructed of a solid opaque material; and

(vi) Freestanding signs shall be located outside of required zoning setbacks.

(c) Removal:

(i) A permit is required and shall be issued for a six-month period. The permit number and the permit expiration date must be clearly displayed on the face of each sign. The permit may be renewed upon payment of the required fee and subject to further review and approval under the requirements of this section;

(ii) Removal of the fundraising sign is the responsibility of the property owner and/or applicant. (Ord. O2011-305 § 1 (Att. A); Ord. O2009-258 § 1 (Att. A); Ord. O2009-249 § 1; O2005-180 § 1; Ord. O99-29 § 1)

Article II. Electronic Reader Board Pilot Program

21A.45.130 Pilot program established — Applicability.

A pilot program is hereby established to allow high schools located on the east side of 228th Avenue, between the intersections of SE 13th Way and 228th Avenue SE and NE 8th Street and 228th Avenue NE, to install one freestanding electronic reader board sign as provided in this article. (Ord. O2009-266 § 1)

21A.45.140 Definition of electronic reader board sign.

For the purposes of this article, “electronic reader board sign” means an electronically controlled sign that contains temporary text messages that can be changed from time to time. (Ord. O2009-266 § 2)

21A.45.150 Location of electronic reader board signs.



Any electronic reader board sign located on a street corner or driveway shall conform with Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements. (Ord. O2009-266 § 3)

21A.45.160 Specifications of electronic reader board signs.



Electronic reader board signs authorized by this article may be attached to the school wall or be freestanding signs, subject to the following design specifications:

- (1) All signs shall be limited to an area of 32 square feet;
- (2) Freestanding signs shall not exceed a height of 10 feet;
- (3) Signs shall be designed to prevent light and glare from being visible to adjacent residential properties;
- (4) Signs shall automatically dim during hours of darkness;
- (5) Signs shall be turned off between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. except during emergencies;
- (6) Signs shall not contain moving graphics, text, or video;
- (7) Sign messages shall not change more than once every 60 seconds;
- (8) The interval between successive messages shall be zero seconds;
- (9) Message sequencing is prohibited;
- (10) Telephone numbers, website addresses, and instructions are prohibited;
- (11) Letter height on the signs shall be between 10 and 24 inches;
- (12) Freestanding signs shall be located within 50 feet of the school entrance on 228th Avenue;
- (13) Sign messages shall be limited to providing school-related information, announcing or promoting a school or community fair, festival, event, or in the case of emergencies, emergency information; and
- (14) If the City public works department determines that a sign constitutes a health and safety hazard, additional conditions may be imposed to address the hazard(s). (Ord. O2009-266 § 4)

21A.45.170 Pilot program monitoring.



The department of community development shall monitor the effect of any sign installed pursuant to the provisions of this pilot program. Such monitoring may include tracking any increase in traffic incidents, citizen comments or complaints, and any other information related to the viability of long-term authorization of the electronic signs. (Ord. O2009-266 § 5)

21A.45.180 Duration of pilot program.



The duration of the pilot program shall be five years from the effective date of the ordinance codified in this article, or as otherwise may be established by City council. Electronic reader board signs constructed in compliance with this article shall be considered legally established, nonconforming signs subject to the provisions of Chapter 21A.70 SMC. (Ord. O2009-266 § 6)

21A.15 – Definitions

21A.45.080 – Legal Non-Conforming Signs

1. Any sign located within the city limits on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title, or located in an area annexed to the city thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this code, shall be considered a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided it also meets the following requirements:
 - a) The sign was covered by a permit on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title if one was required under applicable law; or
 - b) If no permit was required under applicable law for the sign in question, the sign was in all respects compliant with applicable law on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title.

2. Loss of Legal Nonconforming Status.

Nonconforming signs shall not be altered in size, shape, height, location, or structural components without being brought to compliance with the requirements of this code. Repair and maintenance are allowable, but may require a permit if structural components require repair or replacement.

21A.45.090 – Variance

1. A sign variance is categorized as a Type 1 land use application and shall be subject to the requirements of SMC 21A.110.030. Variances from the terms of this chapter may be granted by Director of Community Development upon proper application. Variances may be granted when, because of unique circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or

surroundings, the strict interpretation of the regulations of this chapter deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity and under identical zoning classifications.

2. The variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with a limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.

21A.45.100 – Enforcement

1. Compliance with other applicable codes.

All signs erected or altered under this chapter must comply with all applicable federal, state and local regulations relating to signs, including without limitation the provisions of the International Building Code as adopted in SMC 16.05.010 by the city. If any provision of this code is found to be in conflict with any provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the city, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail.

2. Sign maintenance.

All permanent and temporary signs must be kept in good repair and in a safe manner at all times. The sign owner must repair damaged or deteriorated signs within 30 days of notification by the City. The area surrounding freestanding signs must be kept free of litter and debris at all times.

3. Inspection.

Code enforcement officers are authorized to inspect any sign covered by this chapter for the purpose of inspection of the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of this code. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours, unless an emergency exists.

4. Abatement.

In addition to the abatement authority provided by proceedings under SMC 21A.115.030, the City or its agents may summarily remove any sign placed on a right-of-way or public property in violation of the terms of this chapter under the following circumstances:

a) When a sign is determined by the City Engineer or Director of Community Development to present an immediate threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the public;

b) When a sign is illegally placed within the public right-of-way, within a landscape median, landscape island, traffic circle, attached to a utility pole or city traffic sign, upon public sidewalks or roadway, or on any public building or structure when such facilities are located on public property or within public right-of-way;

c) When a sign is determined by the City to be abandoned; provided, that the city must first provide fourteen days' notice to the underlying property owner or business owner that the sign is deemed abandoned;

d) Disposal of Signs. When a sign has been removed by the City as authorized by this section, the City shall take the following actions:

- i. The City shall hold a sign for at least seven days. After seven days the City may dispose of the sign without prior notice to the sign owner. The City shall not be responsible for damage or loss during removal or storage of any signs in violation of this code. Sign owners wishing to reacquire possession of removed signs prior to their disposal shall pay an impoundment fee pursuant to SMC 23.100.010.
- ii. For signs with a fair market value exceeding five hundred dollars, the City shall provide notice by mail to the following:
 - A. Sign Owner. If the mailing address can be determined by the City after reasonable efforts in investigation. "Reasonable efforts" shall include investigation efforts that take no longer than one-half hour of staff time.
 - B. Underlying Property Owner. If the address of the sign owner cannot be reasonably ascertained, the City shall mail the notice to the underlying real property owner, as identified in the records of the King County Assessor's Office.

23.100.010 Assessment schedule.

<u>Code Enforcement Penalties:</u>	
<u>Infraction</u>	<u>up to \$500</u>
<u>Stop Work Order</u>	<u>up to \$500</u>
<u>Noncompliance:</u>	
<u>1 – 15 days</u>	<u>\$100 up to \$250 per day</u>
<u>16 – 31 days</u>	<u>\$250 up to \$500 per day</u>
<u>31+ days</u>	<u>\$500 up to \$1,000 per day (up to \$50,000 maximum)</u>
<u>Environmental Damage/Critical Areas Violations:</u>	
<u>Up to \$25,000 plus the cost of restoration.</u>	
<u>Unlawful Tree Removal or Damage:</u>	
<u>\$1,500 per inch of diameter at breast height of tree removed or damaged.</u>	
<u>\$25 fee per sign illegally placed on public property or in the City's right-of-way.</u>	

Chapter 21A.15
TECHNICAL TERMS AND LAND USE DEFINITIONS

21A.15.469.1 Flag.

"Flag" means a fabric sheet of square, rectangular or triangular shape which is mounted on a pole, cable or rope at one (1) end.

21A.15.469.2 Flag, government.

"Flag, government" means Any flag or badge or insignia of the United States, State of Washington, King County, City of Sammamish, or official historic plaque of any governmental jurisdiction or agency.

21A.15.1085 Sign.

"Sign" means any device, structure, fixture, or placard that is visible from a public right-of-way or surrounding properties and uses graphics, symbols, or written copy for the purpose of advertising or identifying any establishment, product, goods, or service. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1090 Sign, awning.

"Sign, awning" means a sign painted on or attached directly to and supported by an awning. An awning may be constructed of rigid or nonrigid materials and may be retractable or nonretractable. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1095 Sign, changing message center.

"Sign, changing message center" means an electrically controlled sign that contains advertising messages that changes at intervals of three minutes or greater. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1096 Sign, community banner.

"Sign, community banner" means a temporary sign, located on City banner poles, which advertises an event that would provide civic, cultural, educational, philanthropic, or service opportunities hosted or promoted by the City or a community group that is not-for-profit or nonprofit and nonpolitical with an IRS designation of Section 501(c) or (d). (Ord. O2005-180 § 1)

21A.15.1100 Sign, community bulletin board commercial.

"Sign, community bulletin board" means a permanent sign which may contain either electronic or permanent graphics, symbols, or words that is used to notify the public of community events and public services, and which contains no commercial advertising. (Ord. O2004-153 § 1; Ord. Sign, Commercial. A sign erected for a business transaction or advertising the exchange of goods and services.

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Normal
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Footer

~~O2003-132 § 10)~~

Formatted: Normal

~~21A.15.1101 Sign, community event.~~

~~"Sign, community event" means a temporary sign announcing or promoting a nonprofit or not-for-profit sponsored community fair, festival, event (community events include but are not limited to regularly scheduled events or meetings by churches, homeowners' associations and other community groups). (Ord. O2005-180 § 1)~~

21A.15.1105 Sign, directional.

Formatted: Font: Bold

"Sign, directional" means a sign designed to guide or direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic to an area, place or convenience, and may include incidental graphics such as trade names and trademarks. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

21A.15.1110 Sign, freestanding.

Formatted: Font: Bold

"Sign, freestanding" means a permanent sign standingfixed directly uponto the ground or having one or more supports standingfixed directly uponto the ground, and being detached from any building or fence. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

21A.15.1115 Sign, fuel price.

Formatted: Font: Bold

"Sign, fuel price" means a sign utilized to advertise the price of gasoline and/or diesel fuel. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

~~21A.15.1117 Sign, fundraising.~~

~~"Sign, fundraising" is a sign that is erected by a nonprofit organization for the purposes of raising money to support a cause or purpose promoted by the nonprofit or not-for-profit organization. (Ord. O2011-305 § 1 (Att. A))~~

21A.15.1120 Sign, incidental.

Formatted: Font: Bold

"Sign, incidental" means a sign, emblem or decal designed to inform the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, and may include but not be limited to signs designating:

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

(1) Restrooms;

(2) Hours of operation;

Formatted: Footer

- (3) Acceptable credit cards;
- (4) Property ownership or management;
- (5) Phone booths; and
- (6) Recycling containers. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1125 Sign, indirectly illuminated.

"Sign, indirectly illuminated" means a sign that is illuminated entirely from an external artificial source. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold

21A.15.1130 Sign, monument.

"Sign, monument" means a freestanding sign that is above ground level and is anchored to the ground by a solid base, with no open space between the sign and the ground. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3

21A.15.1131 Sign, non-commercial.

"Sign, non-commercial" means any sign that is not a commercial sign. This definition also includes signs regarding fund raising or membership drive activities for noncommercial or nonprofit entities or groups..

21A.15.1135 Sign, off-premises directional.

"Sign, off-premises directional" means a sign that contains no advertising of a commercial nature that is used to direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic circulation to a facility, service, or business located on other premises within 660 feet of the sign. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold

21A.15.1140 Sign, on-premises.

"Sign, on-premises" means a sign that displays a message that is incidental to and directly associated with the use of the property on which it is located. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3

21A.15.1144 Sign, permanent

- Formatted: Footer

"Sign, permanent" Any sign which is intended to be lasting and is constructed from an enduring material such as masonry and metal which remains unchanged in position, character, and condition (beyond normal wear), and is permanently affixed to the ground, wall or building, provided the sign is listed as a permanent sign in the ordinance.

21A.15.1145 Sign, permanent residential development identification.

"Sign, permanent residential development identification" means a permanent sign identifying the residential development upon which the sign is located. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1146 Sign, political pole.

~~"Political sign" means a sign advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, or a political party, or signs urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot. (Ord. O2005-180 § 1)"~~"Sign, pole" means a freestanding sign having one or more supports standing directly upon the ground, and being detached from any building or fence.

