

Tacoma Municipal Code

Current Tacoma Municipal Code Regulations pertaining to billboards

13.06.520 Signs.

A. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to establish sign regulations that support and complement land use objectives set forth in the Comprehensive Plan, including those established by the Highway Advertising Control Act (Scenic Vistas Act). Signs perform important communicative functions. The reasonable display of signs is necessary as a public service and to the proper conduct of competitive commerce and industry. The sign standards contained herein recognize the need to protect the safety and welfare of the public and the need to maintain an attractive appearance in the community. This code regulates and authorizes the use of signs visible from public rights-of-way, with the following objectives:

1. To establish uniform and balanced requirements for new signs;
2. To ensure compatibility with the character of the surrounding area;
3. To promote optimum conditions for meeting sign users' needs while, at the same time, improving the visual appearance of an area which will assist in creating a more attractive environment;
4. To achieve quality design, construction, and maintenance of signs so as to prevent them from becoming a potential nuisance or hazard to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

B. Scope.

1. The provisions and requirements of this section shall apply to signs in all zones as set forth in this chapter. Applicable sign regulations shall be determined by reference to the regulations for the zone in which the sign is to be erected.
2. The regulations of this section shall regulate and control the type, size, location, and number of signs. No sign shall hereafter be erected or used for any purpose or in any manner, except as permitted by the regulations of this section.
3. The provisions of this code are specifically not for the purpose of regulating the following: traffic and directional signs installed by a governmental entity; signs not readable from a public right-of-way or adjacent property; merchandise displays; point of purchase advertising displays, such as product dispensers; national flags, flags of a political subdivision, and symbolic flags of an institution or business; legal notices required by law; historic site plaques; gravestones; structures intended for a separate use, such as Goodwill containers and phone booths; scoreboards located on athletic fields; lettering painted on or magnetically flush-mounted onto a motor vehicle operating in the normal course of business; and barber poles.
4. Regulations pertaining to signs in Shoreline Districts are found in Chapter 13.10.

(Ord. 27995 Ex. D; passed Jun. 14, 2011; Ord. 27245 § 14; passed Jun. 22, 2004; Ord. 27079 § 38; passed Apr. 29, 2003; Ord. 26933 § 1; passed Mar. 5, 2002)

13.06.521 General sign regulations.

A. Administration.

1. Director. The Director shall interpret, administer, and enforce the sign code in accordance with Chapter 13.05.
2. Building Official. The Building Official shall issue all permits for the construction, alteration, and erection of signs in accordance with the provisions of this section and related chapters and titles of the Tacoma Municipal Code (see Chapter 2.05). In addition, all signs, where appropriate, shall conform to the current Washington State Energy Code (see Chapter 2.10), National Electrical Code, and the National Electrical Safety Code. Exceptions to these regulations may be contained in the Tacoma Landmarks Special Review District regulations, Chapters 1.42 and 13.07.
3. Applicability. All new permanent signs, painted wall signs, and temporary off-premises advertising signs require permits. Permits require full conformance with all City codes, particularly Titles 2 and 13. Signs not visible from a public right-of-way or adjacent property are not regulated herein, but may require permits pursuant to the provision of Title 2.
4. In addition to and notwithstanding the provisions of this section, all signs shall comply with all other applicable regulations and authorities, including, but not limited to, Chapter 47.42 RCW – Highway Advertising Control Act – Scenic Vistas Act and Chapter 468-66 WAC – Highway Advertising Control Act.
5. Substitution Clause. Any sign allowed under this Code may contain, in lieu of any other message or copy, any lawful noncommercial message or copy.

B. Exempt signs. The following signs shall be exempt from all requirements of this section and shall not require permits; however, this subsection is not to be construed as relieving the user of such signage from responsibility for its erection and maintenance, pursuant to Title 2 or any other law or ordinance relating to the same.

1. Changing of the advertising copy or message on a sign specifically designed for the use of replaceable copy.

2. Repainting, maintenance, and repair of existing signs or sign structures; provided, work is done on-site and no structural change is made.
3. Signs not visible from the public right-of-way and beyond the boundaries of the lot or parcel.
4. Incidental and warning signs.
5. Sculptures, fountains, mosaics, murals, and other works of art that do not incorporate business identification or commercial messages.
6. Signs installed and maintained on bus benches and/or shelters within City right-of-way, pursuant to a franchise authorized by the City Council.
7. Seasonal decorations for display on private property.
8. Memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings and date of erection, when cut into any masonry surface or when constructed of bronze or other incombustible material.
9. Signs of public service companies indicating danger and aid to service or safety.
10. Non-electric bulletin boards not exceeding 12 square feet in area for each public, charitable, or religious institution, when the same are located on the premises of said institutions.
11. Construction signs denoting a building which is under construction, structural alterations, or repair, which announce the character of the building enterprise or the purpose for which the building is intended, including names of architects, engineers, contractors, developers, financiers, and others; provided, the area of such sign shall not exceed 32 square feet.
12. Window sign.
13. Political signs, as set forth in Title 2.
14. Real estate signs, 12 square feet or less, located on the site. Condominiums or apartment complexes shall be permitted one real estate sign with up to 12 square feet per street frontage. Such sign(s) may be used as a directory sign that advertises more than one unit in the complex.
15. Off-premises open house or directional signs, subject to the following regulations:
 - a. The signs may be placed on private property or on the right-of-way adjacent to said private property, with the permission of the abutting property owner. The signs shall be displayed in such a manner as to not constitute a traffic hazard or impair or impede pedestrians, bicycles, or disabled persons. If either condition is not met, the abutting property owner or the City may remove the sign.
 - b. Signs shall not be fastened to any utility pole, street light, traffic control device, public structure, fence, tree, shrub, or regulatory municipal sign.
 - c. A maximum of three off-premises open house or directional signs will be permitted per single-family home. One additional open house or directional sign identifying the open house shall be permitted at the house being sold.
 - d. Signage shall not exceed four square feet in area per side (eight square feet total) and three feet in height. Off-premises open house or directional signs shall not be decorated with balloons, ribbons, or other decorative devices.
 - e. Signage shall only be in place between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., when the seller of the product, or the seller's agent, is physically present at the location of the product.
 - f. Each off-premises open house or directional sign that is placed or posted shall bear the name and address of the person placing or posting the sign in print not smaller than 12 point font. The information identifying the name and address of the person placing or posting the sign is not required to be included within the content of the speakers' message, but may be placed on the underside of the sign or in any other such location.
 - g. New plats may have up to a maximum of eight plat directional signs for all new homes within the subdivision. New plat directional signs shall identify the plat and may provide directional information but shall not identify individual real estate brokers or agents. New plat directional signs shall be limited in size and manner of display to that allowed for off-premises open house or directional signs. Off-premises open house or directional signs shall not be permitted for new homes within new plats.
 - h. A maximum of three off-premises open house or directional signs shall be allowed per condominium or apartment complex.
16. Professional name plates two square feet or less.
17. Changing plex-style faces in existing cabinets; provided, work is done on-site without removing sign.
18. Temporary public event signs not exceeding 12 square feet, and temporary event banners, placed on publicly owned land or adjacent public right-of-way. Signs or banners shall be securely attached to the ground or a structure and must be removed after the event.

