Fayette County Area Zoning Code: Sign Regulations

Adopted by Fayette County and the City of Connersville: May, 2005

Section 153.37: SIGNS

(A) <u>Purposes.</u> The purposes of these sign regulations are:

To encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication;

To maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment and the ability of the City and County to attract sources of economic development and growth;

To support the Vision Plan as adopted by the City and County;

To improve pedestrian and traffic safety;

To minimize possible adverse effects of signs on nearby public and private property: and

To ensure the interpretation and enforcement of these sign regulations is fair and consistent.

These sign regulations are adopted under the zoning authority of the City of Connersville, Indiana and Fayette County, Indiana in furtherance of the more general purposes set forth in the zoning ordinance and in support of the Vision Plan as adopted by the City and County.

(B) <u>Applicability — Effect.</u> A sign may be erected. placed. established. painted, created, or maintained in the City and County only in conformance with the standards, procedures. exemptions. and other requirements of these sign regulations.

The effect of this ordinance as more specifically set forth herein, is:

To establish a permit system allowing variety of types of signs and encourage creativity in the design of signs in commercial and industrial zones and a limited variety of signs in other zones, subject to the standards and the permit procedures of these sign regulations:

To allow certain signs that are unobtrusive and incidental to the principal use of zone lots on which they are located, subject to the requirements of these sign regulations, but without a requirement for permits:

To provide for the use of temporary signs on commercial, industrial and non-business private property that meets the requirements of these sign regulations:

To provide for temporary signs without commercial messages in limited circumstances in the public right-of-way;

To prohibit all signs not expressly permitted by this ordinance; and

To provide for the enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance.

- (C) <u>Definitions and Interpretation.</u> Words and phrases used in these sign regulations shall have the meanings set forth in this section of the zoning code. All other words and phrases defined elsewhere in the Area Zoning Code shall be given those meanings. All other words or phrases shall be given their common ordinary meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (1) Agent. Represents a property or business owner and has the legal authority to act in their interest.
- (2) **Animated sign.** Any sign using movement or change of lighting to depict action or create a special effect or scene.

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- (3) **Banner.** Any sign of lightweight fabric or similar material that is permanently or temporarily mounted to a pole or a building by a permanent frame at one or more edges. National flags. state or municipal flags, or the official flag of any institution or business shall not be considered banners.
- (4) **Beacon.** Any light with one or more beams directed into the atmosphere or directed at one or more points not on the same zone lot as the light source; also any light with one or more beams that rotate or move.
- (5) **Building marker.** Any sign indicating the name of a building and date and incidental information about its construction.
- (6) **Building sign.** Any sign attached to any part of a building, as contrasted to a freestanding sign.
- (7) **Canopy sign.** Any sign that is part of or attached to any awning, canopy, or other fabric, plastic, or structural protective cover over a door. entrance. window. or outdoor service area. A marquee is not a canopy.
- (8) Changeable copy sign. A sign or portion of a sign which contains characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged without altering the face or the surface of the sign.
- (9) **Commercial message.** Any sign wording, logo, or other representation that, directly or indirectly. names, advertises, or calls attention to a business, product, service, or other commercial activity.
- (10) **Director.** The Area Plan Commission Director or the Director's designee.
- (11) **Flag.** Any fabric, banner, or bunting containing distinctive color. patterns, or symbols. used as a symbol of a government, political subdivision, or other legally recognized entity.
- (12) **Freestanding sign.** Any permanent sign supported b\ structures or supports that are placed on. or anchored in. the ground and that are independent from any building or other structure.
- (13) **Home occupation sign.** A sign directing attention to a business or professional activity legally conducted on the same zone lot in a residential district, containing only the name, occupation and phone number of the resident.
- (14) **Incidental sign.** A sign. generally informational, that has a purpose secondary' to the use of the zone lot on which it is located. These signs provide information and contain no commercial message which is legible from beyond the zone lot.
- (15) **Lot.** Any land or a portion of land in which the boundaries have been established by a legal instrument of record with the purpose of transferring the ownership of property.
- (16) **Marquee.** Any permanent roof-like structure projecting beyond a building or extending along and projecting beyond the wall of the building, generally designed and constructed to provide protection from the weather.
- (17) **Monument or Ground Mounted Sign.** A lo\ profile freestanding sign which may be internally or externally illuminated with its base directly mounted to the ground in a permanent manner. Portable signs are not a monument or ground mounted sign.
- (18) **Multi-faced sign.** A sign with more than one sign face on a single side such as but not limited to shopping center or gas station signs.
- (19) **Noncommercial opinion sign.** A sign which expresses an opinion or other point of view, and does not contain information or advertising for any business, product, good, service, entertainment or other commodity.
- (20) **Nonconforming sign.** Any sign that does not conform to the requirements of these sign regulations.
- Off-premise sign. Any sign which identifies or directs attention to a product. service, or activity or business not on the premises on which the sign is located. Billboards are considered an off-premise sign
- (22) **On-premise sign.** Any sign which identifies or directs attention to a product. service, or activity or business on the premises on which the sign is located.
- (23) **Pennant.** Any lightweight plastic, fabric, or other material, whether or not containing a message of any kind, suspended from a rope wire, string, pole, post. or lighting standard, usually in series. designed to move in the wind.
- (24) **Person.** Any association, company, corporation, firm, organization, or partnership, singular or plural of any kind.
- (25) **Pole Sign.** A freestanding sign supported by and specifically designed to be mounted to the side. between. or on top one or more poles or uprights.
- (26) **Political sign.** Any sign posted for a political candidate. local, state or national elections. legislative issues. political issue or cause.

