

SECTION 16

SIGNS

16.1 PURPOSE:

All signs located within the Village limits shall be located, constructed, altered, maintained, and removed in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Section. The intent of the regulations in this Section are to provide uniform and content-neutral sign standards and regulations in an effort to safeguard the general welfare of the public, preserve property values and to maintain the aesthetic quality of the Village while balancing these goals with the development of the area. The sign regulations shall control the installation, number, general design, illumination, location, maintenance, and removal of all signs, while respecting the First Amendment rights of the public and property owners.

16.2 GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- 16.2-1 *Permit Required:* It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, alter, or change any lettering or graphics, or relocate any sign except as expressly authorized by this Section without first obtaining a permit from the Community Development Department and paying the required fees.
- 16.2-2 *Building Code Compliance:* All signs shall be constructed in accordance with applicable provisions of the building codes adopted by the Village. No sign shall be constructed which interferes with public safety, a building's proper operation, or is not in compliance with required clearances from above and/or below ground utilities.
- 16.2-3 *Illinois Highway Advertising Control Act:* No sign permitted under this Section shall be constructed or maintained if the sign shall in any way violate the Illinois Highway Advertising Control Act 225 ILCS 440 standards as amended.
- 16.2-4 *Sign Area:* Sign area is defined as the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of all lettering, designs, and symbols together with the background on which they are displayed. Where the interior

angle between a double-sided sign is 45 degrees or less, the sign area is computed as the area of one face only. If the angle between two sign faces is greater than 45 degrees, the sign area is computed as the sum of the sign faces.

Logo and symbol elements present on the sign shall have their size calculated separately from text. The smallest geometric shape that encloses the elements shall be used, and added to the text area to determine the total sign area.



16.2-5 *Required Landscaping at Ground Signs:* Landscaping shall be installed around the base of all ground signs to visually anchor the sign. Landscaping shall include shrubs, ornamental plantings, or groundcovers (excluding turf grass) that are large enough to soften the base of the sign without blocking the signage text. For every 1 square foot of sign area there shall be 2 square feet of landscaped area, as measured in ground area coverage, immediately adjacent to the sign base.

If the ground area surrounding the base of the sign is insufficient in size for all calculated required landscaping, the balance of the required landscaping shall be provided in an alternate location on the same zoning lot. The location shall be approved by the Director of Community Development.

16.2-6 *Sight Line Preservation:* No sign shall be constructed on any corner lot taller than 24 inches in height as measured from street curb level or edge of street pavement, if the sign is to be located within the area of a driver's sight-line triangle at an intersection of two streets. The triangle shall be determined by measuring 23 feet along the edge of road pavement in each direction of the intersecting streets, and then diagonally across the adjacent land to define the third side of the triangle.

16.2-7 *Illumination:*

A. *General:* External and internal lighting sources shall be white (non-colored) light, and shall not blink, fluctuate or move except as permitted for electronic message board signs.

B. *Internal Illumination:* Internal sign illumination shall be permitted subject to the following restrictions:

1. In no case shall the lighting intensity exceed the limit of 70 foot-candles measured with a standard light meter perpendicular to the face of the sign, at a distance equal to the lesser dimension of the sign, whether that is the measurement of the height or the width.
2. No sign in any Residential District may be internally illuminated, except signs on an existing non-residential parcel that is adjacent to or falls within a Residential District.

C. *External Illumination:* External illumination shall be permitted subject to the following restrictions:

1. Lighting shall be uniformly distributed over the area of the sign and not extend beyond the edges of the sign.
2. Lighting shall not directly shine into dwellings or create a traffic hazard.

3. The light reflectance when measured perpendicular to the sign face at a distance of one foot from the surface, shall not exceed 50 foot-candles when measured with a standard light meter.
4. Floodlights, gooseneck reflectors or other external sources of illumination shall have lighting bulbs contained within light fixture housings.