21A.15.1150 Sign, portable.

"Sign, portable" means a sign that is capable of being moved and is not permanently affixed to the ground, a structure, or building. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1155 Sign, projecting.

"Sign, projecting" means any sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane perpendicular to the wall of the building, projecting more than one foot from the wall of a building and vertical to the ground. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1159 Sign, temporary.

"Sign, temporary " means any sign, banner, pennant, or valance constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other like materials. Any sign not permanently attached to the ground, wall or building, intended to be displayed for a short period of time only.

21A.15.1160 Sign, time and temperature.

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Footer

"Sign, time and temperature" means an electrically controlled sign that contains messages for date, time, and temperature, which changes at intervals of one minute or less. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1165 Sign, wall.

"Sign, wall" means any sign painted on, or attached directly to and supported by, a building or structure, with the exposed face of the sign on a plane parallel to the portion of the building or structure to which it is attached, projecting no more than one foot from the building or structure, including window signs that are permanently attached. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

21A.15.1166 Sign, window.

"Sign, window" means any sign applied to or mounted on a window.

21A.15.1250 Street frontage.

"Street frontage" means any portion of a lot or combination of lots that directly abut a public right-of-way. (Ord. O2003-132 § 10)

- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Default Paragraph Font, Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Normal, Level 3

Formatted: Normal

Formatted: Footer

Chapter 21B.45

SIGNAGE

Sections:

21B.45.010	Purpose and intent.
21B.45.020	Applicability.
21B.45.030	Permit required.
21B.45.040	Application information.
21B.45.050	Prohibited signs.
21B.45.060	Exempt signs.
21B.45.070	Interpretation of tables and design standards.
21B.45.080	Table of allowed sign types and design review.
21B.45.090	Review and modifications to standards.
21B.45.100	Measurement methods.
21B.45.110	General sign design standards.
21B.45.120	Design standards for specific sign types.
21B.45.130	Community bulletin board signs.
21B.45.1340	<u>Design and Compatibility and design review.</u>
21B.45.1450	Temporary signs.
21B.45.1560	Compliance-Legal non-conforming signs clause.
<u>21B.45.160</u>	<u>Variance.</u>
<u>21B.45.170</u>	<u>Enforcement.</u>
21B.45.170	Electronic reader board pilot program adopted.
21B.45.180	Definitions.

21B.45.010 Purpose and intent.

~~The purpose of this chapter is to enhance and protect the economic vitality and visual environment of the Town Center, allow for the expression of free speech, and promote general safety and welfare by: The purpose of the Town Center sign code chapter is to:~~

- (1) Regulating the type, number, location, size, and illumination of signs; and
 - (2) Recognizing the purpose of signs for identification and economic well-being of businesses in the Town Center by supporting a full range of signs necessary for commercial services in the Town Center; and
 - (3) Ensuring a safe driving environment; and
 - (4) Recognizing and protecting the use of the public right-of-way as a forum for non-commercial speech; and
 - (5) Facilitating fair and consistent content-neutral enforcement; and
 - (6) Safeguarding and enhancing property values, attracting new residents, and encouraging orderly development; and
 - (7) Allowing for limited temporary commercial signage in the public right of way to provide commercial information to consumers to enable them to make vital decision of purchasing a home, and to further the critical public goal of providing for equal access to housing; and
 - (8) Upholding the goals and policies of the Sammamish Comprehensive Plan and the Town Center Subarea Plan.
- ~~(9) Promote Promoting~~ signs within the Town Center that contribute to the character of the Town Center, are integrated with natural surroundings and landscaping, and exhibit an intimate human scale;
- ~~(10) Provide~~ necessary signage to support central gathering places, increase social interaction, and encourage walkability;

~~(3) Support a full range of signs necessary to support commercial services in the Town Center;~~

~~(114) Regulate~~ing signs in a manner that is timely, flexible, predictable, fair to all and that results in superior development; and

~~(125) Create~~ing a “sense of place”~~vibrant and inviting commercial node that is~~ reflected in the character and design of Town Center signages. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.020 Applicability.

Except as provided for in SMC 21B.45.060, Exempt signs, all signs shall be subject to the design provisions of this chapter; provided, that specific sign standards and design requirements may be further established through a unified zone development plan ~~or building permit review~~ and shall be ~~determined-established during the applicable review process~~through the unified zone development plan approval, ~~pursuant to~~. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.030 Permit required.

(1) Except as otherwise ~~permitted provided in~~ by this chapter, no sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated ~~without approval within the Town Center without a permit issued by the City by the director~~.

(2) No ~~building~~ permit shall be required for repainting in like colors, cleaning, or other normal maintenance and repair of a ~~permitted~~ sign, ~~including replacement of portions or of the sign face and copy changes~~ that do not alter the size or structure of the sign or compliance with the design standards. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.040 Application information.

The applicant shall have the burden of demonstrating that a proposed sign(s) complies with this chapter as follows:

(1) All new signs requiring a permit or approval pursuant to SMC 21B.45.030 shall provide, in a form established by the City, at a minimum an accurate plan with complete dimensions, location, size, color, shape, materials, type of illumination, size and style of lettering, copy design and the proposed manner of installation. Additional information may be required as reasonably necessary for approval by the director.

(2) The size and location of every existing sign on the premises shall be noted ~~on the application form~~.

(3) If a unified ~~site zone~~ development plan was previously approved by the City and included sign approvals, an applicant whose sign conforms to that plan may refer to it in the application and may omit detailed drawings unless specifically requested to provide them.

(4) If ~~design and compatibility and design~~ review is required ~~pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080~~, the applicant shall submit a compatibility analysis addressing the design criteria enumerated in SMC 21B.45.1430, ~~Compatibility and d~~Design and compatibility review. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.050 Prohibited signs.

Except as indicated by this chapter, the following signs or displays are prohibited:

(1) Any sign that is otherwise allowed, but does not comply with the provisions of this chapter;

(2) Signs attached to a fence;

(3) Signs which, by reason of their size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination, may be confused with traffic control signs or signals;

(4) Temporary signs except as specifically allowed in SMC 21B.45.150140;

(5) Except as specifically allowed, signs located in the public right-of-way, or within travel lanes or sidewalks, or attached to traffic control signs, utility or signal poles;

- (6) Changing message center signs or signs containing moving graphics, text, or video, or that are flashing, moving, rotating, animated, or inflated, ~~except as allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.130, Community bulletin board signs, or as part of the pilot program established pursuant to Ordinance O2009-266;~~
- (7) A sign that extends higher than the peak of the roof, ridge line, or parapet of a building to which it is attached;
- (8) Visible ballast boxes or other sign equipment;
- (9) Posters, pennants, strings of lights, moving/flashing/blinking lights, balloons, searchlights, exposed electrical conduits, and other displays of a carnival nature, except on a limited basis ~~as seasonal decorations or~~ as provided for in SMC 21B.45.150140 as grand opening temporary business displays;
- (10) Box or cabinet signs;
- (11) Pole-mounted freestanding signs;
- (12) Roof-mounted signs; and
- (13) Billboards. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.060 Exempt signs.

The following signs or displays are exempted from the regulations under this chapter:

- (1) Historic ~~site markers or~~ plaques not exceeding 3 square feet in area, and address numbers;
- ~~(2) Signs required by law, including but not limited to:~~
- ~~(a2) Official or legal notices issued and posted by any public agency or court; or~~
- ~~(b3) Traffic control signs established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) or authorized by City of Sammamish Department of Public Works directional or warning signs;~~
- (3) Plaques, tablets, or ~~inscriptions indicating the name of a building, date of erection, or other commemorative information~~, which are ~~an integral part of the building structure or are~~ attached flat to the face of the building, which are nonilluminated, and which do not exceed four square feet in surface area;
- (4) Incidental signs, which shall not exceed two square feet in surface area; provided, that said size limitation shall not apply to signs providing directions, warnings, or information when established and maintained by a public agency;
- (5) ~~State or federal~~ Government flags; and
- (6) Nonverbal Religious symbols attached to a place of worship; and
- ~~(7) The flag of a commercial institution, provided no more than one flag is permitted per business premises; and further provided the flag does not exceed 20 square feet in surface area.~~ (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.070 Interpretation of tables and design standards.

- (1) SMC 21B.45.080 determines whether a specific sign type is allowed in a zone district. The zone district and the public right-of-way are identified in the vertical column and the specific sign type is located on the horizontal row of these tables.
- (2) If no symbol appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is not allowed in that district, except for certain signs allowed pursuant to SMC 21B.45.150140, Temporary signs.

(3) ~~The All reviews of all sign permit applications are~~ administrative, and shall be conducted by the director of community development, subject to the review requirements identified below.

(4) If the number "1" appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is allowed in that district subject to the sign design standards specified in SMC 21B.45.110, 21B.45.120, and the general requirements of the code.

(5) If the number "2" appears in the box at the intersection of the column and the row, the sign type is allowed subject to the sign design standards, general requirements, and the ~~compatibility and d~~Design and compatibility review specified in SMC 21B.45.1430. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.080 Table of allowed sign types and design review.

(1) Table of Allowed Sign Types and Design Review for Town Center Zones.

Sign Types	TOWN CENTER ZONES					
	ROW	TC-A	TC-B	TC-C	TC-D	TC-E
Building-Mounted Signs:						
Blade	2(1a)	1	2	2	2	2
Opaque/Painted		2	2	2	2	2
Channel Letter/Shadow		2	2			
Hanging		1	2			
Marquee/Awning		2	2			
Window		1	2			
Freestanding Signs:						
Community Banner	1					
Directional (Pedestrian)	2	1	1	1	1	1
Directional (Vehicle)	2	1	1	1	1	1
Monument		2(b2)	2	2	2	2
Changing Message Center					2(c)	

(2) Sign Conditions.

(a1) Only allowed as part of a unified zone development plan application approved pursuant to Chapter 21B.95 SMC; and provided, that no sign shall extend into the vehicle travel lanes.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

(2b) Only allowed in the TC-A-4 and in the TC-A-5 zones.

(c) ~~Also subject to the community bulletin board standards of SMC 21B.45.130.~~ (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.090 Review and modifications to standards.

(1) All sign permits shall be approved administratively ~~as part of building permit review~~, subject to the permit review requirements of Chapter 20.05 SMC; provided, that:

(a) Signs subject to the Level 1 sign review shall be reviewed for compliance with this chapter but shall not be subject to the provisions of SMC 21B.45.1430, ~~Compatibility and d~~Design and compatibility review;

(b) Signs subject to the Level 2 ~~review~~ Design and Compatibility Review requirements shall be reviewed for compliance with this chapter, including the provisions of SMC 21B.45.1430, ~~Compatibility and~~ Design and compatibility review;

(2) Sign design may be reviewed and approved as part of a unified site zone development plan review consistent with Chapter 21B.95 SMC, provided:

(a) Specific sign designs approved as part of a unified site zone development plan will require a building sign permit, but will not require additional design review at the time of building permit application when in accordance with the approved unified site zone development plan; or

(b) Additional design standards and guidelines may be adopted through the review process, subject to specific design review of signs at the time of building permit application. Additional design standards and guidelines adopted through the review process shall govern all subsequent sign design reviews including replacement signs.

(3) The director may approve applicant-proposed modifications of up to ~~50-25~~ percent of the sign area, height, width, and other dimensional standards as part of the Level 2 ~~d~~ Design and c Compatibility R Review process, ~~pursuant to~~ (SMC 21B.45.1430); provided, that any such approval shall be based upon an overall sign concept that is integrated with the building and is consistent with the purpose goals of SMC 21B.45.1430, ~~Compatibility and~~ Design and C ompatibility R eview. ~~The director shall not approve~~ a Applicant-proposed modifications to the number of signs allowed, illumination standards, the types of signs allowed, or sign modifications that would result in a sign that is not designed consistent with this purpose of this chapter shall not be considered; and

(4) Applicants proposing a sign that ~~would normally be~~ subject to the Level 1 basic sign review may choose to request a Level 2 D esign sign and C ompatibility R eview in order to take advantage of the director's ability to modify sign standards, pursuant to SMC 21B.45.090(3). (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.100 Measurement methodsSign Area Calculation.

(1) Sign area shall be calculated as follows:

(a) Sign area for nonmonument freestanding signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures. Sign area shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters, graphics, and symbols.

(b) Sign area for pole signs shall be calculated by determining the total surface area of the sign as viewed from any single vantage point, excluding support structures.