- (27) **Portable sign.** Any sign not permanently attached to the ground or other permanent structure. or a sign designed to be transported. including, but not limited to, signs designed or T-frames; balloons used as signs; and signs attached to or painted on vehicles parked and visible from the public right-a-way, unless said vehicle is used in the normal day-to-day operations of the business.
- (28) **Principal building.** The building in which the principal use of the zone lot on is conducted. Zone lots with multiple principal uses may have multiple principal buildings, but storage buildings, garages, and other clearly accessory uses shall not be considered principal buildings.
- (29) **Projecting sign.** Any sign affixed to a building or wall in such a manner that its leading edge extends more than six inches beyond the surface of such building or wall.
- (30) **Residential sign.** Any sign located in a district zoned for residential uses that contains no commercial message except advertising for goods or services legally offered on the premises where the sign is located, if offering such service at such location conforms to all requirements of the zoning ordinance. Examples of residential signs include legal nonconforming uses and home occupations.
- (31) **Roof sign.** Any sign erected and constructed wholly on and over the roof of a building. supported by the roof structure, and extending vertically above the highest portion of the roof.
- (32) **Roof sign, integral.** Any sign erected or constructed as an integral or essentially integral part of a normal roof structure of an\ design. Such that no part of the sign extends vertically above the highest portion of the roof and such that no part of the sign is separated from the rest of the roof by a space of more than six inches.
- (33) **Sandwich-board sign.** A portable v-shaped sign removed upon the daily close of business typically used to advertise goods and services sold by a business lacking a setback fronting directly on a pedestrian public right-of-way.
- (34) **Snipe sign.** Any sign attached to a utility pole. tree, traffic sign, traffic control device, or any object on the ground, or otherwise situated on public property. within the public right-of-way or utility' strip without the consent of the appropriate public body or on private property without consent of the owner.
- (35) **Setback.** The distance from the property line to the nearest part of the applicable building, structure, or sign, measured perpendicularly to the property line.
- (36) **Sign.** Any device, fixture, placard, or Structure that uses any color, form, graphic, illumination, symbol, or writing to advertise, announce the purpose of or identify the purpose of a person or entity, or to communicate information of any kind to the public.
- (37) **Sign Structure.** Structural elements designed to support a sign including the posts, frame and pole wrap.
- (38) **Street.** A strip of land or way subject to vehicular traffic (as well as pedestrian traffic) that provides direct or indirect access to property, including but not limited to alleys, avenues, boulevards, courts. drives, highways, lanes, places, roads, terraces, trails, or other thoroughfares.
- (39) **Street frontage.** The distance for which a lot line of a zone lot adjoins a public street, from one lot line intersecting said street to the furthest distant lot line intersecting the same street. Street frontage does not include frontage along alleys or private drives.
- (40) **Suspended sign.** A sign suspended from the underside surface of a horizontal plane surface and is supported by such surface as the under side of a canopy.
- (41) **Temporary sign.** Any sign that is used only temporarily for a defined and limited period of time and is not permanently mounted nor designed to be permanently mounted. Included in this class of sign are banners. balloons and portable sins.
- (42) **Wall sign.** Any sign attached parallel to. but within six inches of, a wall, painted on the wall surface of. or erected and confined within the limits of an outside wall of any building or structure, which is supported by such wall or building. and which displays only one sign surface whether permanent or temporary.
- (43) **Window sign.** Any sign, picture. symbol, or combination thereof, designed to communicate information about an activity, business. commodity. event, sale. or service that is placed inside a window or upon the window panes or glass and is visible from the exterior of the window.
- (44) **Zone lot.** A parcel of land in single ownership or combination of parcels that is of sufficient size to meet minimum zoning requirements for frontage, area, coverage, and use, and that can provide such yard setbacks and other open spaces as required by the zoning regulations. For the purposes of these

sign regulations. One business occupying multiple lots not separated by a public right-of-way shall be considered one zone lot.

- (D) <u>Computations of Sign Areas.</u> The following principles shall control the computation of sign area and sign height.
- (1) (l) Sign Surface Area. The sign surface area of any sign type shall be computed by means of the smallest square. circle rectangle. triangle or combination that will encompass the extreme limits of the writing, representation. emblem, or other display together with the background used to differentiate the sign from its backdrop or sign structure. Structural elements clearly' intended to support the sign are not included in the sign area calculation.
- (2) Maximum Sign Surface Area. The maximum allowable sign area for any individual sign within any zoning district shall conform to those standards identified in **Table 3.**
- (3) *Multi-faced Signs*. The sign surface area shall be computed by adding the area of each individual sign comprising the entire sign face.
- (4) Computation of Height. The height of a sign shall be computed as the distance from the base of the sign at the finished base grade to the highest attached component of the sign. In cases where a berm is constructed for the landscaping purposes, drainage management, or other such use the maximum height of a berm considered as the base elevation shall be 2 feet of elevation. Any part of a berm greater than 2 feet in height above the finished base grade shall be considered as part of the computed allowable sign height.