C. Prohibited signs. The following commercial signs are prohibited, except as may be otherwise provided by this chapter:

1. Signs or sign structures which, by coloring, wording, lighting, location, or design, resemble or conflict with a traffic control sign or device, or which make use of words, phrases, symbols, or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse persons traveling on the right-of-way or which, in any way, create a traffic hazard as determined by the City Engineer or his or her designee.
2. Signs which create a safety hazard by obstructing the clear view of pedestrians or vehicular traffic, or which obstruct a clear view of official signs or signals as determined by the City Engineer or his or her designee.
3. Signs, temporary or otherwise, which are affixed to a tree, rock, fence, lamppost, or bench; however, construction, directional, and incidental signs may be affixed to a fence or lamppost.
4. Any sign attached to a utility pole, excluding official signs as determined by Tacoma Public Utilities.
5. Signs on public property, except when authorized by the appropriate public agency.
6. Signs attached to or placed on any stationary vehicle or trailer so as to be visible from a public right-of-way for the purpose of providing advertisement of services or products or for the purpose of directing people to a business. This provision shall not apply to the identification of a firm or its principal products on operable vehicles operating in the normal course of business. Public transit buses and licensed taxis are exempt from this restriction.
7. Roof signs, except where incorporated into a building to provide an overall finished appearance.
8. All portable signs not securely attached to the ground or a building, including readerboards and A-frames on trailers, except those allowed by the regulations of the appropriate zoning district.
9. Abandoned or dilapidated signs.
10. Portable readerboard signs.
11. Inflatable signs and blimps.

12. Digital Billboards.

13. Off-premises signs, except pursuant to Section 13.06.521.L.

D. Special regulations by type of sign. In addition to the general requirements for all signs contained in this section, and the specific requirements for signs in each zone, there are special requirements for the following types of signs: Wall signs; Projecting signs; Freestanding signs; Electronic changing message center signs; Under-Canopy and Blade Signs; Canopy and awning signs; Temporary signs; Off-premises direction signs; and Billboards.

The special requirements for these signs are contained in subsections E through M of this section.

E. Wall Signs. Special regulations governing wall signs are as follows:

1. A wall-mounted sign shall not extend above the wall to which attached or above the roofline.
2. A wall sign shall not extend more than 18 inches from the wall to which it is attached.
3. No wall sign shall cover wholly or partially any wall opening nor project beyond the corner of the wall to which it is attached.
4. Where a wall sign extends over a public or private walkway, a vertical clearance of eight feet shall be maintained above such walkway.
5. For the purposes of this subsection, any building with an actual or false mansard roof may use such walls or roof for wall sign installation.
6. An architectural blade designed primarily for the placement of signs may be erected on top of a wall, parapet, roof, or building face and shall comply with all applicable height limitations. All supporting structure for such signs shall be completely enclosed.
7. Painted signs, on the building, shall be calculated with the allowed sign area for a business.

F. Projecting signs. Special regulations governing projecting signs are as follows (Note, for the purposes of this section, Blade Signs and Under Canopy Signs are not considered projecting signs and thus, are regulated under 13.06.521.I.)

1. No projecting sign shall extend nearer than two feet to the face of the nearest curb line, measured horizontally.
2. The maximum projection permitted for any one sign shall be six and one-half feet or two-thirds of the width of the sidewalk below the location of the projecting sign, whichever is less.
3. A projecting sign shall not rise above the roofline or the wall to which it is attached.

4. Minimum clearance. All projecting signs over the public right-of-way shall have a minimum clearance to the ground as follows:

- a. Over alleys and driveways, 14-1/2 feet; provided, said projection is no more than 12 inches;
 - b. Over automobile parking lots and other similar areas where vehicles are moved or stored, 14-1/2 feet;
 - c. Over footpaths, sidewalks, and other spaces accessible to pedestrians, eight feet;
 - d. All parts of electric reflector lamps or other illuminating devices extending over the sidewalk space shall be at least ten feet above the sidewalk, and the projection horizontally over the sidewalk space may not be more than six and one-half feet, but no closer than two feet from the curb line.
5. No projecting sign shall be erected in such a position as to completely block visibility of another projecting sign already in place on either side.
6. All projecting signs shall be installed in such a manner that the support structure above a roof, building face, or wall shall be minimally visible.
7. Supporting framework for a projecting sign may rise 12 inches above a parapet; however, where there is a space between the edge of the sign and the building face, such framework must be enclosed.

G. Freestanding signs. Special regulations governing freestanding signs are as follows:

1. No freestanding sign shall be located within 15 feet of a residentially-zoned district, and where the side of a commercially zoned property abuts the side of a residentially-zoned property the first 100 feet of the commercial frontage shall have a sign setback requirement of 15 feet.
2. Minimum clearance. All freestanding signs shall have a minimum clearance to the ground as follows:
 - a. Over parking lots and other similar areas where vehicles are moved or stored, 14-1/2 feet;
 - b. Over footpaths, sidewalks, and other spaces accessible to pedestrians, eight feet.
3. Signs shall be located upon the frontage for which the sign area is calculated.
4. No freestanding sign shall project over a public right-of-way, unless an adjacent structure or sign is built out to or over the property line that blocks visibility to a freestanding sign on the adjoining property; then, such freestanding sign may be located so that the sign structure is on private property and the sign cabinet may project over the right-of-way, subject to all the provisions regulating projecting signs which project over rights-of-way.
5. Signs placed on public property and/or right-of-way, abutting the business for which they identify, will require a Street Occupancy Permit. Sign regulations shall be determined by the zoning district of the abutting property.

H. Electronic changing message center signs. Electronic changing message center signs may either be attached to buildings or freestanding signs, and in addition to all other applicable sign regulations the following are special regulations governing electronic changing message center signs. When a conflict exists between these regulations and other regulations outlined throughout the sign code, the more restrictive shall apply:

1. Freestanding electronic changing message center signs cannot exceed 15 feet in height. Such signs located on sites defined as a Regional Public Convention & Entertainment Facility and super regional mall sites are exempt from this limitation.
2. One Digital Changing Message Center sign is allowed per site. The maximum allowed sign area for any electronic changing message center sign shall be limited to 75% of the area that would be allowed outright in the zoning district it is located in, or 30 square feet, whichever is less. Such signs located on sites defined as a regional public convention & entertainment facility and super regional mall sites are exempt from this limitation.
3. Electronic changing message center signs shall never flash, flicker, scroll, animate, depict movement or provide video. The frequency of picture/message change for an electronic changing message center sign shall not be less than 12 seconds per message.
4. The brightness of an electronic changing message center sign shall not exceed .3 foot candles over ambient light levels at any given time. Such signs shall be equipped with a sensor and automatic dimmer/light adjuster to ensure compliance with this requirement. When brightness is deemed a traffic safety hazard or is deemed a nuisance, the brightness of such sign shall be reduced to a level determined by the Director.
5. Electronic Changing Message Center signs shall not operate between 10 PM and 6 AM. Businesses located outside of a residential district that are open beyond these hours may have such signs on between 10 PM and 6 AM, but in no instance may such sign be on when the business is closed. Such signs shall be equipped with an automatic timer or sensor that turns the sign

off and on to ensure compliance with this requirement. Such signs located on sites defined as a regional public convention & entertainment facility and super regional mall sites are exempt from this limitation.

6. Electronic changing message center signs shall only provide advertising for goods and services that are available on-site. Advertising for other businesses and services that are off-site shall be prohibited.

I. Under-canopy and blade signs.

1. Under-canopy signs shall be considered “blade signs” for the purposes of sign area calculation.

2. Each business is allowed one individual blade sign or under canopy sign as-of-right, up to eight square feet in area. Such signs shall not be counted against the business’ allowed sign area.

3. An under-canopy sign may project the full width of such feature. Such a sign shall not exceed eight square feet in area unless otherwise allowed in the district.

4. A blade sign may project a maximum of 3 ½ feet from the building face.

5. Both blade and under-canopy signs are limited to a maximum sign thickness of 12 inches.

6. Both blade and under-canopy signs must meet all minimum clearance requirements for projecting signs.

7. Such signs shall be illuminated only by indirect lighting.

J. Canopy and awning signs. Special regulations governing canopy and awning signs are as follows:

1. Signs are permitted along the faces and edges of canopies and awnings; provided, they are printed, marked, stamped, or otherwise impressed upon the awning in a professional manner.

