



Lancaster Code Enforcement

SIGN REGULATIONS

17.12.140 SIGNS

A person shall not use, install, or construct any sign in the C zone without the submittal of a sign plan. Sign plans must be fully dimensioned, including the proposed sign location, elevation, colors and materials. Sign plans shall be submitted to and approved by the Director of Planning or designated representative.

17.12.150 SIGNS GENERAL PROVISIONS

17.12.150 (B) PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following signs shall be prohibited in the C zone and may not be included in any sign plan.

17.12.150 (B)(2)

Any notice, placard, bill, card, poster, sticker, banner, sign, advertising, or other device calculated to attract attention of the public which any person posts, prints, sticks, stamps, tacks, or otherwise affixes, or causes the same to be done to or upon any street, right of way, public sidewalk, crosswalk, curb, lamppost, hydrant, tree, telephone pole, or lighting system, or upon any fixture of the police or fire alarm system of the City of Lancaster or the County of Los Angeles.

17.12.150 (B)(3)

Any sign which is placed in a manner which would obstruct a driver's or pedestrian's vision and thus create a hazard, or potential hazard, to public health, safety or welfare.

17.12.150 (B)(4)

Any strings of pennants, banners or streamers, clusters of flags, strings or twirlers or propellers, flares, balloons, and similar attention-getting devices, including noise-emitting device, with the exception of Automobile business pennants, banners or streamers which have their own set of regulations.

17.12.150 (B)(5)

Awning or entrance canopy signs; New outdoor advertising signs; Pole signs; Portable signs; Projecting signs; Revolving signs of any kind; Roof signs; Sidewalk signs; Signs advertising or displaying any unlawful act, Business or purpose; Signs emitting or amplifying sounds for the purpose of attracting attention; Temporary signs.

17.12.150 (C) GENERAL SIGN REGULATIONS

The following regulations apply to all signs in the C zone:

17.12.150 (C)(4)

Any sign located on a vacant and unoccupied property, and which was erected for an occupant or business unrelated to the present occupant or business, or any sign which pertains to a time, event or purpose which no longer exists shall be removed within 30 days.

17.12.150 (C)(8)

All signs shall be maintained in good repair, including display surfaces which shall be kept neatly painted or posted.

17.12.160 BUSINESS SIGNS

A. Wall Business Signs.

1. Area Permitted.

a. Each ground floor business establishment fronting on and/or oriented toward one or more streets may be permitted:

- 1) On lots or parcels abutting or directly across a local or collector street from residentially zoned property, a maximum of one square foot of wall sign area for each one linear foot of building frontage;
- 2) On all other lots or parcels a maximum of 3 square feet of wall sign area for each one linear foot of building frontage;

- B. Freestanding Business Signs. Monument signs and post signs are the only freestanding business signs permitted in the C zone.
1. Frontage. Freestanding business signs may be permitted on any lot or parcel of land for each street frontage having a continuous distance of 150 feet or more.
 2. Area Permitted.
 - a. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum freestanding business sign area that shall be permitted for each street frontage is:
 - 1) On lots or parcels where the street frontage abuts or is directly across a local or collector street from residentially zoned property, 50 square feet total sign area;
 - 2) On all other lots or parcels, 150 square feet total sign area.
- C. Under Marquee Sign. Each business establishment may be permitted under marquee signs subject to the following restrictions:
1. Area permitted: Maximum of 3 square feet total sign area.
- D. Window Signs. Each business establishment may be permitted display window signs subject to the following restrictions:
1. Area permitted: Maximum of 25% of the window area.
 2. Lighting. Window signs may be internally or externally lighted, but any continuous or sequential flashing operation is prohibited.
- E. Incidental Business Signs. Each business establishment may be permitted incidental business signs provided:
1. That such signs are wall signs or window signs or are displayed within an existing freestanding sign structure; and
 2. That such signs do not exceed 3 square feet in sign area or 6 square feet in total sign area; and
 3. That the sum of the sign areas of all such signs does not exceed 10 square feet

17.04.240 DEFINITIONS

“Sign” means any name, figure, character, outline, spectacle, display, delineation, announcement, advertising, billboard, signboard, device, appliance, or any other thing of similar nature to attract attention outdoors or on the face, wall or window of any building, and shall include all parts, portions, units and materials composing the same, together with the frame, background and support of anchorage therefor, as the case may be.

“Total sign area” means the sum of the surface areas, excluding all support structural faces of a sign.

“Window sign” means any sign which is painted on or otherwise permanently affixed to the display window glass or located inside the building within 3 feet of the display window glass.

“Wall or wall-mounted sign” means a sign, other than a roof sign, affixed to and wholly supported by a building in such a manner that its exposed face is approximately parallel to the plane of said building and is not projecting more than 18 inches from the building face or from a permanent roofed structure projecting therefrom.

“Freestanding sign” means a sign which is placed on the ground or has as its primary structural support one or more columns, poles, uprights or braces in or upon the ground. “Freestanding sign” includes ground, monument, pole and post signs.

“Marquee sign” shall be considered wall signs for purposes of regulation.

“Incidental business sign” means a business sign indicating credit cards accepted, trading stamps offered, trade affiliations and similar matters.



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“Total sign area permitted”

If your business is located across from or next to residential property:

- You are allowed one square foot of sign area for each one linear foot of building frontage.

All other businesses shall abide by the following sign regulations:

- You are allowed 3 square feet of sign area for each one linear foot of building frontage.

The calculation for the total sign area permitted includes all signage affixed to any wall, marquee, roof or window on or around the building.

“**Wall or wall-mounted sign**” means a sign, other than a roof sign, affixed to and wholly supported by a building.

“**Window sign**” means any sign which is painted on or otherwise permanently affixed to the display window glass or located inside the building within 3 feet of the display window glass.

“**Freestanding Business Signs**” means any sign not attached to the building.

- You are only allowed to have a Freestanding business sign if your total building frontage exceeds 150 feet.

“**New signs**” means any sign means any name, figure, character, outline, spectacle, display, delineation, announcement, advertising, billboard, signboard, device, appliance, or any other thing of similar nature to attract attention outdoors or on the face, wall or window of any building not yet constructed.

- All new signs in the C zone shall be approved by the Planning Department with a submitted sign plan.

“Prohibited Signs”

- Any strings of pennants, banners or streamers, clusters of flags, strings or twirlers or propellers, flares, balloons, and similar attention-getting devices, including noise-emitting devices, except for auto dealerships which have their own regulations.
- Any notice, placard, bill, card, poster, sticker, banner, sign, advertising, or other device calculated to attract attention of the public within the public right of way.
- Pole signs; Portable signs; Projecting signs; Revolving signs of any kind; Roof signs; Sidewalk signs; Signs advertising or displaying any unlawful act, Business or purpose; Signs emitting or amplifying sounds for the purpose of attracting attention; Temporary signs