The computation for the maximum height of any freestanding sign allowed on any zone lot shall use the following criteria:

Zone lots with a street frontage of 150 feet or less 15 feet maximum height:

Zone lots with Street frontage greater than 150 feet but less than 250 feet = 1 foot of height for each 10 feet of street frontage for a maximum height of 25 feet:

Zone lots with a street frontage greater than 250 feet = 25 feet.

(5) Computation of Maximum Total Permitted Sign Area for a Zone Lot. The permitted total area of all signs placed on a zone lot or of all signs for a single business located on multiple zone lots shall be computed by using a formula from Table 1. These are based on the total street frontage for a zone lot or the building square footage formula for the zoning district in which the zone lot is located. However, the total allowable sign area shall not exceed the allowable maximum sign area from Table 1 for that zoning district

When one freestanding sign has two identical sides placed back-to-back or in a triangular manner. only one side of the sign will be included in total sign area calculations.

- (6) Maximum .Allowable Wall Coverage for Wall/On-Building Sign. The area of a wall covered by signage shall not exceed 25% of the total wall area for any front face and 10% for any side or rear face. This allowable area also includes windows.
- (E) <u>Signs Allowed on Private Property with and Without Permit.</u> Signs shall be allowed on private property in the jurisdictional area of the Fayette County' Plan Commission only in accordance with **Table 2.** The letter "P" indicates that sign type is allowed in that zoning district without a permit The letter "S" indicates that type of sign type is allowed in that zoning district only with a permit. The letter "N" indicates that type of sign type is not allowed in that zoning district

A sign allowed with or without permit must still conform to all requirements of these sign regulations including Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

(F) <u>Permits Required</u>. Any sign requiring a permit under the provisions of these sign regulations requires the owner of the lot, or business, or legal agent shall secure a sign permit prior to the construction, placement. erection, or modification of any such sign in accordance with the requirements of **Section** (O) of these sign regulations.

No signs shall be erected within the public right-of-way except in accordance with **Section (J)** and the permit requirements of **Section (O)** of these sign regulations.

No sign permit of any kind shall be issued for any sign unless such a sign is consistent with all requirements of this ordinance in every respect and with the requirements of any Master or Common Signage Plan in effect for any lot, or part of any lot included in such plan. Any deviation from the standards of this regulation may only be via a variance approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

(G) <u>Design. Construction. Maintenance.</u> All signs shall be designed, constructed. and maintained in accordance with the following standards.

All signs shall comply with the Indiana Building and Electric Codes as adopted by the City and County at all times.

Except for banners, flags, temporary signs. and window signs conforming in all respects with the requirements of these sign regulations, all signs shall be permanently attached to the ground, a building, or another structure by direct attachment to a rigid wall, frame, or structure and all poles or beams used to support a pole sign shall use a pole wrap designed specifically for covering sign poles.

All signs shall be maintained in good structural condition and in compliance with the Indiana Building and Electric Codes as adopted by the City and County and in conformance with these sign regulations.

Freestanding and as wall signs shall be designed as such and shall not be a converted portable sign. Signs shall not be located in any fashion which blocks views of traffic, traffic control devices or in any manner which may potentially result in a traffic safety hazard.

Signs shall not be located within the public right-of-way or within the utility strip unless receiving express written consent from the legal entity having jurisdiction over that right- of-way or utility strip.

(H) <u>Sign Submission Requirements</u>. For any zone lot on which the owner of the lot or business or owner's agent proposes to erect one or more signs requiring a permit, a sign plan containing the following shall be submitted to the Director:

A plot plan showing the location of each sign location, each sign's plan view dimensions and the distance to the nearest property line for each freestanding sign;

The location of buildings, parking lots, driveways, and landscaped areas as necessary:

A reasonable sign elevation showing all dimensions for all signs in the sign program including sign area, structural supports, sign height from the finished base sign area for each sign.

On-building signs must show the dimensions of the sign face, distance between the bottom of the sign and the ground plain and the distance between the top of the sign and the roof or parapet line and the percentage of a wall covered by each such sign: and

A computation for the entire sign program including the number of signs, total square footage of sign areas, the building square footage and/or lot frontage used to determine the maximum allowed square footage in the sign program.

Incidental signs need not be shown on the plot plan or included in program calculations.