2. Signs designed as an integral part of a canopy or awning and located along the face or edge may be illuminated. Sign area calculation shall include all illuminated areas, except that area providing illumination to the sidewalk below.

3. Signs located on canopies and awnings shall designate only the name of the business and/or the place and kind of business. A decorative design and/or the emblem or initials of the business occupying the premises may be placed flat on the main portions of the canopy or awning.

4. Awnings and canopies may extend over public property, but no portion of any awning or canopy shall extend nearer than two feet to the face of the nearest curb line, measured horizontally. Awnings shall project a minimum of three feet and not more than seven feet, when over public property, from the face of the supporting building. Canopies shall not extend more than 11 feet, when over public property, from the face of the supporting building.

5. Awnings and canopies shall maintain a minimum clearance of eight feet and shall not extend above 15 feet in overall height from grade to top of awning or canopy. Awnings and canopies shall not rise above the wall, roofline, or parapet to which it is attached.

6. Awnings and canopies which have support systems attached to public property, right-of-way or sidewalk will require a Street Occupancy Permit.

K. Temporary signs. Special regulations governing temporary signs are as follows:

1. The duration of display of a temporary sign shall not exceed six months in any 12-month period, unless otherwise noted.

2. No flashing temporary signs of any type shall be permitted.

3. All temporary signs must be authorized by the public or private property owner.

4. All temporary signs shall be securely fastened and positioned in place so as not to constitute a hazard to pedestrians or motorists.

5. No temporary sign shall project over or into a public right-of-way or property except properly authorized banners over streets (see Title 9).

6. All temporary signs shall meet vehicular sight distance requirements established by the Traffic Engineer.

7. The regulations governing the size, number, and type of temporary signs are located in Section 13.06.522.

L. Off-premises directional signs. Special regulations governing off-premises directional signs are as follows:

1. Off-premises directional signs shall be limited to a maximum of 15 square feet in area and 6 feet in height.

2. Off-premises directional signs shall contain only the name of the principal use and directions to the use in permanent lettering.

3. Off-premises directional signs shall be placed on or over private property, except that business district identification signs may be located and comply with the applicable requirements of Title 9.
4. Off-premises directional signs are permitted when on-premises signs are inadequate to identify the location of a business. If applicable, only one such sign shall be allowed.

M. Billboards. Special regulations governing billboards are as follows:

1. a. New billboard faces. Any new billboard must be installed in compliance with this chapter. In no case shall the number of billboard faces, associated structures, and total square footage of billboards as defined by this code exceed that in existence on August 1, 2011. This number shall include billboard faces for which relocation permits are held. Further, this number shall be reduced on March 1, 2012, by the number and square footage of nonconforming billboard faces in existence upon passage of this code.

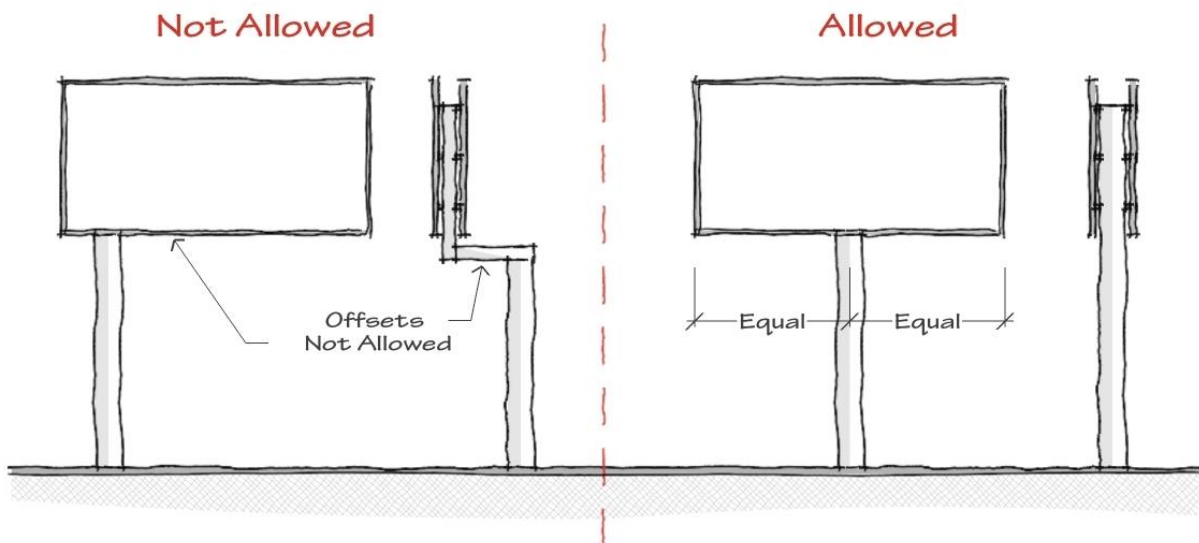
b. Expiration of relocation permits. Relocation permits issued pursuant to TMC 13.06.521.M prior to its amendment on September 1, 2011, related to the removal of nonconforming billboards, shall expire on September 1, 2012 or within 6 months of issuance, whichever is later.

c. Demolition. Removal of all faces from a billboard structure shall also require the issuance of a demolition permit for the structure itself and removal of billboard faces (and their associated structures, if necessary) shall be completed prior to the construction of new or relocated billboard faces. Structures removed shall be removed to grade and the grade restored at the site.

2. Maintenance. All billboards, including paint and structural members, shall be maintained in good repair and in compliance with all applicable building code requirements. Billboards shall be kept clean and free of debris. The exposed area of backs of billboards must be covered to present an attractive and finished appearance. Failure to maintain the billboard or its structure, including exterior painting, shall constitute a violation of this section and be subject to strict enforcement under the Land Use Code Enforcement procedures and penalties (Section 13.05.100), which may include removal by the City at the expense of the property owner, sign owner, or permittee.

3. Design standards. The following design standards apply to all billboards.

- a. Each sign structure must, at all times, include a facing of proper dimensions to conceal back bracing and framework of structural members and/or any electrical equipment. During periods of repair, alteration, or copy change, such facing may be removed for a maximum period of 48 consecutive hours.
- b. No more than two billboard faces shall be located on a single structure.
- c. Billboard faces located on the same structure shall be positioned back-to-back (i.e., their backs shall be parallel to each other) and within five (5) degrees of perpendicular to the roadway from which they are to be viewed.
- d. Billboard faces must be in line with the support structure and no cantilevered design will be approved (see diagram below).



e. The billboard face or structure must be located within ten (10) feet of the property line which fronts the roadway from which the billboard is to be viewed.

f. No billboard can be located in such a way so that any portion of the sign face or structure is above a building.

g. No billboard may be constructed on a site where there is a freestanding sign.

4. **Landscaping.** The following standards apply to all billboards installed after August 1, 2011.

a. No code-required landscaping may be diminished for the installation of a billboard.

b. When the base of the billboard support is visible from the adjacent sidewalk and/or street the support shall be surrounded with a 5-foot-wide landscaping buffer composed of shrubs and groundcover not to exceed 36-inches in mature height.

c. Any alteration to any street tree (removal or pruning) is subject to City review and approval.

5. **Dispersal.** Billboard faces not located on the same structure shall be a minimum of 500 feet apart, including billboards which may be located outside the City limits.

6. **Size.** The maximum area of any one sign shall be 300 square feet, with a maximum vertical sign face dimension of 12 feet and maximum length of 25 feet, inclusive of any border and trim, but excluding the base or apron, supports, and other structural members; provided, cut-outs and extensions may add up to 20 percent of additional sign area.