D. Digital Signs/Electronic Message Boards:

Digital Signs/Electronic Message Boards within Ground or Wall signs may consist of either of the following types:

1. *Electronic Display Screens:* A sign or portion of a sign that displays an electronic image or video which may include text. This may include television screens, or video panels, whether made of plasma, LED, or other video projection technology, and holographic displays.
2. *Electronic Message Sign:* Any sign or portion of a sign that uses changing lights to form messages in text form wherein the sequence of messages and the rate of change is electronically programmed and can be modified by electronic processes.



Electronic Message Sign

3. *Duration/Message Display Update:*

- a. The display time for a single line of text shall not be less than 2 seconds. The minimum time that a phrase is displayed should be based on 1 second per word, or 2 seconds per line of text, whichever produces a lesser value.
- b. Copy change time between the displays of phrases shall be instantaneous with no fades.
- c. Images and pictures as part of a message shall remain steady and shall not scroll, flash, pulse, or fade. The display time for images or messages containing images shall be a minimum of 5 seconds.
- d. Signage brightness shall not exceed 5000 nit luminance during daytime hours and 500 nit luminance after dusk.

4. *Vehicle Fueling Station Signs:*

Signage for the purposes of displaying price adjustments may be integrated into ground signs and shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in display area.

16.2-8 *Non-profit Entities- Temporary Signs in Right-of-Ways:* Non-profit entities may submit a written request to the Community Development Department to allow for an event sign(s) to be placed in the public right-of-way. The request shall be submitted in writing and include a description of the sign(s), dimensions, dates of display, the specific location where the sign(s) is to be displayed, and the contact information for the party responsible for the sign(s). The request shall be submitted a minimum of 10 business days in advance of the requested starting date of display. Such signs shall require the approval of the Village Administrator.

16.2-9 *Duties and Powers of the Community Development Director:* As the regulations cannot anticipate every possible situation, the Community Development Director is granted administrative authority, but not the obligation, to accept minor changes not clearly defined in this Section.

16.3 PROHIBITED SIGNS:

The following signs are hereby expressly prohibited everywhere within the Village, *except as otherwise specifically allowed:*

- A. Billboards
- B. Off-premise signs
- C. Flashing signs
- D. Pennants, general flags, and streamers
- E. Building projecting signs
- F. Building roof signs
- G. Signage directly mounted on fences, landscaping, utility poles, retaining walls, refuse enclosures and storage sheds, except for public signs and signs necessary for the operation of a facility
- H. Signs mounted on or contain within parked vehicles and conspicuously displayed solely for advertising purposes
- I. Signs that move or have moving parts
- J. Signs that use reflective paints and/or materials
- K. Signs that emit odors, sound, or visible matter
- L. Signs suspended across any street or public right-of-way
- M. Signs located on vacant land or land under construction except as authorized by this Section
- N. Signs in conflict with traffic signals, vehicular or pedestrian travel, traffic sight lines, or impeding access to fire safety operations

- O. Signs that impair the public health, safety, or welfare
- P. Signs hand-painted on surfaces or windows of any building
- Q. Signs on transmission and receiving towers, satellite dishes, and solar arrays
- R. Temporary signs except as authorized by this Section
- S. Inflatable signs
- T. Signs in the public right-of-way except as authorized by this Section
- U. Human Signs: Persons wearing a costume or sign, or carrying a sign
- V. Any sign which uses exposed exterior neon tubing and/or exposed light bulbs including lights on an opaque background.
- W. Hand-painted wall, ground, or pole signs located in non-residential districts and intended for permanent display.

16.4 EXEMPT SIGNS:

The following types of signs are exempt from the regulations of this Section and from all permit requirements herein except as noted. All private property signage utilizing electrical power is subject to electrical code and permitting requirements.