- (I) <u>Signage Plans.</u> No permit shall be issued for an individual sign which is part of Master or Common Signage Plan unless that sign meets the requirements of the Master or Common Signage Plan on file with the Area Plan Commission.
- (1) Master Signage Plan. The purpose of the Master Signage Plan is to provide consistency in sign size and materials improving the streetscape. reducing visual competition between signs and reducing the potential number of individual freestanding signs.
 - A Master Signage Plan is required for any business, commercial or industrial development which involves more than one structure or tenant unit or out parcels for a property owned and/or managed by a single entity.
- (2) Common Signage Plan. The purpose of a Common Signage Plan is to provide a means by where the owner(s) of contiguous zone lots occupied by more than one business may voluntarily develop a signage plan that encourages consistency in sign size and materials improving the streetscape, reducing visual competition between signs and reducing the number of individual freestanding signs. Due to the voluntary nature of a Common Signage Plan owners will be eligible to receive sign area bonuses that allow businesses to legally exceed the sign area provisions of these sign regulations.
 - If the owner(s) of two or more contiguous (disregarding intervening streets and alleys) zone lots or the owner of a single zone lot with more than one building, excluding accessory buildings, housing individual businesses file with the Director a Common Signage Plan conforming with the provisions of this section a 25 percent increase in the maximum total sign area shall be allowed for each included zone lot and may be allocated at the discretion of the owners. provided the signs conform with all other provisions of these sign regulations.
- (3) Provisions of the Master or Common Signage Plan. Such a plan shall specify standards for consistency among all signs on the zone lots affected by the Plan with regard to: color scheme. lettering or graphic style, lighting, location of each sign on the buildings, material and sign proportions. Allowances will be made as necessary for entities with copyrighted or logo signs.
- (4) Showing Window Signs on a Common or Master Signage Plan. A Common or Master Signage Plan including window signs may simply indicate the areas of the windows which may be covered by window signs and the general type of window signs and the general type of windows signs allowed.
- (5) Limit on .Number of Freestanding Signs Under Common Signage Plan. In order for such a plan to qualify for the 25 percent sign area bonus, individual freestanding signs on the zone lots included in the Common Signage Plan must be replaced with one multi-faced sign. One such sign is allowed along each street frontage included in a Common Signage Plan.
- (6) Other Provisions of Master or Common Signage Plan. The Master or Common Signage Master Plan may contain such other restrictions as the owners of the zone lots may reasonably determine.
- (7) Consent. A Common Signage Plan shall be signed be all owners or their authorized agents on the submitted Common Signage Plan. Without all signatures such a plan shall not be approved.
- (8) *Procedures*. A Master Signage Plan shall be included in any development plan, site plan. planned unit development, or other plan required by the City or County for the proposed development and processed simultaneously with other such plans.
- (9) *Amendment*. A Master or Common Signage Plan may be amended by filing a new Master or Common Signage Plan that conforms with the sign regulation requirements then in effect.
- (10) Existing Signs not conforming to Common Signage Plan. If any new or amended Common Signage Plan is filed for a property on which existing signs are located, it shall include a schedule for bringing all signs into compliance with the plan within three years and one year for the freestanding signs.

Failure to meet the requirements of a Common Signage Plan within the required time frames will result in the voiding of the plan and the loss of sign area bonuses.

- (11) *Binding Effect*. After approval of a Master or Common Signage Plan, no sign shall be erected, placed, painted, or maintained, except in conformance with such plan and such plan may be enforced in the same way as any provision of this code. In case of conflict between the provisions of such plan and any other provisions of this code, the code shall control.
- (J) <u>Signs in the Public Right-of-Way.</u> No signs shall be allowed in the public right-of-way, except for the following:
- (1) Permanent Signs. Permanent signs, including:

Public signs posted on behalf of a governmental body to post legal notices, identify public property, convey public information, and direct or regulate pedestrian traffic;

Bus stop signs erected by a public transit company or private entity legally recognized as an official transit company;

Informational signs of a public utility regarding poles. lines, pipes or facilities;

Awning. canopy, marquee, projecting, and suspended signs extending over a public right-of-way in conformity with the provisions of **Tables 2 and 4** of these sign regulations; and

(2) *Temporary Signs*. Temporary signs within the public right-of-way issued a permit in accordance with Section (**O**) and (**R**) shall meet the following requirements:

Such signs shall require official written approval by the legal entity with jurisdiction over that public right-of-way. These entities are the City of Connersville. Indiana, Fayette County, Indiana and the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Such signs shall contain no commercial message: and

Such signs shall not deviate from the terms of said approval with regards to. location, dimensions and number of signs.

- (3) *Emergency Signs*, Warning signs erected by a governmental agency, a public utility company, or a contractor doing authorized work thin the public right-of-way.
- (4) *Other Signs Forfeited*. Any sign installed or placed on public property, except in conformance with the requirements of this section, shall be forfeited to the public and subject to confiscation by that entity.
- (K) Exempt Signs. The following signs shall be exempt from regulation and/or permit under these sign regulations:

Any public notice or warning required by a valid and applicable federal. state, or local law, regulation. or ordinance:

Any sign inside a building not attached to a window or door that is not legible from a distance of more than 25 feet beyond the lot line of the zone lot or parcel:

Works of art that do not include a commercial message:

Signs. banners and decorations for special events and community based events with no commercial message. but only for the 30 days prior to the event and must be removed within 15 days after the

event. Any such display within a public right-of-was' shall require approval of the entity responsible for that right-of- way:

Holiday lights and decorations with no commercial message for any holiday. but only for the 60 days prior to the holiday and must be removed within 15 days after the holiday. Residential properties are exempt.