7. **Lighting.**

a. No internally illuminated billboards are allowed.

b. All lighting must be shielded to maintain light on the subject property.

c. Lighting shall be directed toward the billboard and utilize cutoff shields or other means to prevent glare and spillover onto adjacent properties or skyward.

d. No flashing billboards shall be permitted.

e. Signs shall not imitate or resemble traffic control devices.

8. **Buffering - Sensitive uses/areas.** No billboard shall be located on, in, or within 500 feet of the following, whether within or outside the Tacoma City Limits:

a. A residential district;

b. A mixed-use district (X-district);

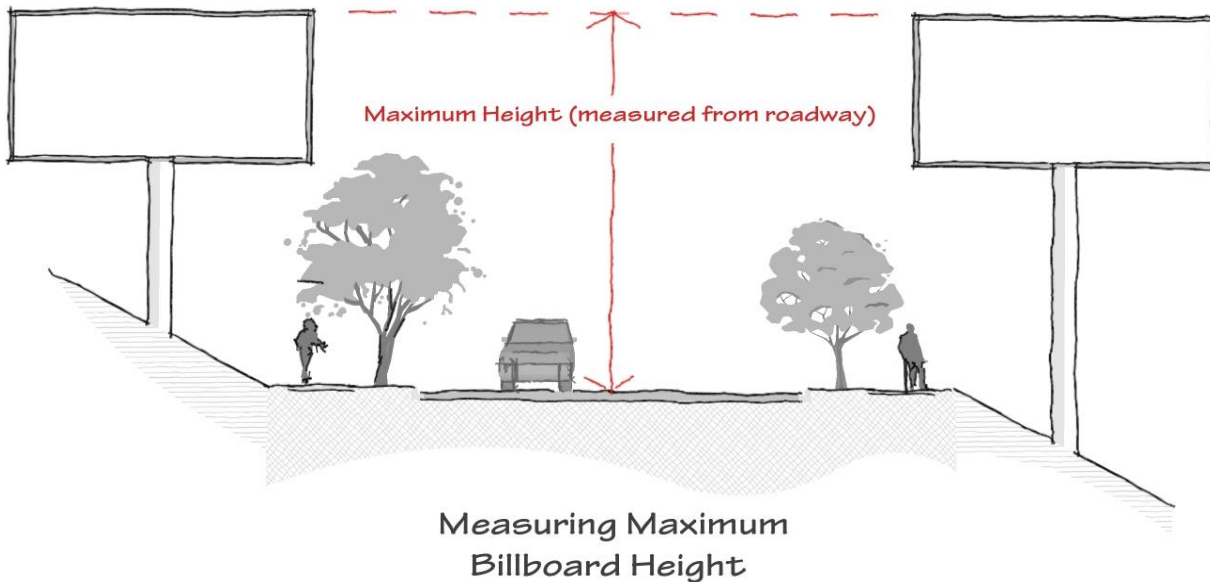
c. Any publicly-owned open space, playground, park, or recreational property, as recognized in the adopted Open Space Habitat and Recreation Element, as amended;

d. Any religious institution or primary or secondary school; or

e. Any designated historic or conservation district, whether on the federal, state, or local register of historic properties.

f. Any shoreline district.

9. **The maximum height of all billboard signs shall be 30 feet, except in the PMI District, where the maximum height shall be 45 feet.** For the purpose of this section, height shall be the distance to the top of the normal display face from the main traveled way of the road from which the sign is to be viewed (see diagram below).



10. Location – Billboards shall only be allowed in the C-2, M-1, M-2, and PMI zoning districts.

N. Nonconforming signs. It is the intent of this subsection to allow the continued existence of legal nonconforming signs, subject, however, to the following restrictions:

1. No sign that had previously been erected in violation of any City Code shall, by virtue of the adoption of this section, become a legal nonconforming sign.
2. No nonconforming sign shall be changed, expanded, or altered in any manner which would increase the degree of its nonconformity, or be structurally altered to prolong its useful life, or be moved, in whole or in part, to any other location where it would increase its nonconformity. However, a legal nonconforming on-premises sign may be altered if the degree of nonconformity for height and sign area is decreased by 25 percent or greater. Further, a legal nonconforming on-premises sign may be relocated to a different portion of the site so long as it doesn't become further non-conforming to any separation, setback, or location standard. For purposes of this subsection, normal maintenance and repair, including painting, cleaning, or replacing damaged parts of a sign, shall not be considered a structural alteration.
3. Any sign which is discontinued for a period of 90 consecutive days, regardless of any intent to resume or not to abandon such use, shall be presumed to be abandoned and shall not, thereafter, be reestablished, except in full compliance with this chapter. Any period of such discontinuance caused by government actions, strikes, material shortages, acts of God, and without any contributing fault by the sign user, shall not be considered in calculating the length of discontinuance for purposes of this section.
4. Any nonconforming sign damaged or destroyed, by any means, to the extent of one-half of its replacement cost new shall be terminated and shall not be restored.

5. All existing billboards within the City which are not in compliance with the requirements of this section on September 1, 2011, are considered to be nonconforming billboards. In addition to the provisions of TMC 13.06.521 N.6, nonconforming billboards shall be made to conform with the requirements of this section under the following circumstances:

- a. When any substantial alteration is proposed on a premises upon which is located a nonconforming billboard, the billboard shall be removed or brought into conformance with this section. For purposes of this provision, "substantial alteration" means all alterations within a two-year period whose cumulative value exceeds 200% of the value of the existing development or structure, as determined by the applicable Building Code, excluding purchase costs of the property and/or structure.
- b. Whenever a building, or portion thereof, to which a nonconforming billboard is attached (such as upon the roof or attached to a wall), is proposed to be expanded and/or remodeled, all nonconforming billboards shall be removed or brought into compliance with this section if the value of the alterations within any two-year period is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the value of the existing building, as determined by the Building Code, excluding purchase costs of the property and/or structure.

6. Amortization. All legal nonconforming billboard signs shall be discontinued and removed or made conforming on or before March 1, 2012, and all billboards, which are made nonconforming by a subsequent amendment to this section, shall be

discontinued and removed or made conforming within ten years after the date of such amendment (collectively the “amortization period”). Upon the expiration of the amortization period, the billboard shall be brought into conformance with this section, with a permit obtained, or be removed. Failure to remove a nonconforming billboard by the above date will result in enforcement action being taken pursuant to TMC 13.05.100.

O. Sign variances. Refer to Section 13.06.645.B.5.

P. Section 2. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter or its application to any person or situation should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this Chapter or its application to any other person or situation.

(Ord. 28157 Ex. F; passed Jun. 25, 2013; Ord. 28109 Ex. O; passed Dec. 4, 2012; Ord. 28077 Ex. C; passed Jun. 12, 2012; Ord. 28009 Ex. A; passed Aug. 9, 2011; Ord. 27995 Ex. D; passed Jun. 14, 2011; Ord. 27912 Ex. A; passed Aug. 10, 2010; Ord. 27893 Ex. A; passed Jun. 15, 2010; Ord. 27813 Ex. D; passed Jun. 30, 2009; Ord. 27562 Ex. A; passed Dec. 12, 2006; Ord. 27245 § 15; passed Jun. 22, 2004; Ord. 27079 § 39; passed Apr. 29, 2003; Ord. 26933 § 1; passed Mar. 5, 2002)

13.06.522 District sign regulations.

A. R-1 Sign regulations. One non-illuminated sign, not exceeding 12 square feet in area shall be allowed pertaining to the lease, rental, or sale of a building or premises on which it is located. One non-illuminated nameplate, not exceeding one and one-half square feet in area, placed flat against the building, shall be allowed for each adult family home, staffed residential home, group home, residential care facility, and family day care home. One ground sign shall be allowed, with a maximum area of 30 square feet identifying a subdivision. A subdivision identification sign shall be approved by the Director. A 32-square-foot temporary sign advertising a subdivision during construction shall be allowed adjacent to each street abutting the site, in conformance with Chapter 13.04.