(c) Sign area for letters or symbols painted or mounted directly on walls or monument signs or on the sloping portion of a roof shall be calculated by measuring the smallest single rectangle that will enclose the combined letters and symbols.

(a)(d) Sign area for signs contained entirely within a cabinet and mounted on a wall, roof, or monument shall be calculated by measuring the entire area of the cabinet.

(2) Sign M aximum sign H eight.

(a) For a freestanding sign, the vertical distance measured from the ~~curb grade of the nearest~~ streetsurface of the ground to the highest point of the sign or sign structure; and

(b) For a building-mounted sign, the vertical distance measured from the building grade to the highest point of the sign or structure designed to support a sign.

(3) Sign clearance is measured from the surface of the ground to the lowest portion of the sign structure.

(4) Area of building ~~façade~~ façade is calculated by multiplying the width of the building, or tenant space associated with the commercial use, by the height of the building or tenant space.

Commented [DM1]: Justification: Due to the removal of strict size limitation of SMC 21B.45.110(1)(f) and (g), this exceedance needs to be reduced to reflect the larger allowed sign area.

(5) The lineal feet of building ~~facadefacade~~ is calculated by measuring the width of the building or tenant space associated with the commercial use. Building modulation(s) are not included in the lineal feet of building ~~facadefacade~~. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.110 General sign design standards.

~~Pictures and figures included in each subsection below are intended to illustrate part or all of the design requirements and limitations discussed in the subsection containing each picture. Care has been taken to ensure that the pictures are consistent with the standards. However, where the picture includes features that are not consistent with design standards contained within the written standard, the written standard prevails.~~

Commented [DM2]: Justification: All pictures are proposed to be removed due to the confusion and inconsistency created. This subsequently affects City Staff ability to implement Town Center signage code. If pictures are desired, they may be included in a sign handout on a limited basis.

(1) General Requirements.

- (a) All signs shall be constructed primarily of nonreflective materials;
- (b) Building-mounted sign frames and other support structures shall be concealed or integrated into the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials such that they are not easily visible;
- (c) Building-mounted signs must be in proportion to the size and design of the architectural features of the building ~~facadefacade~~; ~~(see pictures contained in SMC 21B.45.140, Compatibility and design review);~~
- (d) All signs, except directional signs and community banners, shall be on-premises signs;
- (e) Maximum height for building-mounted signs shall not extend above the highest exterior wall upon which the sign is located; provided, that blade signs shall not exceed the roofline of the building along the ~~facadefacade~~ that the blade sign is attached to;
- (f) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses occupying the ground level of a building shall not exceed 10 percent of the ground-level building ~~facadefacade~~ associated with the sign; ~~provided, that no single sign shall exceed an area of 24 square feet;~~
- (g) Total sign area for primary and secondary wall signs associated with uses that do not occupy the ground level of a building (e.g., the use is on the second or third story) shall not exceed five percent of the building ~~facadefacade~~ associated with the use; ~~provided, that no single sign shall exceed an area of 20 square feet;~~
- (h) Tenants are allowed one primary sign regulated by this chapter per building ~~facadefacade~~ that contains a public entry (open during all business hours), up to a maximum of two ~~facadefacades~~;
- (i) Tenants are allowed three secondary signs regulated by this chapter per building ~~facadefacade~~ that contains a public entry (open during all business hours);
- (j) Wall sign width shall not exceed a width of two-thirds of the lineal width of the building ~~facadefacade~~ associated with the sign;
- (k) Signs shall not cover windows, building trim, or architectural ornamentation;



Figure 21B.45-110a. Acceptable and unacceptable sign examples.

(2) Illumination. Signs may be illuminated as follows:

- (a) Illumination shall be limited to indirect lighting unless otherwise specifically allowed by the specific sign type design standards; provided, that no sign may be both internally and indirectly illuminated;
- (b) Indirect sign illumination shall be no further away from the sign than the height of the sign;
- (c) Externally illuminated signs shall be arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into residences or any street right-of-way;
- (d) External sign light fixtures shall complement the design of the sign and building ~~facade~~ facades or structures associated with the sign;
- (e) External sign lighting shall be "full cutoff" and shall not result in direct illumination of the sky and adjacent properties and structures, and shall be designed to minimize reflected glare to adjacent properties and structures;
- (f) Sign illumination shall automatically turn off within one hour of the close of the business, use, or activity; and
- (g) Additional illumination standards may be contained in SMC 21B.45.120, Design standards for specific sign types, or adopted through the approval of a unified zone application pursuant to Chapter 21B.95 SMC.

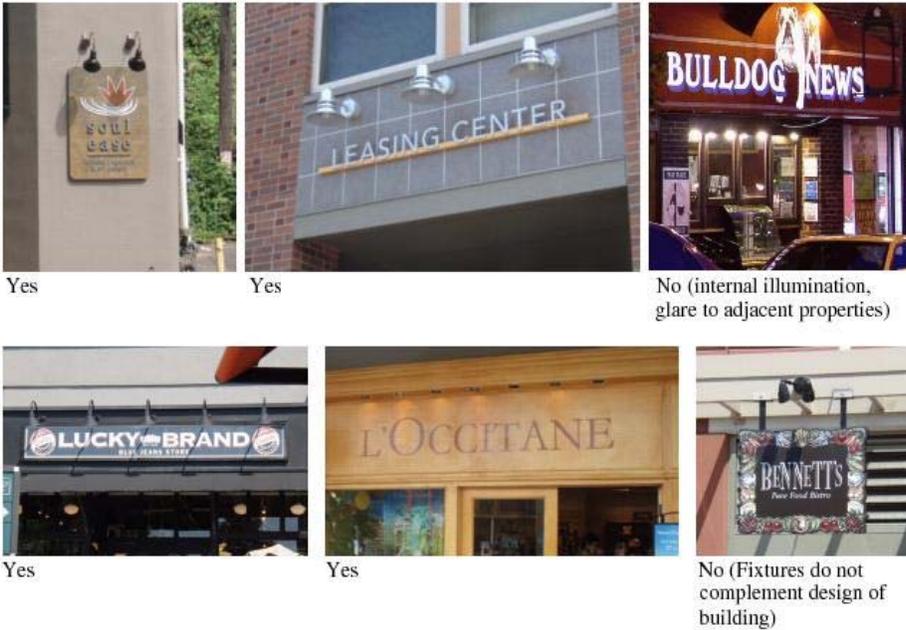


Figure 21B.45.110b. Acceptable and unacceptable sign examples.

(3) Location. All signs shall be located as follows:

(a) Building-Mounted Signs.

- (i) Shall be attached to the building facade of the business or commercial enterprise they are advertising;
- (ii) Shall be located on the same floor as the business or commercial enterprise they are advertising; provided, that businesses that occupy more than one floor shall place the sign on the lowest floor occupied by the business;
- (iii) Shall not exceed a height of 15 feet above grade if associated with a business located on the bottom floor of a building;
- (iv) Shall not conflict with the ability to view any other sign associated with the building to which the sign is attached;
- (v) Shall not conflict with vehicle travel lanes if blade or hanging signs extend into the street right-of-way as otherwise allowed by the City; and
- (vi) May extend over the sidewalk if they are hanging or blade signs otherwise approved by the City.

(b) Freestanding Signs.

(i) May be located on private property with the consent of the private property owner, unless otherwise allowed in this chapter;

(ii) May be located in the public right-of-way ~~subject pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1) to the table of allowed sign types and design review (SMC 21B.45.080)~~ and with the written approval by the City of Sammamish;

(iii) Located on private property shall be no further than five feet from the street; and

(iv) Shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.

(4) Sign Standards along 228th Avenue SE.

(a) The only signs visible from 228th Avenue SE shall be either monument signs no taller than six feet above grade or wall signs less than 30 square feet or 18 inches multiplied by the length of the front ~~facadefacade~~ measured parallel to 228th Avenue SE (whichever is smaller);

(b) Except for wall signs on pedestrian-oriented ~~facadefacades~~ built up to the sidewalk, all signs visible from 228th Avenue SE are limited to signs that advertise a commercial node or group of businesses rather than a single business; and

(c) For other design standards, see Chapter 21B.30 SMC. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.120 Design standards for specific sign types.

~~Pictures and figures included in each subsection below are intended to illustrate part or all of the design requirements and limitations discussed in the subsection containing each picture. Care has been taken to ensure that the pictures are consistent with the standards. However, where the picture includes features that are not consistent with design standards contained within the written standard, the written standard prevails.~~

(1) Blade and Hanging Signs. Blade signs may be allowed ~~as noted in~~ pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that blade signs:

(a) Shall provide a minimum clearance of eight feet;

(b) With horizontally oriented text or graphics shall not project or be located more than five feet from the building ~~facadefacade~~;

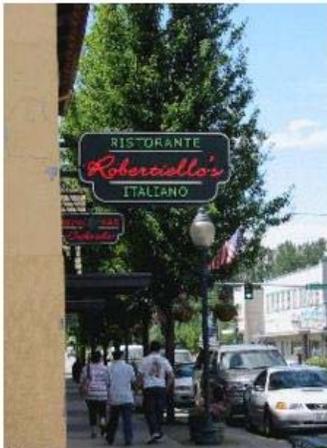
(c) With vertically oriented text or graphics shall not project more than three feet from the building ~~facadefacade~~;

(d) Shall be limited to two square feet of sign area per each 10 lineal feet of applicable building frontage;

(e) Buildings that contain multiple tenants shall use a similar shape and mounting technique to hanging or blade signs;

(f) Sign text and graphics may use neon lettering, subject to provisions of SMC 21B.45.110(2); and further provided, that neon signs shall not be visible from 228th Avenue; and

(g) May be opaque signs containing internal illumination consistent with SMC 21B.45.110;



Yes



Yes



No (exceeds height)



Yes



Yes (Opaque sign)



No (exceeds height, cabinet sign)

Figure 21B.45.120a. Acceptable and unacceptable blade and hanging signs.

(2) Channel Letter, Opaque, Painted, and Shadow Signs. Channel letter, opaque, painted, and shadow signs may be allowed ~~as noted in pursuant to~~ SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) Channel letter, opaque, painted, or shadow signs that are also wall signs shall be attached directly to the building ~~façade~~ ~~façade~~, such that there is a maximum protrusion of one foot unless the sign incorporates sculptural elements or architectural devices. The sign frame shall be concealed or integrated into the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials;

- (b) Channel letter and shadow signs shall only be wall signs. Opaque and painted signs may be wall signs, hanging, or blade signs;
- (c) Lettering on opaque signs may be internally illuminated where the light only shines through the letters;
- (d) Buildings that contain multiple tenants shall use a consistent sign design in terms of lettering, size, color, and style;
- (e) Shadow signs may be illuminated by reflected lighting against the building ~~facade~~ façade located behind the sign letters or graphics;
- (f) Channel letter signs shall be open, such that internal neon lighting is visible;
- (g) Painted signs may be illuminated by indirect fully cutoff lighting;
- (h) Wall sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a maximum height of two feet;



Figure 21B.45.120b. Acceptable and unacceptable sign examples.



Figure 21B.45.120c. Acceptable and unacceptable sign examples.

(3) Marquee/Awning Signs. Marquee/awning signs may be allowed as noted in pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) The sign shall provide a minimum clearance of eight feet;
- (b) The face of the sign (lettering and graphics) on a marquee or awning shall be on a parallel plane to the building ~~facade~~façade;
- (c) The awning or marquee supporting the sign shall extend at least three feet from the face of the building, shall be located over a pedestrian walkway or sidewalk, and shall be designed to provide protection from the weather, in addition to supporting the sign;
- (d) Sign may be comprised of channel lettering, opaque, or shadow signs;
- (e) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed two feet in height;
- (f) Sign width shall be limited to no more than two-thirds of the width of the awning-~~width~~; and

(g) Marquee signs may be placed on the front, above, or below the marquee associated with the sign;

(h) Marquee and awning signs may be externally illuminated, [pursuant to SMC 21B.45.110\(2\)](#);



Yes



Yes



No (internally illuminated, cabinet box sign)



Yes



Yes



No (awning over landscaping)



Yes



Yes



No (sign face not parallel to building)

Figure 21B.45.120d. Acceptable and unacceptable marquee/awning signs.