Traffic control signs on private property. such as Stop. Yield, and similar signs on which the sign face meets the Indiana Department of Transportation standards and contain no commercial messages of any sort;

Menu signs used to provide menu information for such as drive-through operations used by fast food restaurants;

Internal directional signs within shopping centers, business centers, industrial centers and medical complexes, individual businesses and other comparable land uses. These signs may not contain any commercial messages and shall be no larger than 8 square feet per sign face and with a maximum height no greater than 8 feet above final grade;

Any sign no larger than 8 square feet sign area containing no commercial message are allowed without permit with a maximum of five signs per property per frontage;

Any sign greater than 8 square feet but no larger than 32 square feet is allowed any more than 4 times per year per property for no longer than 72 hours: provided that such signs contain no commercial message;

Political signs no greater than 16 square feet in area with a total of five signs per Street frontage are allowed. Political signs greater than 16 square feet but no larger than 32 square feet may be placed up to 72 hours prior to an election. Political campaign signs shall be removed within 7 days after said election is held;

Any construction sign or combination of contractor signs are allowed providing the total sign area of such signs shall be no greater than 32 square feet in total area in a residential district or 64 square feet in commercial or industrial districts. Any individual signs for individual contractors shall be removed upon the completion of that contractor's work on that job site. Construction trailers with the name of the contractor shall not be considered a construction sign provided the trailer is required by the contractor for the storage of construction materials or as a temporary on-site office;

Individual pennants and strings of pennants with no commercial message are allowed as a temporary use as part of a special event or as a permanent use if mounted to a rigid structure. Such pennants must be of a size and placed in a manner where the pennants cannot extend into the public right-of-way or into the utility strip or any other area reserved for traffic control elements, and utility poles. Such signs shall not contain any language, visual elements or symbols resembling traffic control devices which may be capable of distracting drivers with words such as stop or any symbol resembling traffic control devices; and

Signs offering property for sale or rent on which the sign is located provided they are no larger than 8 square feet in area in residential districts and no larger than 25 square feet in agricultural districts and 75 square feet in commercial or industrial districts.

(L) <u>Signs Prohibited Under this Ordinance</u>. All signs not expressly permitted under this ordinance or exempt from regulation hereunder in accordance with Section J are prohibited in the areas under the jurisdiction of the Area Plan Commission. Such signs include, but are not limited to:

Beacons, flashing lights or search lights;

Snipe signs or other signs attached to utility poles. street lights or ground mounted within the utility strip or the public right-of-way;

Strings of lights not permanently mounted to a rigid background, except those signs exempt under Section (K); and

A motor vehicle or trailer or any parts of either, operational of nonoperational used as a permanent. portable or temporary sign on private or public property or in the public right-of-way, except for those signs exempt under **Section** (**K**).

No signs, including exempt signs are allowed within the public right-of-way or in the utility strip. Signs placed in these areas may be removed by the entity with jurisdiction over these right-of-ways or utility strips.

- (M) <u>Special Use Signs</u>. The following special use signs require a permit provided they meet all conditions of this code.
- (1) *Home Occupation Signs*. Home Occupation signs shall contain only the name, occupation and phone number of the resident. When mounted on the residential structure home occupation signs shall not exceed 4 square feet and ground mounted signs may not exceed 8 square feet. Home occupation signs may not be internally or externally illuminated. Sign plans must be submitted and approved with the Rome Occupation petition. The placement of a home occupation sign shall require a sign permit.
- (2) Sandwich-board Signs. Sandwich-board signs are allowed only within the pedestrian public right-of-way (sidewalk) and must be located so as not to block or interfere with the flow of pedestrian traffic. Sandwich-board signs are not allowed within any road, Street or highway right-of-way. \When fully opened the dimensions of a sandwich board sign shall not exceed 48" in height and 36" in the width with a maximum sign area of 12 square feet. Sandwich-board signs shall be removed from the sidewalk or other pedestrian pathway at the close of business each business day.
- (3) Service Station Signs. Fuel price signs not exceeding 8 square feet in surface area are allowed for each road frontage. These are in addition to all signs otherwise allowed in a zoning district. The sign area of fuel signs shall not be included in the total sign program area computation.
- (4) Window Signs. Permanent window signs whether painted or mounted on an impermanent material whether to the interior or exterior side of a window are to be included as part of the total sign program area computation. For the purposes of these sign regulations any sign mounted to the interior or exterior of the window for a period longer than 30 days constitutes a permanent sign. Under no circumstances may any combination of permanent and temporary window signs exceed 50 percent of the window area.
- (N) <u>Off-premise Signs.</u> The purpose of this section is to prevent the proliferation of off-premise signs and allow the development of a system of rural directional signage in support of Vision Plan goals recommendations encouraging the development and diversification of the local rural economy.

The only new off-premise signs allowed are those used as part of a rural directional signage system. The purpose of this exception is to provide directional information to rural activities located outside of the incorporated boundaries of the City of Connersville. such activities shall not be located on ant urban or rural arterial (Indiana Routes 1, 44 and 121).

These signs shall not exceed 25 square feet in sign area. The top of the sign shall be no higher than 15' above grade. These signs shall not be located any farther than 500 feet from the intersection or drive where vehicles must turn from that county highway or state highway. Rural directional signs may only include the name, address, and distance to the intersection where a driver must turn.

Rural directional signs along Federal-Aid Primary System Highways (Indiana Routes 1 and 44) are allowed only in accordance with the rules adopted by the State of Indiana as published in the Indiana Administrative Code (105 IAC 7-3).

(1) Submission Requirements. No permit for a rural directional sign shall be approved unless the proposed sign meets all dimensional and district requirements from **Table 6** and meets all other requirements of this code.

Rural directional signs are allowed only with the approval of a "rural directional sign" Special Exception petition by the Board of Zoning Appeals. In accordance with Indiana Code provisions governing the placement of off-premise signs along Federal-Aid-Primary Highways, any rural directional sign along Indiana Routs 1 and 44 require a permit from the Indiana Department of Transportation. See Section 153.24 Special Exceptions for Special Exception submission requirements.