- A. *Temporary Residential Yard Signs:* Yard signs located on residentially zoned property are allowed to be displayed for a period of 60 consecutive days, followed by a minimum period of 60 consecutive days without display, and may be up to 6 square feet per sign with a maximum of 2 signs per zoning lot. Signs shall only be placed with the consent of the owner. The maximum display height shall be 8 feet and minimum setbacks shall be 5 feet inside all side and rear property lines. Signs placed in front yards shall be setback a minimum of 5 feet from the edge of street pavement and shall not interfere with the safe operation of public sidewalks. The owner of the lot on which the sign is located will be deemed responsible for the sign.

- B. *Public Signs:* Signs required by governmental bodies or public utilities specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute or ordinance; such public signs may be of any type, number, area, height, location or illumination as permitted by law, statute or ordinance.
- C. *Secluded Signs:* Signs located on private property that cannot be deciphered from a public right-of-way or public property.
- D. *Government Symbols or Insignia:* Any sign of any official court or public office, notices thereof, or any flag, emblem or insignia of a government entity.
- E. *Window Signs:*
1. *Residential Zoning Districts:* Window signs in residential zoning districts shall not exceed 30 percent of the window surfaces area per building elevation.
 2. *Non-Residential Zoning Districts:* Window signs in non-residential zoning districts may be affixed or applied to the interior or exterior side of window glass and shall not exceed 30 percent of the total glass area per tenant and per building elevation. Perforated window film applications shall be measured by the entire area covered by the film including the spaces created by the perforations. Window films containing no graphics, text, and of a monochromatic color blending with the adjacent building walls, may be used to cover glass windows and doors up to 100 percent of the total window surface area when not facing principal streets. Each building elevation shall be consistent throughout the area of windows that has window films applied such that a combination of window panels with images on the film will not be mixed with window panels of solid monochromatic color on a single elevation. Such signage shall require a permit prior to being placed.
 - a. *Displays:* The display of merchandise shall not be construed as a window sign, or any signs identifying or promoting merchandise or services, so long as the signage element is located no less than 12 inches back from the interior surface of the glass.

b. *Illumination*: The use of neon tubing, LED, or any other type of light source that can produce an effect similar to that of neon tubing is permitted only as an inside window or door signage element but shall not blink, flash, or scroll. The general outlining of windows or doors with any type of neon tubing, LED tubing or other type of light source that can produce a similar effect is prohibited.

F. *Signs on Residentially Zoned Vacant Land that is for Sale or Lease*:

1. *Sign on small parcel*: A single unlit sign located on a vacant or unimproved parcel less than one acre in size shall not exceed 8 feet in height from the ground and 16 square feet in signage area. Such sign shall be removed within seven days after the sale has closed or a lease is signed on the last unit vacancy.
2. *Sign on a large parcel*: A single unlit sign located on a vacant or unimproved parcel that is greater than one acre in size shall not exceed 8 feet in height from the ground, 10 feet in sign width, and 32 square feet in signage area. Such sign shall be removed within 1 year of building permit issuance or within 7 days after the last vacancy sale, whichever occurs first.

G. *Signs on Non- Residential Zoned Vacant Land that is for Sale or Lease*:

1. *Sign on a small parcel*: A single sign located on a vacant or unimproved parcel of 50 acres or less shall not exceed 8 feet in height and 64 square feet in signage area.
2. *Sign on a large parcel*: A single sign located on a vacant or unimproved parcel of more than 50 acres shall not exceed 15 feet in height and 96 square feet in signage area.
3. *Sign removal*: Signs on large and small parcels shall be removed within 1 year of building permit issuance or within 7 days after the last vacancy sale, whichever occurs first.