(4) Window Signs. Window signs may be allowed ~~as noted in~~ pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

- (a) Permanent and temporary window signs are limited to a maximum of 25 percent of the window area in addition to the size limitations of SMC 21B.45.110(1);
- (b) Signs shall be constructed of neon, stained glass, gold leaf, cut vinyl, or etched glass;
- (c) Signs shall not be illuminated, except that a single internally lit neon or stained glass window sign is allowed;



Figure 21B.45.120e. Acceptable and unacceptable window signs.

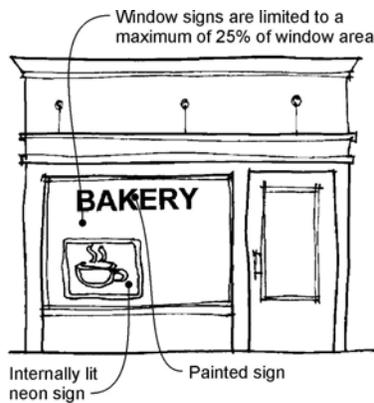


Figure 21B.45.120f. Window sign example.

(5) Monument Signs. Monument signs may be allowed ~~as noted in~~ pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); and provided, that:

- (a) One monument sign is allowed per commercial, institutional, or mixed-use building subject to the following:
 - (i) The sign may be up to six feet tall;

(ii) Monument signs for individual businesses should include the street address number with six-inch minimum lettering that is clearly readable from the street;

(iii) Lettering style, form, size, dimension, and color shall be consistent on signs identifying multiple tenants;

(b) One monument sign is allowed associated with a single-family subdivision or multifamily residential development, provided the sign shall not exceed a height of 48 inches;

(c) Monument signs may only be indirectly illuminated;

(d) Monument signs shall be designed incorporating natural materials (e.g., granite or basalt stone facing, wood, landscaping), muted colors, and design styles characteristic to the Northwest;

(e) The total sign area contained within a monument sign shall not exceed 2448 square feet;

(6) Directional Signs. Directional signs may be allowed ~~as noted in~~pursuant to SMC 21B.45.080(1); provided, that:

(a) Pedestrian-Oriented Directional signs.

(i) Signs shall be located within 10 feet of the intersection of two or more pedestrian sidewalks or paths;

(ii) Signs shall not exceed a height of eight feet;

(iii) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of ~~two~~ six inches;

(b) Vehicle-Oriented Directional signs.

(i) Signs shall be located within 20 feet of one of the following intersections:

(A) SE 4th Street and 228th Avenue SE;

(B) SE 8th and 228th Avenue SE; and

(C) As otherwise identified through a unified zone development plan application.

(ii) Signs shall not exceed a height of eight feet;

(iii) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of 10 inches; and

(iv) All signs located on a street corner or driveway shall conform with Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.



Figure 21B.45.120g. Acceptable and unacceptable directional signs.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.130 Community bulletin board signs.

One community bulletin board sign is permitted within the Sammamish Commons Comprehensive Plan-designated center with the following limitations:

(1) A community bulletin board sign, which may be a changing message center sign, may not exceed 32-square feet and is only permitted at City Hall. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.1430 Compatibility and Design and Compatibility Review.

(1) The goal of the Level 2 Design and Compatibility Review is this section is:

- (1a) To encourage interesting, creative, and unique sign design that is consistent with the character of the Town Center;
- (1b) To encourage signs that are timeless, create an intimate pedestrian environment, and incorporate natural materials (e.g., granite or basalt stone, wood, landscaping) or colors (muted earthen tones) associated with the Northwest; and
- (1c) To ensure that signs are part of, and consistent with, the overall design approach of a project.

~~The pictures and figures contained at the end of this section are intended to illustrate signs that meet these design goals.~~ (2) The following criteria are the parameters that will be used for reviewing signs for compatibility and design to achieve the goals listed above and the purpose of this chapter; these criteria are in addition to the sign design standards contained within SMC 21B.45.110 and 21B.45.120:

- (a) Architectural Compatibility. The signs shall be compatible in size, proportion, shape, character, and quality of design with the exterior architecture of the premises and other structures in the immediate area.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5"

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5"

- | (5b) Simplicity. To the extent feasible, the sign should be graphic and with limited use of words, with the design emphasis on simplicity of style. A simple design or abstract graphic design is preferred. Similarly, a simple sign frame and supporting structure is preferred.
- | (c6) Target Audience. Only one sign per building ~~facade~~ ~~façade~~ should be designed for vehicle and pedestrian use. Signs that are targeted primarily to serve pedestrians are generally preferred over signs targeted for both pedestrian and vehicle audiences.
- | (d7) Identification. A commercial sign should be designed for the primary purpose of identifying a business or office.
- | (e8) Fewer Signs. In the use of the total sign allowance at a particular premises, the use of a minimum number of signs is preferred to the use of many signs, so that a cluttered effect is avoided.
- | (f9) Shape, Size, and Orientation. The shape of a sign should not conflict with the architectural lines of its setting. Signs should be directed toward the passing motorist or pedestrian. No sign should be designed to be readable or to attract motorists from a great distance.
- | (g10) Illumination and Colors. A sign must not overpower its surroundings through hue, saturation, or brilliance or close combination of incompatible colors. Sources of illuminations shall be screened from public view and shall be designed to avoid glare onto a street or adjacent property.
- | (h14) Landscaping. Signs shall be placed with consideration for existing and future growth of trees and other landscaping. A monument sign reviewed under this section must be placed in a landscaped area or planter, with landscaping maintained.
- | (i12) Compatibility with Adjacent Uses. The design, illumination, and location of a sign shall not impair the visibility or the design quality of existing, conforming signs, adjacent buildings, or adjacent uses.



Figure 21B.45.140a. Acceptable sign examples.



Figure 21B.45.140b. Acceptable sign examples.



Figure 21B.45.140c. Acceptable sign examples.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.150140 Temporary signs.

The following temporary signs or displays are permitted and, except as required by the International Building Code; Chapter 16.20 SMC, Construction Administrative Code; or as otherwise required in this chapter, do not require building a sign permits, subject to the requirements set out in this chapter. All temporary signs shall not obstruct sight distances and shall follow the regulations prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and by SMC 21A.25.220, Sight distance requirements. No temporary signs shall be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands. Temporary signs may shall not be illuminated.:

(1) Non-Commercial Temporary Signs. No sign permit is required to post a non-commercial temporary sign in the public right-of-way or on private property if it meets the requirements in the following table. The director of community development or their designee, in consultation with the city engineer, and following review of applicable state and city codes, may approve temporary sign placement in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel); provided, that sign location does not conflict with subsection (4)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section.

	<u>Temporary Sign Type I Public Right-of-Way (Non-A-Frame)</u>	<u>Temporary Sign Type II Public Right-of-Way (A-Frame)</u>	<u>Temporary Sign Type III Private Property (All Sign Types)(1)</u>
<u>Size Limit</u>	<u>4 sq ft</u>	<u>6 sq ft</u>	<u>16 sq ft if located less than 50 feet from a street property line; 32 sq ft if located 50 feet or more from a street property line</u>
<u>Height Limit</u>	<u>3 ft above grade</u>	<u>3.5 ft</u>	<u>8 ft</u>
<u>Duration</u>	<u>180 consecutive days</u>	<u>2 consecutive days</u>	<u>180 consecutive days</u>

Sign conditions:

(1) Placement of off-premises temporary signs on private property is subject to the landowner's authorization.

(24) Commercial Temporary Signs.

(a) Temporary BusinessCommercial Grand Opening Displays.

~~(a) On-premises S~~ signs, posters, pennants, strings of lights, blinking lights, balloons, and searchlights are permitted for a period of up to 30 consecutive days once each calendar year for businesses located in Sammamish in the CB, NB, or O-Zones. one month to announce the opening of a new enterprise or the opening of an enterprise under new management; and

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1"

~~(b) All grand opening displays shall be removed upon the expiration of 30 consecutive days;~~

(3)(b) Signs located on property with active construction.

1.(a) One non-illuminated, double-faced sign is permitted for each public street upon which the project fronts;

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.78", Hanging: 0.22"

2.(b) No sign shall exceed 32 square feet in surface area or 10 feet in height, or be located closer than 30 feet from the property line of the adjoining property; and

3. (c) Signs must be removed by the date of first occupancy of the premises or one year after placement of the sign, whichever occurs first;

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.28", Hanging: 0.72"

(2) Construction Signs.

~~(a) Construction signs identifying architects, engineers, planners, contractors, or other individuals or firms involved with the construction of a building and announcing the character of the building or the purpose for which the building is intended may be displayed;~~

~~(b) One nonilluminated, double-faced sign is permitted for each public street upon which the project fronts;~~

~~(c) No sign shall exceed 32 square feet in surface area or 10 feet in height, or be located closer than 30 feet from the property line of the adjoining property; and~~

~~(d) Construction signs must be removed by the date of first occupancy of the premises or one year after placement of the sign, whichever occurs first;~~

(3) Political Signs. Political signs are allowed, subject to the following requirements:

(a) Location:

~~(i) Political signs may be displayed on private property with the consent of the property owner;~~

~~(ii) Political signs may be displayed within public easements or streets; provided, that signs shall not be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials (as defined) or within roundabouts, traffic circles, or islands;~~

~~(iii) Political signs located pursuant to subsection (3)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.~~

(b) Specifications:

~~(i) Political signs located on private property may have a maximum sign area of up to 32 square feet;~~

~~(ii) Freestanding political signs on private property may be up to eight feet tall;~~

~~(iii) Political signs located on or within public easements or streets may have a maximum sign area of up to four square feet and may be up to three feet tall above grade;~~

~~(iv) Political signs located within 15 feet of a street corner or driveway, as further identified in Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements, shall be further limited in sign area and height as necessary to satisfy sight distance limitations;~~

~~(c) Removal:~~

~~(i) Political signs shall be removed within seven days following the election;~~

~~(ii) Property owners shall be responsible for the removal of political signs located on private property;~~

~~(iii) The campaign officer or responsible official shall be responsible for the removal of political signs located on or within public easements or streets;~~

~~(4) Real Estate Signs. All temporary real estate signs may be single or double faced signs:~~

~~(a) Signs advertising an individual residential unit for sale or rent are allowed without City permits, subject to the following:~~

~~(i) Location:~~

~~(A) One on-site sign per street frontage;~~

~~(B) One off-site sign is allowed on private property or in City street right-of-way between the effective date of Ordinance O2009-XXX (adopting ordinance) and December 31, 2010, subject to the following:~~

~~(1) The individual residential unit or property for sale or rent is not located adjacent to a public street;~~

~~(2) The off-site sign is located on private property or City street right-of-way, adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and the closest public street;~~

~~(3) When more than three off-site real estate signs are proposed for a location, the fourth proposed sign owner shall install and make available to other licensed real estate agents a frame to accommodate multiple signs; and~~

~~(4) Off-site real estate signage displayed on private property shall be with the consent of the property owner.~~

~~(5) Signs located in the City street right-of-way shall be located outside of the improved portion of the right-of-way (behind the sidewalk, roadway shoulder, drainage ditch, etc., whichever is furthest from the traveled roadway), and may be removed by the City if determined to be a hazard or if the placement is otherwise in conflict with the public use of the right-of-way.~~

~~(C) All signs located on a street corner or driveway shall conform with Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, and SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.~~

~~(ii) Specifications:~~

~~(A) On-site signs shall not exceed eight square feet in area;~~

~~(B) On-site signs shall not exceed six feet in height;~~

~~(C) Individual off-site signs shall not exceed an area of four square feet;~~

~~(D) Frames installed to hold multiple real estate signs shall not exceed a height of six feet;~~

~~(E) Off-site signs located on a frame shall be designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung, in a stacked fashion;~~

~~(F) Real estate offices or individual realtors that are advertising the sale or lease of more than one property at a corner shall be limited to one sign; and~~

~~(G) Off-site signs located on a frame shall individually not exceed a height of one and one-half feet, a width of two feet, and an area of three square feet.~~

~~(iii) Removal. Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.~~

~~(b) Portable off-premises residential directional signs announcing directions to an open house at a specified residence that is offered for sale or rent shall not exceed six square feet in area for each sign, and shall not exceed 42 inches in height. Such signs shall be permitted only when the agent or seller is in attendance at the property for sale or rent and may be located on the right-of-way outside of vehicular and bicycle lanes.~~