(2) Maintenance and Repair of Off-Premise Signs. Ordinary and necessary repairs which do not change the size, shape. orientation, height, or location of an off- premise sign are allowed. Sign copy replacement may occur at any time.

Whenever the Director or other authorized agent finds that any off-premise sign is not maintained in good repair and has not deteriorated by more than 50 percent of its replacement value, the Director shall notify the owner and order the owner of the sign to repair it within 30 calendar days.

If the Director or other authorized agent determines that the off-premise sign has deteriorated more than 50 percent of its replacement value, or is not repaired within the time specified in the repair notice, the Director shall notify the owner of the off-premise sign and the owner of the real property on which it is located to remove the sign from the property in a specified time within 30 days. Each day the violating sign remains in place beyond the final day of the time limit set in the notice of violation shall constitute a separate violation of the Area Zoning Code. All enforcement actions shall comply with the procedures as adopted under <u>Section 153.99 Remedies and Penalties</u> of the Area Zoning Code.

- (O) <u>General Permit Procedures.</u> The following procedures shall govern the application for and issuance of all sign permits under this ordinance, and the submission and review of Master and Common Signage Plans.
- (1) Applications. All applications for a sign permit of any kind including the modification of existing signs and for approval of a Master or Common Signage Plan shall be submitted to the Director on an application form or in accordance with application specifications published by the Director.
- (2) Fees. Each application for a sign permit must be accompanied by the applicable fees as adopted under this code and the complete submission requirements as specified under **Section (H)**.
- (3) Completeness. Within ten business days of receiving an application for a sign permit or for a Master or Common Signage Plan the Director or designated staff member shall review the application for completeness. If the Director finds that the application is complete, the application shall then be processed. If the Director finds it is incomplete, the Director shall within such ten day period, send notice to the applicant detailing the specific ways in which the application is deficient, with reference to applicable code sections.
- (4) Action. Upon the determination of completeness for a submitted application for a sign permit within ten business days the director shall either: Issue the sign permit, if the sign(s) subject of the application conform in every respect with the requirements of this code and of the applicable Master or Common Signage Plan: or

Reject the sign permit if the sign(s) fail in any way to meet the requirements of this code and of the applicable a Master or Common Signage Plan. In case of rejection the Director shall specify in the rejection the section or sections of the ordinance or applicable plan with which the sign(s) fail to meet code requirements. Upon rejection of an application for failure to meet dimensional requirements the

Director shall inform the applicant of the right to petition for a dimensional variance from Board of Zoning Appeals.

(5) Action on a Master or Common Signage Plan. On any application for approval of a Master or Common Signage Plan, the Director shall take action on the application by one of the following dates:

Ten business days after the submission of a complete application, if the sign application is for an existing building; or

On the date of final action on any related application for building permit, site plan, or development plan for signs involving new construction.

On or before such applicable date, the Director shall either:

Approve the proposed plan if the sign(s) as shown on the plan itself conforms in every respect with the requirements of this ordinance; or

Reject the proposed plan if the sign(s) as shown on the plan itself fails in an way to conform to the requirements of this ordinance. In case of a rejection, the Director -shall specify the section or sections of the code with which the plan is inconsistent. Upon rejection of an application for failure to meet dimensional requirements the Director shall inform the applicant of the right to petition for a dimensional variance from Board of Zoning Appeals.

- (P) <u>Installation of Signs.</u> Signs identified with an "S" on Table 2 shall be erected, installed, or created only in accordance with a duly issued and valid sign permit from the Director.
- (1) Inspection and certification of compliance. Upon completion of the construction of a new or modified sign the Director shall inspect the sign to ensure compliance with the submitted plan and applicable codes. If the construction is not complete and in full compliance at the time of the inspection, the Director shall notify the permit holder in writing by certified letter of any deficiencies. Upon receipt of the notice of deficiency the owner shall have 10 days to bring the sign into compliance. If the owner fails to bring the sign into compliance within the specified 10 days the Director may revoke the permit and order the sign removed as necessary. Once construction is complete and in full compliance the Director shall issue a Certificate of Compliance.
- (Q) <u>Temporary Sign Permits Private Property.</u> Temporary signs include banners, portable signs. inflatable signs or inflatable displays associated with a specific product or company that do not exceed the sign height limitations for that zone lot and any other type of sign not permanently mounted and not designed to be permanently mounted. Temporary sign permits on private property shall be allowed only upon the issuance of a Temporary Sign Permit, which shall be subject to the following requirements:
- (1) *Term.* A temporary sign permit shall allow the use of a temporary sign for a maximum of 30 days per quarter for a maximum of 120 days in a calendar year. Permission to use a temporary sign for more than consecutive 30 days requires approval of a variance petition by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- (2) *Number*. Only 4 temporary sign permit(s) shall be issued to the same business, on the same zone lot in any calendar year. A
- (3) Other Conditions. A temporary sign shall be allowed only in districts with letter "S" for Temporary Signs" on Table 2 and subject to all requirements for temporary signs as noted therein.
- (4) Annual Temporary Sign Permit. This provision allows businesses and organizations which use temporary signs throughout the year to apply for an annual temporary sign permit on private property.