- H. *Signs on Parcels Under Construction:* A single unlit sign per parcel under construction shall not exceed 8 feet in height and 32 square feet in signage area, and shall be located a minimum of 5 feet within any lot line. Such sign shall be removed upon the final inspection approval for the project.
- I. *Site Circulation Signs for the Operations of Businesses:* Signs for the proper operation and associated vehicular circulation and pedestrian access of a parcel shall not exceed 6 feet in height and 3 square feet in signage area per sign. Signs shall be located a minimum of 5 feet within any lot line and a minimum of 3 feet back from any internal driving areas. A building permit shall be obtained prior to the placement of the signs.
- J. *Real Estate Address Signs:* Signs for the proper identification of real estate by address are limited to the display of address numerals, street names, and insignias. Free-standing address signs shall be limited to 2 square foot for residential districts, and 4 square feet for commercial districts.
- K. *Plaques:* Plaques, memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings and date of construction and similar type of identification and information when cut or mounted on the building's surface and constructed of non-combustible material.
- L. *Warning Signs:* Signs on parcels that serve as an aid to safety and are limited to (2) square feet in area, such as no hunting, fishing or dumping, or that designate the location of utilities.
- M. *Political Campaign Signs:* Political campaign signs are allowed at all times with no limitation on square footage or required setback except that the political campaign sign shall not be allowed in the right-of-way, and must be a minimum of 5 feet back from the edge of public street pavement where no sidewalk exists, and shall be in compliance with the clear sight-line triangle at any intersecting streets. The owner of the lot on which the sign is located will be deemed responsible for the sign.
- N. *Village related event signs or banners:* Shall be allowed to be displayed across the public way or right-of-way to promote Village sponsored events. Such signs shall require the approval of the Village Administrator.

16.5 TEMPORARY SIGNS

Temporary signs on a non-residential zoned parcel, not otherwise addressed in this Section, shall require a permit and shall be displayed for a maximum period of 60 consecutive days, followed by a minimum period of 60 consecutive days without display. Signs shall not be located in right-of-ways.

16.6 ADMINISTRATION

- 16.6-1 *Legal Nonconforming Signs:* Signs which do not conform to the provisions of this Section, but complied with all applicable ordinances and regulations in effect at the time of their construction, may remain so long as the use which they advertise or identify remains. Any legal non-conforming sign that is damaged or destroyed, by any means, to the extent that the replacement or repair cost exceeds 50 percent of the valuation of the sign based on current market value, shall be required to be made conforming to the current regulations.
- 16.6-2 *Removal of Signs:* The Director of Community Development is hereby authorized to order the removal of any sign for any violation of this Section, or any ordinances of the Village Municipal Code.
- 16.6-3 *Obsolete Signs:* If any sign is no longer in use, or there are no operations taking place on the parcel for which the sign was installed, it shall be removed.
- 16.6-4 *Unsafe or Unlawful Signs:* Every unlawful sign shall be removed as provided by this Section. If the Director of Community Development determines that any sign is a threat to public health and safety, or was constructed, or is not maintained in compliance with the provisions of this Section, it shall be removed.
- 16.6-5 *Immediate Removal Without Notice:* The Director of Community Development may cause any permitted sign which is an eminent danger to persons or property, be immediately removed or repaired by a third party if the owner or lessee cannot be

located to remedy or take action immediately for the hazard. The Director of Community Development may file a complaint with penalty per the Municipal Code, including the recovery of any costs and fees.


16.6-6 *Confiscated Signs:* Any signs in violation of any provision of this Section within the public right-of-way at any time may be removed by the Village and placed in temporary storage. The Village shall not be responsible for loss or damage to any confiscated sign, or be required to notify the owner or agent that the sign was confiscated. The Village shall not be obligated to keep signs in storage beyond 5 business days, after which time they may be discarded.

16.6-7 *Maintenance:* All signs shall be kept in good repair in accordance with the provisions of this Section. Failure of the owner or lessee or agent to keep a sign in good repair shall be deemed a violation of this Section.

16.7 SIGNS ALLOWED BY PERMIT:

16.7-1 A permit application shall be submitted for all permitted signs as described in the SIGN TABLES of this Section prior to installation on a lot.