Parks, recreation and open space uses on sites that are under one acre in size or which have less than 100 feet of street frontage are allowed the following non-illuminated signs:

- One ground sign with a maximum area of 30 feet;
- Interpretive or directional signs not more than 7 feet in height and 20 feet in sign area.

Parks, recreation and open space uses on sites over one acre in area that have a minimum of 100 feet of street frontage shall be allowed the following:

- One freestanding sign, not exceeding 40 square feet in area per face and not greater than 8 feet in height (or, up to 15 feet in height in association with conditional parks and recreation uses);
- One building face sign, of the same maximum dimension. Building face signs shall not extend above or beyond the edge of any wall or other surface to which they are attached, nor shall they extend more than 12 inches beyond the surface to which they are attached.
- One additional ground sign with a maximum area of 30 square feet shall be allowed on each additional street frontage.
- Interpretive or directional signs, not to exceed 7 feet in height and 30 square feet in sign area.
- All signs shall meet the lighting, materials and location requirements applicable to signs for conditional uses in residential districts, as contained in this section.

B. R-2 Sign Regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as stated for the R-1 Single-Family Dwelling District, except that one non-illuminated nameplate not exceeding one and one-half square feet in area, placed flat against the building, shall be allowed for each boarding home.

C. R-2SRD, NRX and HMR-SRD Sign Regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as stated for the R-2 Single-Family Dwelling District, except that boarding and lodging houses shall be allowed one non-illuminated nameplate not exceeding one and one-half square feet in area, placed flat against the building.

D. R-3 Sign regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as stated for the R-2 Single-Family Dwelling District, except that boarding and lodging houses shall be allowed one non-illuminated nameplate not exceeding one and one-half square feet in area placed flat against the building.

E. R-4 Sign Regulations.

1. One freestanding sign not exceeding 30 square feet in area for all faces and not greater than six feet in height, or one building face sign of the same maximum dimensions, shall be allowed for each development site.

2. Indirect illumination, floodlighting, or internal illumination shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No bare bulb or neon illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing or animated signs shall be allowed. No electrical wire or cable serving an electric or illuminated sign shall be laid on the surface of the ground.

3. Signs shall only identify the name of the development or business and may contain secondary information related to rental or sale of units. Public identification signs may be placed upon public service structures such as telephone booths and bus shelters.

4. All signs shall be of permanent materials (no cardboard, cloth, paper, etc.). No flags, banners, or other devices shall be displayed for the purpose of attracting attention to a development or site. No temporary or portable signs shall be allowed. The display of the national flag, state flag, and flags of other political subdivisions shall not be restricted.

5. No sign shall be placed in a location which obstructs sight distance for an adjacent driveway or street right-of-way. No signs for a development shall be placed in any public right-of-way. No sign shall be erected which imitates or resembles any official traffic sign, signal, or device. Incidental public service signs less than four square feet in area, which contain no advertising but are intended for the convenience of the public and provide such messages as "entrance," "exit," "emergency entrance," "no parking," or other incidental service messages, shall be allowed.

6. All signs shall be submitted for review by Planning and Development Services, as required by the Building Code and the Electrical Sign Code. Additionally, the proposed design of all signs shall be submitted to Planning and Development Services prior to construction for review to ensure conformance with the standards listed hereinabove.

F. R-4-L sign regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as stated for the R-4 Multiple-Family Dwelling District.

G. R-5 sign regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as stated for the R-4 Multiple-Family Dwelling District.

H. PRD sign regulations. Sign regulations shall be the same as specified herein for the R-4 Multiple-Family Dwelling District. Design of signs shall be submitted with development plans at the time of site approval for review and approval of the Hearing Examiner. A single identification sign for the overall development shall be allowed at each major access to the PRD District; provided, only one overall development sign shall be allowed adjacent to each -frontage of the PRD District, irrespective of the fact that more than one major access may enter said right-of-way.

I. Sign regulations for conditional uses in residential districts and specified uses in all districts.

1. Application. The following regulations apply to conditional uses as designated. These regulations also apply to the uses noted as permitted uses in any district when the provisions below provide the greater sign allowance, in whole or in part.

2. For conditional uses in residential districts limited to public park facilities, public and private schools, and religious assembly facilities, which are on sites that are over one acre in area and have a minimum of 100 feet of street frontage: one freestanding sign, not exceeding 40 square feet in area per face and not greater than 15 feet in height, and one building face sign, of the same maximum dimension, shall be allowed for each conditional use. One additional ground sign with a maximum area of 30 square feet shall be allowed on each additional street frontage. Building face signs shall not extend above or beyond the edge of any wall or other surface to which they are attached, nor shall they extend more than 12 inches beyond the surface to which they are attached.

3. For public and private schools, public park facilities, and churches which are on sites less than one acre or sites with less than 100 feet of frontage, as well as for all other conditional uses in residential districts: one freestanding sign, not exceeding 30 square feet in area for all faces and not greater than six feet in height, and one building face sign, of the same maximum dimensions for each conditional use; provided, the total area for the freestanding and building face signs may not exceed 30 square feet. Building face signs shall not extend above or beyond the edge of any wall or other surface to which they are attached, nor shall they extend more than 12 inches beyond the surface to which they are attached.

4. Lighting. Indirect illumination, floodlighting, or internal illumination shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No bare bulb or neon illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing or animated signs shall be allowed. No electric wire or cable serving an electric or illuminated sign shall be laid on the surface of the ground.

5. All signs shall be of permanent materials (no cardboard, cloth, paper, etc.). No flags, banners, or other devices shall be displayed for the purpose of attracting attention to a development or site. No temporary or portable signs shall be allowed. The display of the national flag, state flag, and flags of other political subdivisions shall not be restricted.

6. No sign shall be placed in a location which obstructs sight distance for an adjacent driveway or street right-of-way. No signs for a development shall be placed in any public right-of-way. No sign shall be erected which imitates or resembles any official traffic sign, signal, or device. Incidental public service signs less than four square feet in area which contain no advertising, but are intended for the convenience of the public and provide such messages as "entrance," "exit," "emergency entrance," "no parking," or other incidental service messages, shall be allowed.

7. For conditional uses in residential districts, freestanding signs larger than 30 square feet for all faces or taller than six feet shall be located a minimum of 50 feet from a lot occupied by a single-family residence. Freestanding signs for conditional uses may be constructed to the front property line.

8. In addition to the signage otherwise permitted, one sponsor identification logo sign may be included on a freestanding or wall sign for a conditional use. The sponsor identification logo shall not be internally illuminated and shall be limited to a maximum of one square foot per sign face.

[See next page for table.]