~~(c) On-site commercial (nonresidential) or industrial property for sale or rent signs shall be limited to one sign per street frontage, and shall not exceed 32 square feet in area. The sign shall not exceed 12 feet in height. The sign shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property. A building permit is required and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit is renewable for one-year increments up to a maximum of three years.~~

~~(d) On-site residential development for sale or rent signs shall be limited to one sign per development. The sign shall not exceed 32 square feet in area, and shall not exceed 12 feet in height. A building permit is required and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit is renewable annually for up to a maximum of three years.~~

~~(e) Off-site directional signs for residential developments shall be limited to six signs. Each sign shall not exceed 16 square feet in area, and shall include only the name of and directions to the residential development. The sign(s) shall be placed a maximum of two road miles from the nearest residential development entrance. No two signs for one residential development shall be located closer than 500 feet from one another on the same street. A single building permit is required for all signs and shall be issued for a one-year period. The permit number and the permit expiration date must be clearly displayed on the face of each sign. The permit is renewable for one-year increments up to a maximum of three years; provided, that extensions will only be granted if the sign permit applicant has complied with the applicable regulations.~~

~~(f) Residential on-premises informational signs shall be limited to one sign per feature, including but not limited to signs for information centers, model homes, parking areas or announcing features such as parks, playgrounds, or trails. Each sign shall not exceed 16 square feet in area, and shall not exceed six feet in height;~~

~~(5) Community Event Signs. Community event signs are allowed, subject to the following requirements:~~

~~(a) Location:~~

~~(i) Community event signs may be displayed on private property with the consent of the property owner.~~

~~(ii) Community event signs may be displayed within public easements or streets; provided, that:~~

~~(A) Signs shall be A-frame signs as specified in subsection (5)(b) of this section; and~~

~~(B) Signs shall not be located within the center median of principal, minor, and collector arterials (as defined) or within roundabouts, traffic circles or islands.~~

~~(iii) Community event signs located pursuant to subsection (5)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section shall not obstruct sight distances as prescribed by Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements.~~

~~(iv) The director, in consultation with the City engineer, and following review of applicable state and City codes, may approve temporary sign placement in the public right-of-way on hardscape areas (i.e., concrete pads or other sidewalk areas not used for pedestrian travel); provided, that sign location does not conflict with subsection (5)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section.~~

~~(b) Specifications.~~

~~(i) Community event signs on private property may have a maximum sign area of 32 square feet;~~

~~(ii) Community event signs on public easements or streets shall be "A frame" signs that shall not exceed six square feet in area for each sign, and shall not exceed 42 inches in height;~~

~~(iii) Community event signs located within 15 feet of a street corner or driveway, as further identified in Chapter 14.01 SMC, Public Works Standards Adopted, or by SMC 21B.25.200, Sight distance requirements, shall be further limited in sign area and height as necessary to satisfy sight distance limitations; and~~

~~(iv) Community event signs shall be stationary and shall not be illuminated.~~

~~(c) Removal.~~

~~(i) Community event signs shall be removed within seven days following the end of the community fair, festival, or event; provided, that the signs shall not be displayed for more than a total of 21 calendar days; and~~

~~(ii) Sign removal shall be the responsibility of the event sponsor;~~

~~(6) Community Banner Signs. Community banners are allowed subject to the following provisions:~~

~~(a) Community banners shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;~~

~~(b) Letters on the sign shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;~~

~~(c) Banners shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and~~

~~(d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor;~~

(3) Signs Associated with Properties for Sale or Rent.

<u>Signs Located On Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One (1) per public street frontage</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Permitted Duration</u>	<u>Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.</u>

<u>Maximum Size Area</u>	<u>8 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>6 ft</u>
<u>Signs Located Off-Site of Property with Individual Unit for Sale or Rent¹</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One (1)²</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public right-of-way adjacent to the intersection of the primary vehicle entrance to the property and closest public street.</u>
<u>Permitted Duration</u>	<u>Signs shall be removed within five days after closing of the sale, lease or rental of the property.</u>
<u>Maximum Size Area</u>	<u>4 sq ft</u>
<u>Signs on Property with Commercial or Industrial Property For Sale or Rent</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One (1)</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Maximum Size Area</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>12 ft</u>
<u>Signs on Newly Constructed Residential Developments for Sale</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>One (1)</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Public street frontage</u>
<u>Maximum Size Area</u>	<u>32 sq ft</u>
<u>Maximum Height</u>	<u>12 ft</u>
<u>Directional Signs Located Off-site Of Newly Constructed Residential Developments for sale</u>	
<u>Sign Quantity</u>	<u>Two (2)</u>
<u>Permitted Location</u>	<u>Private property (with permission); public right-of-way</u>
<u>Maximum Sign Area</u>	<u>16 sq ft</u>

Sign Conditions:

(1) Only allowed for properties with a unit for sale or rent that is not located adjacent to a public street.

(2) When more than three off-site real estate signs are proposed for a location, the fourth proposed sign owner shall install and make available to other licensed real estate agents a frame designed to allow for a minimum of six signs to be hung in a stacked fashion, to accommodate multiple signs; Frames installed to hold multiple real estate signs shall not exceed a height of six feet. Off-site signs located on a frame shall individually not exceed a height of one and a half feet, a width of two feet, and an area of three square feet.

(4) Community Banner Signs.

- (a) Community banner signs shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use.
- (b) Letter on such signs shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos.
- (c) Community banner signs shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and
- (d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.

(75) Pedestal Signs. Temporary pedestal signs are allowed in the TC-A and TC-B zones, subject to the following provisions:

- (a) The sign shall be placed such that there is a minimum of a six-foot-wide pedestrian access around the sign;
- (b) The sign shall not exceed a height of six feet;
- (c) The sign face shall not exceed an area of three square feet;
- (d) Sign lettering and graphics shall not exceed a height of four inches;
- (e) The frames and other support structures shall be consistent with the building's architectural character in terms of form, color, and materials such that there is a consistent design theme.

Commented [DM3]: Justification: relocated from 21A.45 due to location of banner poles being in TC. Subsequently, this provision has been deleted from 21A.45.

Commented [CA4R3]: See comments pertaining to Banners, sent separately.



Figure 21B.45.150a. Acceptable and unacceptable pedestal signs.

(Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.1560 Compliance clause Legal non-conforming signs.

(1) Any sign located within the city limits on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title, or located in an area annexed to the city thereafter, which does not conform with the provisions of this code, shall be considered a legal nonconforming sign and is permitted, provided it also meets the following requirements:

- (a) The sign was covered by a permit on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title if one was required under applicable law; or

(b) If no permit was required under applicable law for the sign in question, the sign was in all respects compliant with applicable law on the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this title.

(2) Loss of legal nonconforming status. Nonconforming signs shall not be altered in size, shape, height, location, or structural components without being brought to compliance with the requirements of this code. Repair and maintenance are allowable, but may require a permit if structural components require repair or replacement. Legally established signs that do not conform to the design standards of SMC 21B.45.110, General sign design standards, or 21B.45.120, Design standards for specific sign types, shall be brought into compliance when there is a change in use associated with the sign or when the sign is entirely removed or replaced. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.160 Variance.

- (1) A sign variance is categorized as a Type 1 land use application and shall be subject to the requirements of SMC 21A.110.030. Variances from the terms of this chapter may be granted by director of community development upon complete application. Variances may be granted when, because of unique circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings, the strict interpretation of the regulations of this chapter deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity and under identical zoning classifications.
- (2) The variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with a limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.

21B.45.170 Enforcement.

- (1) Compliance with other applicable codes. All signs erected or altered under this chapter must comply with all applicable federal, state and local regulations relating to signs, including without limitation the provisions of the International Building Code as adopted in SMC 16.05.010 by the city. If any provision of this code is found to be in conflict with any provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance or code of the city, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail.
- (2) Sign maintenance. All permanent and temporary signs must be kept in good repair and in a safe manner at all times. The sign owner must repair damaged or deteriorated signs within 30 days of notification by the city. The area surrounding freestanding signs must be kept free of litter and debris at all times.
- (3) Inspection. Code enforcement officers are authorized to inspect any sign covered by this chapter for the purpose of inspection of the sign, its structural and electrical connections, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of this code. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours, unless an emergency exists.
- (4) Abatement. In addition to the abatement authority provided by proceedings under SMC 21A.115.030, the city or its agents may summarily remove any sign placed on a right-of-way or public property in violation of the terms of this chapter under the following circumstances:
 - (a) When a sign is determined by the city engineer or director of community development to present an immediate threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the public;
 - (b) When a sign is illegally placed within the public right-of-way, within a landscape median, landscape island, traffic circle, attached to a utility pole or city traffic sign, upon public sidewalks or roadway, or on any public building or structure when such facilities are located on public property or within public right-of-way;
 - (c) When a sign is determined by the city to be abandoned; provided, that the city must first provide fourteen days' notice to the underlying property owner or business owner that the sign is deemed abandoned;
 - (d) Disposal of signs. When a sign has been removed by the city as authorized by this section, the city shall take the following actions:
 - (i) The city shall hold a sign for at least seven days. After seven days the city may dispose of the sign without prior notice to the sign owner. The city shall not be responsible for damage or loss during removal or storage of any signs in violation of this code. Sign owners wishing

to reacquire possession of removed signs prior to their disposal shall pay an impoundment fee pursuant to SMC 23.100.010.

(ii) For signs with a fair market value exceeding five hundred dollars, the city shall provide notice by mail to the following:

(A) Sign owner. If the mailing address can be determined by the city after reasonable efforts in investigation. "Reasonable efforts" shall include investigation efforts that take no longer than one-half hour of staff time.

(B) Underlying property owner. If the address of the sign owner cannot be reasonably ascertained, the city shall mail the notice to the underlying real property owner, as identified in the records of the King County Assessor's Office.

21B.45.170 Electronic reader board pilot program adopted.

The provisions of Chapter 21A.45 SMC, Article II, shall apply to the Town Center sub-area, including SMC 21A.45.130 through 21A.45.180. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

21B.45.180 Definitions.

~~Pictures contained in the sign definition section are intended to provide examples of the sign described.~~

21B.15.341 Sign.

~~(1)~~ "Sign" means any medium, device, structure, fixture, or placard, including any necessary supporting structure and component parts, that is visible from a public right-of-way or surrounding properties, and uses graphics, symbols, or written copy to convey a message, attract attention to, or advertise a product, place, activity, business, event, good, service, or land use.

21B.15.342 Sign, awning/marquee.

~~(2)~~ "Sign, awning/marquee" means a sign painted on or attached directly to and supported by an awning or marquee. An awning may be constructed of rigid or nonrigid materials and may be retractable or nonretractable. A marquee is a roof-like shelter, as of glass, projecting above an outer door and over a sidewalk or a terrace, which may be attached to a building or be freestanding.

21B.15.343 Sign, blade.

~~(3)~~ "Sign, blade" means a small, pedestrian-oriented building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane perpendicular to

Commented [DM5]: Move definitions to Chapter 21B.15 SMC and locate alphabetically, as appropriate.

the wall of the building, projecting more than one foot from the wall of a building and vertical to the ground.



Figure 21B.415.343180a. Blade sign examples.

21B.15.344 Sign, box/cabinet.

(4) "Sign, box/cabinet" means a building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign on a plane parallel to the wall of the building and where the sign or individual letters are contained within a box or cabinet and are internally illuminated.



Figure 21B.415.180344b. Cabinet sign examples.

21B.15.345 Sign, building-mounted.

(5) "Sign, building-mounted" means a sign that is attached directly to a building or indirectly attached to a building by a support structure. Building-mounted signs may include, but are not limited to, wall, hanging, blade, awning, marquee, opaque, channel, painted, shadow, and window signs.

21B.15.346 Sign, changing message.

(6) "Sign, changing message" means a sign that contains electronically controlled digital or illuminated text, or a sign that contains text that can be manually changed.



Figure 21B.415.347180c. Changing message sign examples.

21B.15.347 Sign, channel letter.

(7) "Sign, channel letter" means a wall sign that is comprised of lettering that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building or a structure with the exposed face of the lettering or graphics on a

plane parallel to the wall of the building, and where the letters contain an open channel into which neon lighting is inserted.



Figure 21B.415.348180d. Channel letter sign examples.

21B.15.348 Sign, community banner.

~~(8)~~ "Sign, community banner" means a temporary sign, located on City banner poles, which advertises an event that would provide civic, cultural, educational, philanthropic, or service opportunities hosted or

promoted by the City or a community group that is not-for-profit or nonprofit and nonpolitical with an IRS designation of Section 501(c) or (d).

