

Updates to Clarkston Sign Code- Change Log

- Purpose
 - Add statement about balance of free speech and visual clutter
 - Added statement that sign ordinance can protect property values
 - Added statement about fair and consistent enforcement
- Definitions
 - Added lacking definitions: LED signs, snipe signs, planned centers
 - Removed regulation to more appropriate parts of code
- Permits
 - Existing signs must re-register in 90 days (no fee)
- Application Information
 - Greatly Simplified section to allow for changes to requirements at an administrative level
- Denial and Revocation
 - Clarified procedure including “just cause”
 - Separated process from appeal process
 - Appeal with City rather than city clerk
 - Notice of denial given in writing by 90th day
 - Must be heard at next council meeting if within 5 days or the following
- Permit Expiration
 - 12 months -> 6 months
 - Clarified permit fees are void after expiration
 - Must file for new permit and submit fee
- Fee Schedule
 - Establish fee schedule
- Prohibited Signs
 - Added provision about not interfering with pedestrians
 - Added “snipe signs” as a clarification (moved substance to definitions)
 - Removed v-shaped projecting signs
 - Removed fluorescent colors
 - Removed LED sign prohibition in nonresidential areas
 - Changed reference from National Building code to currently adopted building code
 - Disallow vehicular signs
 - Rephrase safe and secure to hazard to property or individuals
 - Allow pennant and other displays, regulated elsewhere
 - Remove signs that interfere with emergency rescue vehicles, redundant
- Signage in Residential Zoning
 - Cleaned up section
 - All residential districts (not specific to NR-1, NR2, NR-3, NR-CD)

- Subdivision signs limited to 5' high, allowed external illumination
- Removed regulation on windows and attached signs
- Removed regulation about illumination
- Limited signage to 15sf from 2 6ft signs
- Signage in Non-Residential Areas
 - Removed reference to Design Guidelines (they are guides, not rules)
 - Removed detached signs, they are monument only
 - Removed restriction on either 1 attached sign or 2 detached signs, regulate separately
 - Disallow pylon signs near interstate, allow billboards near highways
 - Monument signs
 - Commercial, Mixed-use, and Industrial: removed 25% major tenant restriction, removed 250sf area for 65,000sf
 - Planned centers: 100 sf, 10' high, 8 distinct signs on one sign
 - Single tenant: 80 sf, 8' high
 - Up to 25% changeable copy
 - Up to 20% LED, no flashing, no movement, change no more than once per 10s, brightness limit
 - Must be constructed of durable materials (brick, stone, stucco, wood)
 - Wall and Awning signs
 - Combine wall/awning signs (either or)
 - Allow detached and attached sign separately
 - Remove awning material requirements
 - Remove awning supports
 - Remove awning support requirements
 - Remove location of awning signage
 - Remove requirements about text height (4")
 - Remove restriction to 8 words
 - Wall signs and awning changed from 20% down to 10% wall area
 - Set max wall sign/ awning at 10'
 - Prohibited glossy plastic
 - Removed 10' placement above ground/sidewalk (too high)
 - Remove support (technical)
 - Removed restriction on number of wall signs
 - Neon signs allowed, limited to 20 sf
 - Projecting Signs
 - Remove limit on glass
 - Eliminated horizontal vs vertical
 - Limit to 5% of building façade limited to 50sf /side from 25/side Horizontal, 50/side vertical
 - Eliminate max thickness of 18"
 - Removed bracing specs
 - Must be at least 12" wide.

- Window Sign
 - Removed max 2 sf sign
 - Allowed 30% window area up from 20%
 - Moved to own section
 - Allowed LED signs: no flashing, 1 change an hour, brightness limit
- Marquees- Removed, not applicable
- Removed Street Clocks, not applicable
- Removed Off-Premises Signs (legally challenging)
- Remove Vehicular Signs
- Added Maximum sign area for free standing signs, not attached or billboards
 - >3ac: 300 sf
 - 30,000sf – 3ac: 180sf
 - <30,000: 100sf
- Included Architectural Embellishments
 - Count as wall signage
 - Consistent with surrounding structures
 - Lighting counts as well
- Added Construction standards for signs: must meet building codes
- Temporary Signs
 - Submitted to the city rather than city clerk
 - Banners are now 10% of façade areas, minimum of 15sf
 - Feather flag/streamers/event signs limited to 20 days a calendar year
 - Removed 8 word restriction and 4" letter size restriction
 - Allowed temp flags above non-permitted limit (with permit)
- Nonconforming Signs
 - Give 90 days for existing signs to comply
 - Allows nonconforming signs to provide pictures if original drawings cannot be found
 - Allows nonconforming signs if destroyed by act of God
- Variances
 - Prohibit variances on number of signs or allowing prohibited signs
 - Based on standards of hardship
- Exemptions
 - Removed non-illuminated free-standing signs <6sf
 - Removed signs directing traffic onto site
 - Added season displays 30 days, 2x a year
 - Moved flags to sections
 - Allowed 3 flags, down from 6 (on 3 poles)
 - Eliminated flag max sf
- Illumination
 - Constant lighting, no changing flashing or scrolling to simulate movement
 - Remove illumination prohibited unless stated

- Limited internal illumination to channel letters only
- Illumination must be white (warm or cold)
- Translation- removed English requirement (illegal)