Tacoma Municipal Code

Section 13.06.522.J	DCC, DMU	WR	DR
Signage Allocation			
<i>Total sign area allocation for signs attached to buildings and freestanding signs</i>	<i>Each business, 1-1/2 square feet per 1 foot building or street frontage on which the sign(s) will be located (area is calculated from frontage occupied by the business it identifies).</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>1 square foot per 1 foot of building frontage occupied by the business.</i>
Signs Attached to Buildings			
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>Each business allowed 2 signs per frontage, but no more than 3 signs total for the business, no maximum number for public facility over 5 acres.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Maximum area per sign</i>	<i>Non-residential, 150 square feet per sign. Public facility over 5 acres, 300 square feet. Residential, 20 square feet.</i>	<i>Non-residential, 200 square feet per sign. Residential, 20 square feet.</i>	<i>Non-residential, 100 square feet per sign. Residential, 20 square feet.</i>
<i>Minimum sign area</i>	<i>First floor, 30 square feet. Second floor, 25 square feet.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Wall</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.06.521.E shall apply. Shall not exceed 35 feet above grade level, except for 1 corporate logo sign of 150 square feet allowed per building above 35 feet. Public facility over 5 acres not limited to 35 feet above grade.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as WR, except no corporate logo allowed.</i>
<i>Awning, canopy, marquee, under marquee</i>	<i>Provisions of Sections 13.06.521.H, I, and J shall apply.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Projecting</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.06.521.F shall apply with one per building allowed if no freestanding sign exists on the same frontage, shall not extend above 35 feet. Public facility over 5 acres not limited to 35 feet above grade.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Blade, under-canopy</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.521.I shall apply. 1 per business, shall not exceed 8 square feet per side, shall be illuminated only by indirect lighting, maximum projection of 3-1/2 feet, maximum wide thickness of 12 inches, and shall maintain a minimum clearance of 8 feet above the sidewalk. Area increase of 25% when using symbolic shape, rather than rectangle or square.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Rooftop signs</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
Billboards	Prohibited.	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Freestanding Signs			
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per street frontage, per site not use and no more than 2 per site. 1 per street frontage(s) for public facility over 5 acres.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Maximum area per sign</i>	<i>30 square feet. 300 square feet for public facility over 5 acres.</i>	<i>100 square feet.</i>	<i>30 square feet.</i>

Tacoma Municipal Code

Section 13.06.522.J	DCC, DMU	WR	DR
<i>When not allowed</i>	<i>When building signage exceeds the sign area limit, not allowed on the same frontage as a projecting sign.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Maximum height</i>	<i>6 feet. 30 feet for public facility over 5 acres.</i>	<i>20 feet.</i>	<i>6 feet.</i>
<i>Directionals</i>	<i>Shall be limited to 4 feet in height.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Setback</i>	<i>None, but signs shall be on private property.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
Billboards	Prohibited.	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Sign Features			
<i>Lighting</i>	<i>Indirect, internal illumination, neon, and bare bulb allowed.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Bare bulb illumination prohibited.</i>
<i>Rotating, mechanized</i>	<i>Allowed.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Flashing, animated</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Electronic changing message center</i>	<i>Allowed. Refer to TMC 13.06.524.H for additional regulations.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
Temporary Signs			
<i>A-boards</i>	<i>2 permitted each business, shall not exceed 12 square feet in area nor 4 feet in height and shall not be placed on sidewalks less than 12 feet in width.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Banners</i>	<i>1 banner per business with a 60 square feet maximum displayed no longer than 6 months per year. Banners for cultural purposes shall not exceed 400 square feet and are not limited in number or duration.</i>	<i>1 banner per business with a 60 square feet maximum displayed no longer than 6 months per year.</i>	<i>Not allowed.</i>
<i>Feather Signs</i>	<i>Prohibited. Feather Signs are prohibited in all Downtown zones except for the following: a) Feather Signs identifying an accessory retail outlet co-located with a manufacturing facility. In this instance two feather signs are authorized per business. b) One special event per business once every two years. In this instance two feather signs are authorized for no more than 15 consecutive days. c) When associated with a use not located in private property such as food carts or car sharing services. Feather Signs must be located on private property unless a City street occupancy permit is secured.</i>	<i>Same as DCC</i>	<i>Same as DCC</i>
<i>Flags</i>	<i>Shall be on private property, no advertising allowed except logos.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>
<i>Window signs</i>	<i>Exempt, but shall not exceed 25 percent of the window area.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>

Tacoma Municipal Code

Section 13.06.522.J	DCC, DMU	WR	DR
<i>Searchlights, beacons</i>	<i>1 allowed per site, displayed no longer than 7 days per year. No restrictions during an event for public facility over 5 acres.</i>	<i>Same as DCC.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Temporary off-premises advertising signs</i>	<i>Section 13.06.521.C shall apply, except public facility sites in the DCC and DMU Districts shall be allowed temporary advertising signs of 32 square feet, including banners not to exceed 160 square feet, attached to temporary fencing during the time of construction.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>

Section 13.06.522.K	C-2, CIX, CCX, UCX, M-1, M-2, PMI	C-1
Signage Allocation		
Maximum total sign area	Wall signage, 1 square foot per 1 linear foot of the building frontage with the public entrance. Freestanding signage, 1 square foot per 1 linear foot of street frontage(s).	Same as C-2.
Signs Attached to Buildings		
Maximum number	3 per business, 25 percent allocation allowed on building wall(s) without a public entrance. (Note: 50 percent is allowed provided only 2 signs are installed at the business.) No maximum number for public facility over 5 acres.	Same as C-2.
Maximum area per sign	200 square feet. 400 square feet for public facility over 5 acres.	100 square feet.
Minimum sign area	Each business allowed 30 square feet regardless of frontage.	Same as C-2.
Wall	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.E shall apply.	Same as C-2.
Awning, canopy, marquee, under-marquee	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.H, I, and J shall apply.	Same as C-2.
Projecting	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.F shall apply, maximum projection 6-1/2 feet. Single business, in lieu of freestanding sign. Multi-business, not allowed.	Same as C-2.
Blade, under-canopy	Provisions of Section 13.521.I shall apply. 1 per business, shall not exceed 8 square feet per side, shall be illuminated only by indirect lighting, maximum projection of 3-1/2 feet, maximum wide thickness of 12 inches, and shall maintain a minimum clearance of 8 feet above the sidewalk. Area increase of 25% when using symbolic shape, rather than rectangle or square.	Same as C-2.
Roof signs	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Billboards	Allowed only in C-2, M-1, M-2, and PMI. Provisions of Section 13.06.521.M shall apply.	Prohibited.
Freestanding Signs		
Maximum number	1 per street frontage, each 300 feet considered separate street frontage, corner sites require a minimum 300 feet on both frontages for an additional sign.	Same as C-2.
Maximum area per sign	200 square feet (additional 100 square feet allowed for name of shopping center), sites with freeway frontage shall not exceed 75 percent of the maximum allowed. 400 square feet for public facility over 5 acres.	100 square feet.
When not allowed	No freestanding sign shall be on same frontage as a projecting sign.	Same as C-2.
Maximum height	35 feet maximum; signs located 300 feet or less from residential district shall not exceed height of building it identifies. Sign height for site with freeway frontage is prohibited to exceed height of building it identifies. 45 feet for public facility over 5	6 feet for sites with less than 100 feet of frontage, 15 feet for sites with frontage between 100 feet and 300 feet, no sign shall exceed the