~~(9) "Sign, community event" means a temporary sign announcing or promoting a nonprofit or not-for-profit sponsored community fair, festival, event (community events include but are not limited to regularly scheduled events or meetings by churches, homeowners' associations and other community groups).~~

21B.15.349 Sign, directional.

(10) "Sign, directional" means a sign that is primarily designed to guide or direct pedestrian or vehicular traffic to an area, business, place, or convenience, and may include incidental graphics such as trade names and trademarks.



Figure 21B.415.349.1480e. Directional sign examples.

21B.15.349.1 Sign, hanging.

(11) "Sign, hanging" means a small, pedestrian-oriented sign that is hung beneath an awning, canopy, or marquee sign or other structure.



Figure 21B.415.349.2480f. Hanging sign examples.

21B.15.349.2 Sign, incidental.

~~(12)~~ "Sign, incidental" means a sign, emblem or decal designed to inform the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, and may include but not be limited to signs designating:

- (a) Restrooms;
- (b) Hours of operation;
- (c) Acceptable credit cards;
- (d) Property ownership or management;
- (e) Phone booths; and
- (f) Recycling containers.

21B.15.349.3 Sign, freestanding.

~~(13)~~ "Sign, freestanding" means a sign standing directly upon the ground or having one or more supports standing directly upon the ground, and being detached from any building or fence.

21B.15.349.4 Sign, fuel price.

~~(14)~~ "Sign, fuel price" means a sign utilized to advertise the price of gasoline and/or diesel fuel.

21B.15.349.5 Sign, logo.

~~(15)~~ "Sign, logo" means a sign, graphic representation, or symbol of a company name, trademark, or abbreviation, uniquely designed for ready recognition. A logo sign may be a wall sign or a freestanding sign.

21B.15.349.6 Sign, monument.

~~(16)~~ "Sign, monument" means a freestanding sign that is above ground level and is anchored to the ground by a solid base, with no open space between the sign and the ground.

21B.15.349.7 Sign, opaque.

~~(17)~~ "Sign, opaque" means a building-mounted sign that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building or a structure where the surface of the sign is generally comprised of two or more opaque

materials on the same plane. Where internally illuminated, the opaque material that comprises the lettering of the sign may be translucent such that it allows limited light to shine through the sign letters.



Figure 21B.415.349.8180g. Opaque sign examples.

21B.15.349.8 Sign, painted.

(18) "Sign, painted" means a sign, mural or graphic design painted directly onto a building facade or onto a flat wood or metal surface that is then attached to the building facade.



Figure 21B.415.349.9180h. Painted sign examples.

21B.15.349.9 Sign, permanent residential development identification.

(19) "Sign, permanent residential development identification" means a permanent monument or wall sign identifying the residential development upon which the sign is located.

21B.15.349.10 Sign, pedestal.

(20) "Sign, pedestal" means a temporary, pedestrian-oriented sign placed atop a pedestal that is affixed to a heavy horizontal base.



Figure 21B.415.349.11480i. Pedestal sign examples.

~~(21) "Sign, political" means a sign advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, or a political party, or signs urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot.~~

21B.15.349.11 Sign, primary.

~~(22)~~ "Sign, primary" means a painted, opaque, awning, marquee, or channel letter sign that is designed to be the primary source of business identification to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

21B.15.349.12 Sign, secondary.

~~(23)~~ "Sign, secondary" means a window, logo, blade, or hanging sign that generally contains secondary, pedestrian-oriented business identification, business product information, or hours of operation.

21B.15.349.13 Sign, shadow.

(24) "Sign, shadow" means a wall sign comprised of individual letters or graphics that is attached to and supported by the exterior wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign lettering or graphics on a plane parallel to the wall of the building, where the surface of the sign is generally comprised of a

completely opaque material. The sign lettering or graphics are separated from the building facade such that during daylight hours the lettering generates a shadow on the building facade.



Figure 21B.415.349.14180j. Shadow sign examples.

21B.15.349.14 Sign, temporary.

~~(25)~~ "Sign, temporary" means a sign that is designed to be displayed for a limited amount of time and is not permanently placed or affixed such as to prevent its removal;

21B.15.349.15 Sign, window.

~~(26)~~ "Sign, window" means a sign that is constructed of neon, stained glass, gold leaf, cut vinyl, etched glass, or similar material in a window.

21B.15.349.16 Sign, wall.

~~(27)~~ "Sign, wall" means any sign painted on, or attached directly to and supported by, the wall of a building or structure. All wall signs are building-mounted signs. Wall signs may include, but are not limited to, window, opaque, shadow, painted, channel letter, and logo signs. (Ord. O2010-293 § 1 (Att. A))

February 27, 2017

Memo to: Sammamish City Council, Sammamish Planning Commission, Planning Staff

Re: Signage

As a planning commissioner, I need to resolve the conflict between the allowed uses in arterial r.o.w.s before I can discuss paper vs. plastic signage and other details.

Signage is a crucial subject because it can drive development and land use. I see it as a deep, defining issue, not as a superficial, aesthetic one. Our legal system rejects “aesthetics” as a legitimate reason to control growth, telling us we can’t choose whether we want to look like Lake City or Carmel. But aesthetics is not my issue. Signs mean so much more than just looks.

A very good example exists in Issaquah where Front St functioned as a “real” main street for decades, before it became an arterial moving more than 27,000 cars per day back in the nineties in front of my office. We know from that example that traffic and pedestrians don’t go together. The smell, noise, and the physical barrier create a hostile environment that prohibits the use of the street for social activity. You can’t have a sidewalk café or hear your friend speak as you walk down the street. With the problems in mind, I stood in front of the Issaquah City Council in support of a by-pass that would give us back our old Main Street. Business owners dominated the attendance, and said their businesses would fail if they could not advertise through their signage to the mass of cars stuck in front of their stores daily. They didn’t care that no one could get out of the line of cars to stop and shop; they were only going for visibility, for name recognition. They won. (Environmental issues also played a part.) The by-pass failed along with the potential for a meaningful, successful, and vibrant downtown.

The City needs to take this opportunity to consider the real ramifications of sign control now, while we are making updates to recent content-neutral legislation. It is the perfect time to look at our sign code in light of new technology and growth. I feel we need to stand up for the future of Sammamish now and not fear legal judgement.

We can rely on our Comprehensive Plan. Solid goals supporting our citizens and our future are behind the decisions in that plan. It supports my thoughts on signage. There are so many valid reasons to control signs, I don’t see “aesthetics” as a contender on my list.

The main conflict with signs occurs in the public r.o.w. of arterial roads. The main function of these roads is to move traffic from point A to point B. Evidently, all public streets have two legal uses: one, to move traffic and the other as a public channel of communication called a “traditional forum.” The latter was established in 1939 per the Kenyon Disend memorandum in our packets.

Times have changed. Traffic is faster; more people use the roads; commutes are longer, stress is prominent, and electronic devices are distractions. Years ago, commercial signage was removed from Federal freeways for safety reasons. Those same reasons are more pertinent

today, where a public forum is in direct conflict with the function of moving even more cars in less space from points A to B.

It is argued that the business community, especially real estate companies have enjoyed the privilege of advertising through signage for years, so it's difficult to deny it now. Wood and plastic verbiage seems archaic in the age of smart phones and gps programs. Real estate agencies utilize impressive, creative apps to demonstrate the homes for sale. Perhaps they could put some effort into locating those homes electronically, eliminating the need for signage in the public r.o.w.

Arguments also exist for schools to advertise events and sales. Are we focused on the prize and ignoring the process? Broadcasting signage in the r.o.w. is reminiscent of casting a giant drift net in the ocean, to snag everything no matter its value, purpose, or rarity. It emphasizes the most effortless way to make money rather than how to target buyers or interest an audience.

Political signs seem to have the most legitimate reason to use arterials as a forum, but the problems and distractions they create are many. I wonder about having a political celebration for elections, with banners and speeches at City Hall and in parks. We could invite dignitaries, have a parade and lower the speed limit. Signage could be allowed in designated places for a set time before and after the election. Even well-meaning candidates must realize the boredom, distraction, and maintenance issues generated by those signs.

For safety reasons, could we explore classifying all arterial r.o.w. as limited fora, not traditional? The outright use of public land for attention grabbing, real estate, political, and fund raising signs would not be allowed. The variance process and smaller streets are available for alternative channels of communication. Other channels are possibilities, i.e. electronic apps, kiosks, clustered signs on private property, celebrations for limited periods with lowered speed limits, and targeted information rather than mass broadcasting.

The consequences of giving away "visibility access" are negative even with good intentions. The result is a demand for more visibility with immediate gratification for a few, but long-term degradation for many. Most City councilors and commissioners have been in business themselves, and we all share the concerns of business people. But at some point, the City needs to stand up for the citizens and our future, so that we continue to grow in the direction of our comprehensive plan. If we do that, our business community will grow and be healthy as well.

I would appreciate an answer to my question regarding the reclassifying or limiting the use of arterials for signage. Then I can proceed from there and get on with the program.

Thank you,

Jane Garrison
Planning Commissioner

David Goodman

From: marywictor@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2017 10:37 AM
To: Doug McIntyre; David Goodman; David Pyle; Jeffrey Thomas
Cc: Lyman Howard
Subject: Sign Code--Questions in writing and Input to discuss, including Test Case examples
Attachments: SIGN Code - Questions and Input 3-3-2017.doc; Signs and SMCode. ART-questions to ask. input 2-27-2017.ppt

Dear Doug McIntyre, David Goodman, David Pyle, & Jeff Thomas -- Planning Department cc:
Lyman Howard/City Manager

I talked briefly with Doug last night just after the 3-2-2017 Planning Commission meeting, and he said "written Questions are best" and "the time is NOW and appropriate for input on SIGN CODE." Thus, I am emailing this to you all today with attachments for real consideration and response. I would also like to meet to talk/discuss this to help ensure it is understood and might actually be implemented during the process of Code review. I know I am not alone in my views, and have taken snapshots to show how signage is being used in and around our City by people and businesses.

[MS Word .doc has my written Questions and Inputs. MS Powerpoint .ppt attached is 18MB is what I most recently sent into the Arts Commission/mtg canceled 2/27 due to snow. Also, Tammy Mueller/Kevin Johnson has a .ppt about 35MB in size I used at the 2-23-2017 Planning Commission Meeting for Public Comment.

I cannot email that to you due to large size >25 MB since it incorporates so many photos of signage examples. Please see that .ppt on your server(s).]

Over the past two years, I have learned that it is important to give input and early. I have been trying, but want and expect some changes to be made. I have already spoken at City Council, Planning Commission, and Arts Commission meetings several times regarding SIGN Code and Art.

When the Metropolitan Market started being built, it seemed to me that one or more Murals on the building (especially south and east sides) would enhance the view the public sees, plus add to the character of our City and neighborhoods. I learned via the Art Commission last fall, that no murals are allowed by City Code nor Town Center Code. I heard that the developer was interested, but felt there was/is nothing they can do per code!

[Plus, as you know, people already currently sit in traffic and at the traffic signal for a long time at the SE 4th ST / 228th Ave SE Intersection.]

This needs to change! Examples of beautiful murals that add to the history and character of a City can be found in Issaquah/DairyGold Milk history mural, and all throughout the town of Leavenworth, WA--a Barbarian village. Art helps our vision, appeal, and beauty and helps express our values... when integrated with signage it can help inform, teach, share principles, offer services, direction, or guidance, etc.

In our own City, the Sammamish Plateau Water tower at their District office just east of 228th has an extremely large and beautifully painted tower. This is a wonderful part of our community and should

be able to be repainted as needed with fearing or suffering from compliance with code. With the new AZ legal signage impacts, I fear and believe it would be regulated simply as a "wall sign". Really, it seems to me NEW Code for 3-D Utility Structure art/signs is missing and needed for our City to allow painting/wrapping and full coverage for all sides and top of utility structures! *{Furthermore, I personally think this should be required by owner/developer/builder to provide the covering, or pay fees to cover the cost of it, since they are putting the structure in the Public ROW to support the development of their property.}*

I was glad to see historic/wood art sculptures added to the center of City Round-A-Bouts... (and was amazed that City Code actually supports this!)