The application for an annual temporary sign permit on one zone lot must include the following information:

The total number of signs, type of signs, locations of temporary signs, the special event, sign size and the time frame for each special event.

The application for an annual temporary sign permit for entities promoting events at multiple locations and multiple times throughout the year must include the following information:

The total number of signs, type of signs. location of temporary signs, the special event and the time frame for each special event.

In the event that the event dates and sign locations are not finalized the applicant may indicate soon the application and shall inform the Director when dates and sign locations are finalized before the placement of signs. Upon the failure to meet this requirement the director shall revoke the Annual Temporary Sign Permit.

(1) Portable Sign 24-Month Temporary Permit. A "24-month temporary portable sign permit" may be issued for a portable sign meeting all requirements of this code and provisions of the Indiana Electric Code regarding signs and portable signs. Upon notification from the Area Plan Commission of the expiration of the "24-month temporary portable sign permit" the permit may be renewed upon application to the Area Plan Commission within ten (10) days of the permit expiration date shall be considered a voluntary forfeiture of the permit. Any permit renewal requested shall be considered a new application for a "24- month temporary portable sign permit". As such all fees and inspections associated with a new permit are required.

The Area Plan Commission shall prepare and maintain an inventory of all portable signs in Fayette County. All portable signs installed without a permit shall be required to comply the Area Zoning Code. Portable signs that fail to come into compliance with the Area Zoning Code shall be ordered removed by the Area Plan Commission. Signs ordered removed will not be eligible for a "24-month temporary portable sign permit" unless the nonconforming sign is first removed from the view of the public right-of-way.

All portable signs currently used in violation shall come into compliance within 30 days of a written notice of noncompliance from the Area Plan Commission. Any "24-month temporary portable sign permit" requested after this 30 day compliance period shall be assessed a late filing fee in accordance with the provisions of the Area Zoning Code. Any portable sign not brought into compliance within 60 days of receiving notice shall be ordered removed.

Under no circumstances shall any portable sign have flashing or intermittent lights or animation, or use words such as "stop", "slow", "go" or use any words or graphic symbols that are typically used for traffic control. A portable sign may not be placed any closer than 5 feet from a public right-of-way. A portable sign shall not be placed so that it blocks views of traffic traveling along a public right-of-way or internal drive, or in any manner which may cause a traffic hazard. A portable sign may not be placed on a sidewalk or in any way inhibit pedestrian traffic along any surface designated for pedestrian or bicycle use. A portable sign may not be placed in a utility strip or any part of a public right-of-way. It is the responsibility of the applicant to know where that right- of-way ends in order to determine the location for the portable sign. Any portable sign must comply with all Indiana Electric Code requirements regulating portable signs. The power source must be protected from damage by vehicles and weather related damage. Only one portable sign is allowed for any zone lot which is occupied by a single business. Only one portable sign is allowed per business in a multi-tenant building. No portable sign permit will be issued for any property where a portable sign is in violation of restrictive covenants or deed restrictions.

A portable sign receiving a "24-month temporary portable sign permit" will be included in the total sign area computation for that business' sign program. The sign area may be no larger than 32 square feet and the top of the sign may be no higher than 6' above grade. The sign must be placed on a flat surface. Portable signs ma only advertise the business, product or activity that occurs on the zone lot where that sign is located — portable signs may not be used for off-premise advertising of any type.

Fayette County Area Zoning Code: Sign Regulations

Adopted by Fayette County and the City of Connersville: May, 2005

An application for a "24-month temporary portable sign permit" shall be accompanied by the following:

A plan view of the property on which the sign is to be placed showing the location of the sign with distances to the public right-of-way, internal drive, or where a private access drive intersects any public right-of-way.

For any portable sign to be placed on property not owned by the applicant a signed letter from the property owner or owner's agent granting the applicant permission to place a portable sign in that location.

Dimensions of the portable sign to be used.

If the sign is to be lit the method used to protect the electric cable providing power to the portable sign.

All portable signs shall be inspected by a member of the Area Plan Commission staff to verify the placement and installation of the sign complies with all applicable codes. A portable sign that meets all Area Zoning Code and Indiana Electric Code Requirements shall be issued a certificate of compliance" by the Area Plan Commission. Each sign receiving a "24-month temporary portable sign permit" shall be inspected every 6 months to verify compliance with the provisions of this code.

Portable signs shall be maintained in accordance with the standards outlined in section (G) Design. Construction, Maintenance which controls the maintenance of all on-premise signs regulated by this code.

- (R) <u>Permits for Temporary Signs in the Public Right-of-Way.</u> Permits for the posting of private signs in the public right-of-way shall be granted only with written permission from the entity responsible for the maintenance of that right-of-way. These are the Indiana Department of Transportation along any designated State Highway, the Connersville Board of Public Works for any street within the City of Connersville that is not a highway under the jurisdiction of the Indiana Department of Transportation, and the Fayette County Board of Commissioners for any highway in the unincorporated parts of Fayette that is not a highway under the jurisdiction of the Indiana Department of Transportation.
- (1) *Number of Signs*. No more signs may be erected under one permit than are specified and other than at the locations specified under the letter of agreement with the entity having jurisdiction over that public right-of-way.
- (2) *Other Conditions*. These signs shall be allowed for no more than 30 days and shall be removed no later than 45 days from the issuance of the permit.
- (S) <u>Time of Compliance:</u> Nonconforming Sins and Signs without Permits. Any sign that was not a legal sign under the previous sign regulations and is still not a legal sign under the provisions of these new sign regulations is still illegal and as such must be brought into compliance with these sign regulations.