Section 13.06.522.J	DCC, DMU	WR	DR
	<i>acres.</i>		<i>height of the building it identifies.</i>
<i>Directionals</i>	<i>Shall be limited to 4 feet in height, except 15 feet shall be allowed in PMI.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Off-premises directionals</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.06.521.L shall apply, except 25 square feet shall be allowed in PMI with a maximum height of 15 feet and a maximum number of four per business.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Setback</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.06.521.G shall apply, minimum 200 feet separation from other freestanding signs, sites with freeway frontage shall locate signs on the abutting parallel frontage, no signs shall be allowed adjacent to the freeway.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
Billboards	Allowed only in C-2, M-1, M-2, and PMI. Provisions of Section 13.06.521.M shall apply.		Prohibited.
Sign Features			
<i>Lighting</i>	<i>Indirect, internal illumination, neon and bare bulb allowed.</i>		<i>Bare bulb illumination prohibited.</i>
<i>Rotating, mechanized</i>	<i>Allowed.</i>		<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Flashing, animated</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>		<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Electronic changing message center</i>	<i>Allowed, but prohibited on Pedestrian Streets and Core Pedestrian Streets, as defined in 13.06.300.C, 13.06.200., and 13.06.521.H.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
Temporary Signs			
<i>A-boards</i>	<i>In the CIX District, 2 per business, 12 square feet per side, 4 feet in height. Such signs may be located off-site, but must remain within the same Mixed-Use Center in which the business is located. For all other districts, 1 per business, on private property, 12 square feet per side, 4 feet height.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Banners</i>	<i>1 per business, 60 square feet maximum, 6 months per year. Banners for cultural purposes shall not exceed 400 square feet and are not limited in number or duration.</i>		<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Feather Signs</i>	<i>1 per 50 feet of street frontage, per site, with maximum of 2 signs per street frontage. Each sign allowed up to 12 square feet in area and ten feet in height. Shall be located on private property.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Flags, pennants</i>	<i>Shall be on private property, no advertising allowed, except logos.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Window signs</i>	<i>Exempt, but shall not exceed 25 percent of the window area.</i>		<i>Same as C-2.</i>
<i>Searchlights, beacons</i>	<i>One allowed per site, displayed no longer than 7 days per year. No restrictions during an event for public facility over 5 acres.</i>		<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Temporary off-premises advertising signs</i>	<i>Provisions of Section 13.06.521.C shall apply.</i>		<i>Prohibited.</i>

13.06.522.L	T, NCX, URX, Non-Residential Districts with VSD	HM, HMX
Signage Allocation		
Maximum total sign area	1-1/2 square feet per 1 linear feet of building frontage abutting a street frontage, applies to the first 50 feet, with 1/2 square foot per 1 linear foot of building frontage over 50 feet.	HM and HMX sign regulations for use by hospitals only, all other uses in HM and HMX to follow T sign regulations.
Signs Attached to Buildings		
Maximum number	2 per primary frontage (1 may be ground sign), 1 per perpendicular frontage(s), 1 per alley frontage with a public entrance.	One per elevation.
Maximum area per sign	Shall not exceed size allocation on primary frontage, 50 square feet on perpendicular frontage(s), 25 square feet on alley frontage, 10 square feet on upper story or basement uses.	Identification signs at 75 square feet. Directional signs at 25 square feet.
Minimum sign area	30 square feet, except for upper story or basement uses.	
Wall	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.E shall apply.	Same as T.
Awning, canopy	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.J shall apply.	Same as T.
Blade, under-canopy	Provisions of Section 13.06.521. I shall apply. Indirect illumination only.	Same as T.
Projecting	40 square feet with frontage of at least 25 feet and not allowed on alleys, provisions of Section 13.06.521.F shall apply.	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.G shall apply.
Roof signs	Prohibited.	Same as T.
Billboards	Prohibited.	Same as T.
Freestanding Signs		
Maximum number	1 per site, sign area shared with building sign allocation (not allowed on an alley).	1 per right-of-way frontage or 1 per access, regardless the number of major accesses on one right-of-way frontage.
Maximum area per sign	30 square feet.	Identification or directory signs at 50 square feet. Directional signs at 25 square feet.
When not allowed	When the building signage has utilized the allowed sign area for wall signage or when a projection sign exists on the site.	N/A.
Maximum height	6 feet.	Identification or directory signs at 15 feet.
Directionals	Shall be limited to 4 feet in height.	Shall be limited to 6 feet in height.
Setback	None, but signs shall be on private property.	Same as T.
Billboards	Prohibited.	Same as T.

13.06.522.L	T, NCX, URX, Non-Residential Districts with VSD	HM, HMX
Sign Features		
<i>Lighting</i>	<i>Indirect, or internal illumination allowed. No bare bulb illumination allowed. All external lighting to be directed away from adjacent properties to minimize effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Rotating, mechanized</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Flashing, animated</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Electronic changing message center</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Allowed, but prohibited on pedestrian streets and core pedestrian streets as defined in 13.06.300.C.</i>
Temporary Signs		
<i>A-boards</i>	<i>In the NCX and URX districts, 2 per business, 12 square feet per side, 4 feet in height. Such signs may be located off-site, but must remain within the same Mixed-Use Center in which the business is located. For all other districts, 1 per business, on private property, 12 square feet per side, 4 feet heights.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Banners, pennants</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Banners allowed at 30 square feet.</i>
<i>Feather Signs</i>	<i>Prohibited, unless associated with use not located on private property such as food carts or caring sharing service. In such instances, only one allowed per business, 12 square feet in area and ten feet in height.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Flags</i>	<i>Prohibited, except for the national flag, state flag, flags of other political subdivisions.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Window signs</i>	<i>Exempt, but shall not exceed 25 percent of the window area.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Incidental public service signs</i>	<i>Less than 4 square feet, contains no advertising, intended to provide messages such as “no parking,” “exit,” “entrance,” etc.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>
<i>Searchlights, beacons</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Same as T.</i>

Section 13.06.522.M	PDB	RCX
Signage Allocation		
Maximum total sign area	Single business (wall signs), ½ square foot per 1 linear foot of building frontage.	1 square foot per 1 linear foot of building frontage abutting a street frontage, applies to the first 50 feet, with 1/2 square foot per 1 linear foot of building frontage over 50 ft.
Signs Attached to Buildings		
Maximum number	Single business, 1 per elevation, 2 total. Multi-business, 1 per business.	2 per primary frontage (1 may be a ground sign), 1 per perpendicular frontage(s), 1 per alley frontage with a public entrance.
Maximum area per sign	Single business, 75 square feet per elevation, total 150 square feet for all signs. Multi-business, 20 square feet.	30 square feet maximum on perpendicular frontage(s), but not to exceed size area allocation, 10 square feet on alley frontage, upper story and basement uses.
Minimum sign area	Single business, 30 square feet each business regardless of frontage. Multi-business, 20 square feet each business regardless of frontage.	20 square feet each business regardless of frontage.
Wall	Provisions of Section 13.06.521.E shall apply.	Same as PDB.
Awning, canopy, under-canopy	Provisions of Section 13.06.521. I and J shall apply.	Same as PDB.
Roof signs	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Billboards	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Freestanding Signs		
Maximum number	1 per site (single or multi-business) located in landscaped area.	1 per site (not allowed on an alley).
Maximum area per sign	30 square feet.	25 square feet.
Maximum height	6 feet.	4 feet.
Directionals	Shall be limited to 4 feet in height.	Same as PDB.
Setback	Minimum 5 feet from property lines.	None, but signs shall be on private property.
Billboards	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
Sign Features		
Lighting	Indirect or internal illumination allowed. No bare bulb or neon illumination allowed. All external lighting shall be directed away from adjacent properties to minimize effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses.	Same as PDB.
Rotating, mechanized	Prohibited.	Same as PDB.
Flashing	Prohibited.	Same as PDB.