16.7-2 Zoning District regulations are established in the SIGN TABLES below:

Table 1- Signs Permitted by Zoning District:					
R-1, R-2, R-3, RE-1, RE-2, RE-5					
<i>(Residential Buildings)</i>					
Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall or Ground (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	4 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	



<p>Wall (Temporary)</p>	<p>2 (per zoning lot)</p>	<p>16 sq. ft. (max. per sign)</p>	<p>8 ft. (max. height from grade)</p>	<p>60 days (max. time of display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display) (For temporary ground signs see 16.4 A)</p>	
<p>Subdivision Entryway (Permanent)</p>	<p>2 total (one at each primary entrance)</p>	<p>100 sq. ft. (max. per sign)</p>	<p>8 ft. (max. height. from grade)</p>	<p>10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)</p>	

Table 2- Signs Permitted by Zoning District:

R-1, R-2, R-3, RE-1, RE-2, RE-5

(Non-Residential Buildings)

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. (for each lineal foot of bldg. frontage) 100 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. (for each lineal foot of bldg. frontage) 32 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	
Ground (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	50 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table 3- Signs Permitted by District: R-4

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. (for each lineal foot of building frontage) 100 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Ground or Entryway (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	100 sq. ft. (gross aggregate of all signs)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max per sign)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table 4- Signs Permitted by District: B-1








Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	1 sq. ft. for each lineal foot. of bldg. frontage 50 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building elevation)	32 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	
Ground (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	50 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max.)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table 5- Signs Permitted by District: B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5

(Single Tenant Building)

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. (for each lineal foot of building frontage) 100 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building elevation)	32 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	
Ground or Entryway (Permanent)	1 (per principal street)	100 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max. height. from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	




Ground or Entryway (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max.).	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	
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Table 6- Signs Permitted by District: B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5

(Shopping Centers or Multi-Tenant Buildings)

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. for each lineal foot of tenant frontage 250 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building elevation)	32 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	





Ground or Entry way (Permanent)	1 (per principal street)	200 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	16 ft. (max. height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground or Entryway (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max.)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table 7-Signs Permitted by District: A-1, I-B. OS

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. for each lineal foot of tenant frontage 100 sq. ft. (max per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building elevation)	32 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	




Ground (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	100 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	8 ft. (max height from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per zoning Lot)	32 sq. ft. (max.)	8 ft. (max height. from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table 8- Signs Permitted by District: M-1, M-2

(Single Tenant)

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 sq. ft. for each lineal foot of building frontage	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Ground (Permanent)	1 (per street frontage)	100 sq. ft. (max)	8 Ft. (max. height from grade)	10 Ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max.)	8 ft. (max. height. from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no	

Table 9- Signs Permitted by District: M-1, M-2

(Business Center Development)







Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Ground Entryway (Permanent)	1 (per principal street)	200 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	10 ft. (max height. from grade) 10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	Locate at main entry to business center	
Ground Entryway (Temporary)	1 (per zoning lot)	32 sq. ft. (max)	8 ft. (max height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Table10- Signs Permitted by District: AD1, AD2

Sign Type	Quantity	Sign Area	Height	Notes	Representative Imagery
Wall (Permanent)	1 (per building elevation)	2 lineal feet for each lineal foot of bldg. frontage, 100 sq. ft. (max. per sign)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	N/A	
Ground (Permanent)	1 (per principal street)	100 sq. ft. (max per sign)	8 ft. (max height. from grade)	10 ft. (min. distance from lot line)	
Ground (Temporary)	1 (per tenant)	32 sq. ft. (max)	8 ft. (max. height from grade)	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	
Wall (Temporary)	1 (per building)	32 sq. ft. (max)	Not to exceed height of main wall of building	60 days (max. time for display, followed by a minimum of 60 days, no display)	

Note: All AD1 and AD2 District signage is subject to additional location, size, and illumination restrictions established by the Federal Aviation Administration.