I feel deeply that any/all Utility boxes in the Right Of Way should be allowed to be painted, wrapped, covered with art and signage... other cities are doing this (Issaquah recently, Renton, etc) in WA state and across the USA including my home-town in MT. See examples of electric utility boxes covered with art in the attached .ppt. Without signage/art, these are dull/drab and somewhat an eyesore. Busses in Seattle area also sport these types of "signs" as art, celebration of events and message, and advertising. So, that is perhaps a category of utility or service that drives/moves.

Finally, when my sons attended high school at Eastlake, the electronic message board/sign was implemented (> \$50,000) and multiple clubs and activities put in a lot of \$ for use of it. However, the 3 minute minimum for changing the message shown is just too long to be effective/useful! Skyline's board has much more active displays, and likely should be evaluated for compliance to code, and for the code to be changed/modified. [Information displays are good and useful... and should be allowed to change electronically, but should not be distracting nor irritating.]

Thank you all for the work you do, the efforts underway to help improve our City for all including residents, visitors, people of all ages and businesses. I look forward to hearing back from you soon. I am able and willing to meet and discuss my input and sign "test case" examples with you. Please email or call me directly. Home/office 425-836-9819, Mobile 425-283-7253.

Sincerely,

Mary Victor, resident and home owner in Sammamish since 6/2000. Art docent for many years, and Art Co-Chair at Smith Elementary 3-years too.

Question: Will SMC allow enough signs, sizes, locations, etc. to be useful for people, visitors, & business? (i.e., Offer more services, products, activities, opportunities+reduce driving, loss of \$)

Goal...

+Allow SAFE readable use to promote business, public interests for needs and services, + ART
+Shall be allowed to be posted where useful to draw customers, give directions, announce
+Aesthetics—should support City/community vision, neighborhood character... not an eyesore!
 → Color(s) are certainly important. HOT ORANGE, blue vs more natural tones, etc.
 → e.g., the Dunn Lumber Bellevue/Redmond Overlake TOOLS example is ok if BROWN?
+Communicate where allow postings/displays... and how about improving the look of what's in the ROW (e.g., utility structures, poles, firehydrants). [2019 is City's 20 yrs, 2024 is 25 yrs.]

Question: Are street corner, road-side, and at business-entry SIGNS and activities permitted?
ALLOW Staffed or Moving SIGNS, examples

- 1) Sign “surfer” at street corner for bagels, homes for sale, mattress sales, group car wash
- 2) Lemonade stands (for any/all enterprising elementary students), e.g., girl scout cookies
- 3) Walking sandwich board people and/or mascots
- 4) Folks taking public input or census, or petitions for things including voter lists

-These signs will typically be homemade, handwritten or drawn, or professional painted, etc.

-Size will be something manageable to hold, wear, or prop up on a small table.

-They will be temporary, and only displayed when “staffed”... and might be stationary or moving.

Question: Have they been allowed, and Are “Party” displays with balloons still allowed? [Used intermittently any season but mostly in spring/summer for celebrations including birthdays, graduations, weddings, retirement, etc. Could be used to announce and direct to any event.]

Question: Are MURALS allowed? Anywhere in the City? Especially for Town Center? NEED!
ALLOW ART—pretty much any size, including full wall murals on buildings (and/or roofs)
-suggest restrict the % or max size of WORDS, but NOT the painted area supporting it
Example... DairyGold building in Issaquah on Front street. Mostly painted, small amount text!
Note: This would help preclude textual bubble art and vandalism too, though not pictorial items

Question: *How are the wooden ART Structures/Sculptures permitted within Round-A-Bouts?*

-these are 3-D, wooden/natural in materials, painted red (from old historic barn)

-I like/love them... but wish to know “How” they are allowed by City design, intent, and code.

Question: Are driving signs permitted (e.g., Metro buses have framed signs on lower sides)?

-Vehicles including the City of Sammamish ones have signs painted or magnetized on them

-UHaul rental trucks have large ART images as well as advertising.

-Long-haul trucks and trailers have a terrific variety of colors, signs, symbols on them in USA

-Sammamish should NOT want/have nor allow large signage driving boards like in Las Vegas!

+I have seen over time public-transit BUSES that are fully covered/wrapped with ART+msgs

These are inventive, creative, and add a sense of beauty plus allow communication with people

Question: Shall City of Sammamish ALLOW & even REQUIRE art/signage on Utility structures? [I hope so... and would even like to see owner/builder/developer implement or pay!]
{Note: Utility structures are NOT “poles”, but 3-Dimensional items in the Public/Private ROWs.}

SUGGEST that ALL Utility Structures be allowed to be covered (paint, magnetic, wrapped, etc.) with aesthetic, artful, historical, directional, informative, celebratory designs and/or signs. Issaquah and Renton do this. It is time for Sammamish to consider, allow, promote, & require it! The Code requirement is that up to the entire side(s)—all panels, curves—and top can be covered. <Shall NOT be unsafe, offensive, nor eyesore in content nor color.>

CAN and SHOULD apply to any/all of the following:

Utilities including Cable, TV, Internet, Dish?, Phone, fiber optic, light, power (electric/gas), water, sewer, fire hydrants, garbage/trash, recycling, all serve the public and are implemented and required to serve public and private areas for safety, health & welfare.

Question: Can fire hydrants be painted other than yellow, for perhaps 25 year celebrations, etc? This can add character to a City or Community while still being safe for use/emergencies.

Example:

Cylinder utility (e.g, Comcast plastic pedestal OR Sammamish Plateau Water 2mil tank Tower)
NOTE: SPW Water Town is just east of 228th. It is beautiful, lovely, painted, and will need to be repainted at some point... sooner vs later. This should/shall be ALLOWED by the City, please!

Phone Pedestal (e.g, dark green GTE/Verizon/Frontier service access points)

Utility boxes (there are single, and groups of these. Typically rectangular prisms in size)
-typically painted beige/tan, or light green, newer ones are brushed metal so appear silver/shiny

PLACES NOT ALLOWED TO POST ANY SIGNS: (Needs to be communicated to Public too!)

Not power poles, mounted transformers, telephone poles, light poles/lamp posts, etc.

Not wireless towers either? Dish? Satellite? (e.g., Andrew Corporation Red Flash/lightning bolt)

Not sign posts such as Stop signs, traffic signals, Watch for Ice, < turn markers, etc.

Within sight distance of intersections or center medians or center in round-a-bouts

Question: Is the Electronic Sign "pilot" is now an officially allowed sign/program? Not a Pilot?

Question: Can the 3 minutes be reduced to something reasonable/meaningful/useful?

[30-45 seconds is still a LONG display time, and might be shortened to 10, 15 or 20 seconds.]

PLEASE VISIT and check out how Eastlake HS and Skyline HS are presently USING theirs!

Is it ok? Is it safe or distracting? What about colors (hot pink) or flashing on/off rapidly?

I think you/City should actually contact and seek input from present Admin & PTSAs for these!

NOTE: City uses a portable electronic sign to flash/display road construction, etc messages.

Example, how about a gas station, storage place, or bank having a time/temperature display?

[This is most useful if it would toggle from on to the other just after a few seconds and repeat.]

Question: What and when will SIGN info be communicated to the people and residents/public?

-meetings for input are communicated in news papers and website, etc.

-where signs CANNOT be placed and why (including Garage Sale and Lost Pet or Found items)

-where to look if a person or entity discovers their sign went-missing? (City collects downstairs)

-how long are these collected sign-violations held?

-Could the City call folks about these (e.g., Boy Scouts, Chess Clubs, HOAs, PTSAs, etc.)

Question: Is the City really getting input from various groups and agencies it needs to work on Sign Code? Do Outreach to various people or businesses would help write good, useful code.

Please also see my .ppt from 2-23-2017 Planning Commission showing TEST CASES

From: "Claradell Shedd" <shedd@hshedd.com>
To: fjblau@gmail.com, "Eric Brooks" <ebbrooks@comcast.net>
Cc: "Colleen Rupke" <crupke@sammamish.us>, "ramu' iyer" <ramu.iyer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 8:56:24 AM
Subject: FW: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Commission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...03.06.17;8:06am;8:56am

Hi Frank and Eric:

For the Planning Commissioners:....please share.

Email from Mary Wictor says the present City of Sammamish sign code does not allow for the following:

“Painted large-format ART Murals on buildings, plus utility structure paint/magnetic/coverings for art-signs-info on ALL sides is NOT allowed by Code!”

This subject of public art enhancing utility boxes has been addressed/discussed within the Sammamish Arts Commission for over 3-4 years. Within the Arts Commission, I have already asked/input for an amount budgeted for 2017 to add vinyl-wrapped art to various utility boxes within the City of Sammamish (as has been done already in Issaquah, Redmond, and Bellevue). I have budgeted for approximately 3-4 units during 2017 and hoped to achieve additional units in 2018 as well. I am hopeful of introducing graphics which depict historical significance as related to the actual site on which a respective utility box would be adorned (as per the graphic entitled “mockup_02.12.13...”)

Please input this when you are planning on a revision of the City of Sammamish sign code.

If the Planning Commission has any questions, I'll be glad to talk with the Planning Commission.

Claradell
Sammamish Arts Commissioner
(425) 868-0260

P.S.: Also attached is the .pdf presentation that Citizen Commenter Mary Wictor wanted to give to the Sammamish Arts Commission at our **cancelled** February Arts Commission meeting. I have provided the email string below so that you have additional Mary Wictor comments re signage. She appeared at a prior Sammamish Arts Commission meeting to present similar suggestions re signage.

From: Colleen Rupke [<mailto:crupke@sammamish.us>]
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 8:06 AM
To: Barbara Jirsa; Claradell Shedd; Jennifer Kaczmarek; Lin Garretson; Margaret Rosenow; Priti Joshi; Ramu Iyer
Cc: Aaron Antin
Subject: FW: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Commission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...03.06.17;8:06am

Dear Arts Commissioners:

See below from Citizen Commenter Mary Wictor.

I will be forwarding to you the presentation that she wanted to give to you at your canceled February meeting.

Colleen

From: marywictor@comcast.net [<mailto:marywictor@comcast.net>]

Sent: Friday, March 3, 2017 11:34 AM

To: Colleen Rupke <crupke@sammamish.us>

Subject: Fwd: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Comission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...

Dear Colleen, Arts Commission/Admin

Hi!

a) Can you please advise about the next Arts Commission meeting. The one on 2-27-17 was cancelled as you know due to snow/weather. Is the next meeting just the last Mon in March (3-27-2017)... or does a make-up meeting or something happen sometime before that?

b) Can you or did you email to Arts Commission and related folks/staff my .ppt and email text I had sent for Public Comment 2-27-2017 mtg?

I am asking these as the City is proceeding with SIGN CODE which is in progress with Staff and the Planning Commission for 3-16-2017.

Painted large-format ART Murals on buildings, plus utility structure paint/magnetic/coverings for art-signs-info on ALL sides is NOT allowed by Code!

So, it is time to act and give input plus state/change requirements in/around both our City and for Town Center.

c) Please advise what can be done to followup up on Art and Signs this month. Also, can you please advise who might be best to contact for the Arts Commission for them to give input and/or be directly involved in Public Comment for Sign Code?

Appreciate your help with a-b-c above (and hope you are doing well and recovering from the storms),

Mary Wictor

408 208th Ave NE, 98074 since 6/2000

425-836-9819 home/office

425-283-7253 mobile

From: "Colleen Rupke" <crupke@sammamish.us>

To: list of folks...

Cc: "marywictor" <marywictor@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 4:53:56 PM

Subject: Tonight's Meeting is CANCELLED

Due to weather and road conditions, tonight's Arts Commission meeting is cancelled.

Colleen Rupke, Administrative Assistant

Maintenance & Operations Center
City of Sammamish
1801 – 244th Ave NE
Sammamish, WA 98074
425-952-2115

From: "marywictor" <marywictor@comcast.net>
To: "Colleen Rupke" <crupke@sammamish.us>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 2:43:28 PM
Subject: Re: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Commission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...

Colleen... I intend to come tonight for the Arts Commission meeting. I'd like to have the MS Powerpoint to use and speak from during the 3 minutes. Thanks! Mary

From: "Colleen Rupke" <crupke@sammamish.us>
To: "marywictor" <marywictor@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 12:15:20 PM
Subject: RE: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Commission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...

Mary:

You are welcome to come and present this to the Commission briefly during the Citizen Comment time tonight. Comments will need to remain limited to 3 minutes maximum. I have not yet reviewed the extend of the powerpoint presentation you attached but that presentation will also need to be included in the 3 minutes maximum for this comment.