Section 13.06.522.M	PDB	RCX
<i>Electronic changing message center</i>	<i>Allowed. Refer to 13.06.521.H for additional requirements.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
Temporary Signs		
<i>A-boards</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>2 per business, 12 square feet per side, 4 feet in height. Such signs may be located off-site, but must remain within the same Mixed-Use Center in which the business is located.</i>
<i>Banners, pennants</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Window signs</i>	<i>Exempt, but shall not exceed 25 percent of the window area.</i>	<i>Same as PDB.</i>
<i>Feather signs</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>
<i>Flags</i>	<i>Prohibited, except the national flag, state flag, flags of other political subdivisions.</i>	<i>Same as PDB.</i>
<i>Incidental public service signs</i>	<i>Less than 4 square feet, contains no advertising, intended to provide messages such as “no parking,” “exit,” “entrance,” etc.</i>	<i>Same as PDB.</i>
<i>Searchlights, beacons</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>	<i>Prohibited.</i>

Section 13.06.522.N	
1. Multiple-Family Residential	All Shoreline Districts
Signage Allocation	
<i>Total sign allocation</i>	<i>1 building or 1 freestanding sign per development site</i>
Signs Attached to Buildings	
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>20 square feet</i>
Freestanding Signs	
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>15 square feet per face</i>
<i>Maximum height</i>	<i>6 feet</i>
<i>Location</i>	<i>A freestanding sign may not be placed anywhere on a site where it significantly degrades a vista, viewpoint, or view shed presently available to the public, or impairs the visual access to the water from such view areas.</i>
Lighting	
<i>Lighting and illumination restrictions for signs attached to</i>	<i>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses.</i>

Section 13.06.522.N	
1. Multiple-Family Residential	All Shoreline Districts
<i>buildings and freestanding signs</i>	<i>No external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed, except that neon signs shall be allowed in the “S-8” Shoreline District. No flashing, revolving, fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be allowed.</i>

2. Commercial	S-7, S-9, and S-10 Districts	S-8 District	S-1a, S-1b, S-5, S-6, S-6/7, S-11, and S-15 Districts
Signage Allocation			
<i>Total sign allocation</i>	<i>1 building or 1 freestanding per development site</i> <i>Signs having both land and water access may have one sign facing landward and one facing waterward.</i>	<i>2 building signs on separate building elevations or 1 building and 1 freestanding sign</i> <i>Signs having both land and water access may have one sign facing landward and one facing waterward. Freestanding signs must be oriented landward.</i>	<i>1 building or 1 freestanding per development site</i> <i>Signs having both land and water access may have one sign facing landward and one facing waterward.</i>
<i>Maximum total sign area</i>		<i>Buildings containing one business are allowed .75 square-foot of sign area per lineal foot of building frontage.</i> <i>Buildings on development sites containing multiple buildings may calculate their sign area based on .75 square feet of sign area per lineal street frontage.</i>	
Signs Attached to Buildings			
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>	<i>2 signs, on separate building faces</i> <i>Buildings containing multiple businesses are allowed one additional non-freestanding sign for a total of 3 signs.</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>60 square feet</i>	<i>The maximum area for any sign is 75</i>	<i>60 square feet</i>

2. Commercial	S-7, S-9, and S-10 Districts	S-8 District	S-1a, S-1b, S-5, S-6, S-6/7, S-11, and S-15 Districts
		square feet.	
<i>Minimum sign area</i>	<i>One additional sign per tenant up to 6 square feet in area. This sign area is not included in the maximum sign area.</i>	<i>One additional sign per tenant up to 10 square feet in area. This sign area is not included in the maximum sign area.</i>	<i>One additional sign per tenant up to 6 square feet in area. This sign area is not included in the maximum sign area.</i>
<i>Freestanding Signs</i>			
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>	<i>1 per development site, oriented landward</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>45 square feet per face.</i>	<i>The maximum area for any sign is 75 square feet.</i>	<i>30 square feet per face</i>
<i>Maximum height</i>	<i>15 feet</i>	<i>20 feet</i>	<i>8 feet</i>
<i>Location</i>	<i>A freestanding sign may not be placed anywhere on a site where it significantly degrades a vista, viewpoint, or view shed presently available to the public, or impairs the visual access to the water from such view areas.</i>		
<i>A-board</i>		<i>One non-illuminated A-board sign up to 10 square feet in total area is allowed for each use; provided, that the sign does not obstruct designated public or vehicular access routes. This sign area is not included in the maximum sign area.</i>	
<i>Lighting</i>			
<i>Lighting and illumination restrictions for signs attached to buildings and freestanding signs</i>	<i>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing, revolving,</i>	<i>Neon signs are allowed. No other external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed.</i> <i>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to</i>	<i>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing, revolving, fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be</i>

2. Commercial	S-7, S-9, and S-10 Districts	S-8 District	S-1a, S-1b, S-5, S-6, S-6/7, S-11, and S-15 Districts
	<i>fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be allowed.</i>	<i>minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No flashing, revolving, fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be allowed.</i>	<i>allowed.</i>

3. Industrial	S-1a, S-6/7, S-7, S-8, S-9, and S-10 Districts
Signage Allocation	
<i>Total sign allocation</i>	<i>1 building or 1 freestanding sign per development site. Sites having both land and water access may have one sign facing landward and one facing waterward.</i>
Signs Attached to Buildings	
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>100 square feet</i>
<i>Minimum sign area</i>	<i>One additional sign per tenant up to 12 square feet in area. This sign area is not included in the maximum sign area.</i>
Freestanding Signs	
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>
<i>Maximum area per sign</i>	<i>75 square ft per face</i>
<i>Maximum height</i>	<i>20 feet</i>
<i>Location</i>	<i>A freestanding sign may not be placed anywhere on a site where it significantly degrades a vista, viewpoint, or view shed presently available to the public, or impairs the visual access to the water from such view areas.</i>
Lighting	
<i>Lighting and illumination restrictions for signs attached to buildings and freestanding signs</i>	<i>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses. No external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing, revolving, fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be allowed.</i>

4. Park/Recreational	
Signage Allocation	
<i>Total sign allocation</i>	<i>1 freestanding sign per development site</i>
Freestanding Signs	
<i>Maximum number</i>	<i>1 per development site</i>
<i>Maximum sign area</i>	<i>30 square feet per face</i>
<i>Maximum height</i>	<i>8 feet</i>
<i>Location</i>	<i>A freestanding sign may not be placed anywhere on a site where it significantly degrades a vista, viewpoint, or view shed presently available to the public, or impairs the visual access to the water from such view areas.</i>
Lighting	
Lighting and illumination restrictions for signs attached to buildings and freestanding signs	<p>Indirect illumination and floodlighting shall be the only allowable means of illumination of signs. All external lighting shall be directed away from the water and adjacent properties to minimize the effects of light and glare upon adjacent uses.</p> <p>No external bare bulb illumination of signs shall be allowed. No flashing, revolving, fluttering, undulating, animated, or otherwise moving signs shall be allowed.</p>

(Ord. 28230 Ex. D; passed Jul. 22, 2014; Ord. 28194 Ex. A; passed Dec. 17, 2013; Ord. 28180 Ex. D; passed Oct. 15, 2013; Ord. 28157 Ex. F; passed Jun. 25, 2013; Ord. 28109 Ex. O; passed Dec. 4, 2012; Ord. 28077 Ex. C; passed Jun. 12, 2012; Ord. 27995 Ex. D; passed Jun. 14, 2011; Ord. 27893 Ex. A; passed Jun. 15, 2010; Ord. 27818 Ex. A; passed Jul. 28, 2009; Ord. 27432 § 10; passed Nov. 15, 2005; Ord. 27296 § 23; passed Nov. 16, 2004; Ord. 27245 § 16; passed Jun. 22, 2004; Ord. 27079 § 40; passed Apr. 29, 2003; Ord. 26966 § 15; passed Jul. 16, 2002; Ord. 26933 § 1; passed Mar. 5, 2002)

From 13.06.700 B (Definitions)

Billboard, standard. An off-premises sign greater than 72 square feet in size. This type of sign is generally composed of materials (panels or modules) mounted on a building wall or freestanding structure, or painted directly on the wall or freestanding structure.

Billboard, digital. An off-premises sign greater than 72 square feet in size, utilizing digital message technology capable of changing the message or copy on the sign electronically. Digital billboards are not considered under the definitions of animated sign, changing message centers, electrical signs, illuminated signs, or flashing signs.