If you are unable to attend, I will provide this to the Commission after this evening's meeting and advise them briefly of it in your absence tonight.

Thank you,
Colleen Rupke
Administrative Assistant
Sammamish Arts Commission

From: marywictor@comcast.net [<mailto:marywictor@comcast.net>]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 11:14 AM
To: Colleen Rupke <crupke@sammamish.us>
Subject: Public Comment 2-27-2017 to Arts Commission: SIGN Code should Allow & Encourage...

Dear Colleen Rupke / Administrative Assistant, City Staff, Arts Commission:

{Please email this to appropriate City Staff plus Arts Commission for consideration as Public Comment/Input on ART for Signs/Character.

Note: Attached file has many images and is about 17MB in size. I hope it may be possible to view this presentation at the meeting tonight?}

The Planning Commission has been and continues on 3/16/17 to work on the topic of SIGN Code, with Public Hearing at their 4/6 meeting. I hope the Art Commission will provide input, including attending these key meetings?!

I believe that "aesthetics" are a vital part of effective and appealing signage. Color and ART are critically important and essential elements too!

For Sammamish Municipal Code (SMC) for Signs throughout our City as well as Town Center, I offer as input the following:

- 1) Not only Allow but Encourage and maybe even Require "aesthetics" for signs
- 2) Allow, Encourage, and even Require utility box coverings (see attached .ppt)
- 3) Allow and Encourage MURALS within Town Center and as well as in and throughout the City of Sammamish
 - Size can be up to the full-size of a building (one or multiple sides, potentially even including roof area, sidewalks, or ground--where applicable)
 - large format Art can tell and reveal our history, culture, important ideals
 - color can and should be allowed while ensuring it is appealing to the eye, sense of area, and our community values
- 4) Trash and Recycle bins can even be "dressed up" with displays for toddlers, youth-seniors, non-english speakers, and beauty
- 5) Elements of signs can build and inform our Community, make statements, or share beliefs
- 7) Written words and/or visual images (photos, art etc) can be painted... but it seems better put-on with "coverings/wraps" for best quality, maintenance, periodic replacement. [Similarly, I have seen Metro Buses with various "wraps" used to display or indicate a wide-variety of topics.]
- 8) Maps and directions can even be incorporated on utility boxes (whose presence is required to serve the Public for essential services)

Thank you for sharing this communication appropriately and for this opportunity to give input and visual perspectives shown in the attached file.

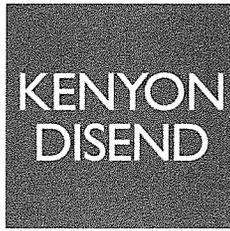
Sincerely,
Mary Wictor
408 208th Ave NE, 98074 since 6/2000
425-283-7253 mobile







Michael R. Kenyon
Rachel B. Turpin
Ann Marie J. Soto
Kim Adams Pratt
Robert F. Noe
David A. Linehan
Amy S. Blue
Charlotte A. Archer
Alexandra L. Kenyon



Bruce L. Disend
Doug F. Mosich
Of Counsel
Shelley M. Kerslake
1967 - 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Goodman; City of Sammamish Planning Commission
FROM: Charlotte A. Archer, Kenyon Disend PLLC *CAA*
DATE: February 14, 2017
RE: Regulation of Banners

I. ISSUE PRESENTED AND SHORT ANSWER

The City has requested an analysis of the legal issues surrounding the City's Community Banner program, in the context of traditional free speech jurisprudence and the recent decision issued by the U.S. Supreme Court in Reed v. Town of Gilbert, AZ, which changed the landscape for municipal regulations of speech regarding regulations governing signage on public and private property. The answer to the City's query depends upon which legal doctrine the Court applies to the City's program. The Courts are divided as to whether banner programs (and comparable programs of various formats) constitute traditional or limited public fora, or government speech.

II. BACKGROUND ON BANNER PROGRAM

The City hosts a "Community Banner" program which allows certain entities to post banners that span 228th Avenue Southeast at certain places for a short period. SMC 21A.45.120(6) states, in pertinent part:

(6) Community Banners Sign. Community banners are allowed subject to the following provisions:

(a) Community banners shall only be located on public banner poles erected by the City for that use;

(b) Letters on the sign shall not be less than 12 inches in height except for lettering associated with sponsor logos;

(c) Banners shall not be illuminated or have any attention-getting lights; and

(d) Sponsor logos shall be limited to the name and corporate symbol of the sponsor.

III. AUTHORITY AND ANALYSIS

A. Traditional Public Fora, Limited Public Fora and Nonpublic Forum.

Jurisprudence from the U.S. Supreme Court recognizes the right of a citizen to engage in expressive activity on public property, but the Court has divided public property into three categories: traditional public forums, limited public forums, and nonpublic forums. *See Cornelius v. NAACP Leg. Def. Fund*, 473 U.S. 788 (1985).

Traditional public fora are those places which, “by long tradition or by government fiat, have been devoted to assembly and debate.” *Perry Educ. Ass’n v. Perry Educators’ Ass’n*, 460 U.S. 37, 45 (1983). Public streets and parks fall into this category. *See Hague v. CIO*, 307 U. S. 496 (1939).

A limited public forum, or a designated public forum, is “created by government designation of a place or channel of communication for use by the public at large for assembly and speech, for use by certain speakers, or for the discussion of certain subjects.” *Perry Education Assn.*, 460 U. S. at 46, n. 7.

A nonpublic forum is traditionally identified by clear evidence of a contrary intent by government to create a public forum; *i.e.*, when the nature of the property is inconsistent with expressive activity. *See Jones v. North Carolina Prisoners’ Labor Union*, 433 U. S. 119 (1977). For example, the courts have held that the following are nonpublic forums: the airspace above a City; a School District’s internal mail system; a military installation; and jailhouse grounds. *See Ctr. for Bio-Ethical Reform, Inc. v. City & Cty. of Honolulu*, 345 F. Supp. 2d 1123, 1131 (D. Haw. 2004), *aff’d*, 448 F.3d 1101 (9th Cir. 2006); *Perry Education Assn.*, 460 U. S. at 46; *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U. S. 828 (1976); *Adderley v. Florida*, 385 U. S. 39 (1966).

Whether a municipal banner program falls into one of these three categories is a fact-intensive query. Public streets are traditional public fora, while at least one court has held that the airspace above a city is a nonpublic forum. In contrast, a nonpublic forum that is opened to public speech with limitations on speakers – such as a public university that provides a forum exclusively for students of that university – constitutes a limited public forum.

B. Governing Principles for the Regulation of Speech in Traditional Public Fora.

A municipality may not place a time, place and manner restriction on public speech in a traditional public forum absent a compelling reason. *See Morse v. Frederick*, 551 U.S. 393, 403 (2007). In the “traditional public forum,” primarily the streets and parks, the “strict scrutiny” test

applies: no content-based restrictions on speech are allowed unless necessary to serve a compelling state interest and narrowly tailored to that end. *See Perry Education Assn.*, 460 U. S. at 46.

The regulations of speech in the traditional public forum must be content-neutral, and apply uniformly regardless of the speaker. For example, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the First Amendment required Ohio to permit the KKK to display a cross in the statehouse square. *See Capital Square Review & Advisory Bd. v. Pinette*, 515 U.S. 753, 777 (1995). Similarly, cities may not prohibit speech activities in a traditional forum that are not endorsed by the public agency, including political protests. *Id.* at 770. Notably, however, traditional public forum rights are not without limits for groups with a track record of law breaking. *See Thomas v. Chi. Park Dist.*, 534 U.S. 316 (2002) (holding that Park District could deny permit to Hempfest based on past violations of park regulations).

C. Governing Principles for the Regulation of Speech in Limited Public Fora.

The government may set reasonable content limitations on the types of speakers and subject matter allowed, so long as the limits are viewpoint neutral, when regulating speech in a limited or designated public forum. *Christian Legal Soc. Chapter of the Univ. of California, Hastings Coll. of the Law v. Martinez*, 561 U.S. 661, (2010); *Pleasant Grove City v. Sumnum*, 555 U.S. 460, 470 (2009).

While this test appears to give the government flexibility to tailor public programs involving private speech, the Courts have dramatically curtailed that flexibility when reviewing policies pertaining to limited fora. This issue has arisen primarily in the contexts of advertising on the sides of municipality owned buses and in meeting room use policies. The Courts have rejected Cities' attempts to use "content" restrictions to screen out public controversy, hate groups, advocates of discrimination, and religious practices, and attempts at carving out sectarian religious speech.¹ In contrast, the Courts have uniformly permitted cities to exclude commercial speech.

For example, the Court invalidated a public school's decision to exclude a Christian children's club from meeting after hours at the school, based on its religious nature of the proposed meeting. *See Good News Club v. Milford Central School*, 533 U.S. 98 (2001). The Court held that the school had opened its limited public forum to activities serving a variety of purposes, including events "pertaining to the welfare of the community," and had interpreted its policy to permit discussions of subjects such as "the development of character and morals from a religious perspective," but excluded the club on the ground that its activities, which included learning Bible verses, the relation of Bible stories to the members' lives, and prayer, were "the equivalent of religious instruction itself." In short, speech discussing otherwise permissible subjects cannot be

¹ *See Boy Scouts of Am. v. Dale*, 530 U.S. 640 (2000) (invalidating school board's termination of the Boy Scouts' use of school meeting rooms, based on the board's dislike of the Scouts' intolerance of homosexuality); *Cuffley v. Mickes*, 208 F.3d 702 (8th Cir. 2000), *cert. denied sub nom.* 534 U.S. 903 (2001) (rejecting Missouri's attempt to exclude the Ku Klux Klan from participation in the Adopt-a-Highway Program); *Hopper v. City of Pasco*, 241 F.3d 1067, 1080 (9th Cir. 2001) (court found city hall art gallery a designated forum, then struck down restriction on "no controversial art" based on unconstitutionality of "censorship by public opinion."); *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of University of Virginia*, 515 U.S. 819, 828 (1995) (invalidating university's denial of funding to paper that published news from an evangelical perspective, where university had policy to fund student newspapers).

excluded from a limited public forum on the ground that the subject is discussed from a religious viewpoint.

To determine if a restriction is reasonable, the Court will examine whether the restrictions imposed leave open alternative channels of communication. If not, then the restriction is not reasonable. Similarly, while a City is entitled to establish a specific purpose for the banner program and limit its use to that purpose, that City bears a significant burden in justifying that purpose. *See Edwards v. District of Columbia*, 755 F.3d 996 (D.C. Cir. 2014). The government must demonstrate, through evidence and not speculation and conjecture, that “the harms it recites are real,” and that the restrictions it places on the purpose of the program “will in fact alleviate them to a material degree.” *Id.*

D. Issues Pertaining to Government Speech.

A government entity has a right to speak for itself; in so doing, it is entitled to say what it wishes, and to select the views that it wants to express. This is commonly understood as the “government speech doctrine” and thereunder a government entity may exercise the same freedom to express its views, even when it receives assistance from private sources (including funding) for the purposes of delivering a government-controlled message. If a government is deemed to be promoting its own message, the message is not restricted by either the reasonableness standard or the viewpoint neutrality requirement discussed above. Government speech often involves the selection, and coopting, of private speech, such as selecting among applicants for a community art display, or promoting certain viewpoints by placing hyperlinks on the City’s website to certain organizations.

The following are examples of government speech:

- City choosing which privately funded monuments (including a statute of the Ten Commandments) to place in the city park. *See Summum*, 555 U.S. at 470.
- Government expressing substantive policy on abortion by funding only those clinics which agreed not to counsel patients on abortion. *See Rust v. Sullivan*, 500 U.S. 573 (1991).
- Government allocating federal arts funding on the basis of “artistic merit” can incorporate values, such as decency, as part of its evaluations. *See Under National Endowment of the Arts v. Finlay*, 524 U.S. 569 (1998).
- The Town creating a website to convey information about the Town to its citizens and chose certain hyperlinks to place on that website to certain events and organizations. *See Sutcliffe v. Epping Sch. Dist.*, 584 F.3d 314, 331 (1st Cir. 2009)

To show government speech, a municipality must show that it has actively screened each potential private speaker and allowed only those which the administrators conclude further program goals. *See Gentala v. City of Tucson*, 244 F.3d 1065, 1068-70 (9th Cir. 2001).