All portable signs used illegally under both the previous sign regulations and these sign regulations shall come into compliance within 18 months after the adoption of these new sign regulations. The Director shall complete a sign inventory and shall notify all property owners of all conditions that said sign fails to conform to the provisions of the previous and replacement sign regulations.

All portable signs placed after the adoption of these new sign regulations shall request and be issued a temporary sign permit prior to the placement of any portable or other temporary sign and must comply with all provisions of this code.

(T) <u>Violations.</u> Any of the following shall be a violation of this code and shall be subject to enforcement remedies and penalties provided by the Area Zoning Code, Building Code and in conformance with the relevant Indiana Code provisions:

To install, create, erect, or maintain any sign in a way that is inconsistent with any plan or permit governing such sign or zone lot on which the sign is located;

To install, create, erect, or maintain any sign requiring a permit without such permit.

To install, create, erect, or maintain any sign in a way that is inconsistent with any plan or permit governing such sign or the zone lot on which the sign is located

To fail to remove any sign that is installed, created, erected or maintained in violation of these sign regulations; or

To continue any such violation, each day a violation continues shall be considered a separate violation when applying <u>Section 153.99 Remedies and Penalties</u> of the Area Zoning Code.

Each sign installed, created, erected, or maintained in violation shall be considered a separate violation when applying <u>Section 153.99 Remedies and Penalties</u> of the Area Zoning Code.

- (U) <u>Enforcement and Remedies.</u> Any violation or attempted violation of these sign regulations shall be enforced under the enforcement in accordance with the procedures as adopted under Section 153.99 Remedies and Penalties of the Area Zoning Code.
- (V) Fee Schedule. The fees for sign permits beginning with the adoption of these sign regulations shall be:

Master Signage Plan, Application Fee	\$75
Common Signage Plan (voluntary program). Application Fee	\$25
Sign Permit including inspection, per sign,	\$25
Annual Temporary Sign Permit	\$25
Temporary Sign Permit, Private property per sign, per use	\$25
Temporary Sign Permit, Public property per sign, per use	\$100
24 Month Temporary Portable Sign Permit, Application Fee and Renewal Fee	\$75

(1) *Fee exemptions*. City and County public entities, agencies receiving direct support from City and County government, temporary permits for noncommercial public events and fundraising by noncommercial entities for charitable purposes are exempt from sign application fees.

No commercial advertising is allowed on any sign which receives a fee exemption.

(Amended Fayette County Board of Commissioners Ordinance No. 05-10, Date May 3, 2005; City of Connersville Common Council Ordinance No. 4589, Date May 2, 2005.)

Table 1. Maximum Total On-premise Sign Area Per Zone Lot by Zoning District

	Zoning Di	oning Districts									
	A1/A2	RS/R1/R2	R3	INST (b)	LB	GB	PB	1-1	1-2	UD (d)	
Maximum Number of	50	50	50	100	300	600	500	500	500	NA	
Total Square Feet	l										
Percentage of	NA	NA	NA	NA	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	NA	
Ground Floor Area of											
Principal Building											
Square Feet of Signag	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.5	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	NA	
Per Linear Foot of											
Street Frontage											

a. The maximum total area of all signs on a zoning district lot except incidental, building marker, internal directional signs, identification signs and flags shall not exceed the lesser of sign are computations.

b. INST does not represent any zoning district. It applies to institutional uses permitted under the zoning code in residential zoning districts.

Such uses include, but are not limited to churches, schools, city and county government facilities, funeral homes and cemeteries.

Flags of the United States, Indiana, foreign nations having diplomatic relations with the United States and any other flag adopted by an elected body of a competent jurisdiction must be flown in accordance with protocol established by the Congress of the United States for the Stars and Stripes. Any flag not meeting these conditions shall be considered a banner and subject to regulation as such.

d. Sign requirements shall depend upon type of uses proposed as UD district. In sections designed for residential uses signs shall conform

to RS/R1R3 requirements. Otherwise sign requirements shall conform to GB.

nitted Signs by Type and Zoning District (P = Allowed without sign permit; S = Allowed only with sign permit; N = Not allowed)Table 2.

	Zoning Di	stricts								
Sign Type	A1/A2	RS/R1/R2	R3	INST (a)	LB	GB	PB	I-1	1-2	UD (h
Freestanding										
Residential (b)	S	S	S	N	И	Ν	И	N	N	NA
Other	P	N	N	S	s	S	S	S	S	NA
incidental (c)	Р	Р	P	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	NA
Building										
Awning	N	N	Ν	S	S	S	s	S	S	NA
Banner	P	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Р	Ρ	Р	P	P	NA
Building Marker (e)	Р	Р	P	Р	P	Р	P	Р	Р	NA
Canopy	N	Ν	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA
Identification (d)	P	P	Ρ	Р	P	Р	Р	Р	Р	NA
Incidental (c)	l N	N	Ρ	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	Р	NA
Marquee	N	N	Ν	И	s	s	S	N	N	NA
Projecting	N	N	N	N	s	s	S	S	s	NA
Residential (b)	Р	Р	ρ	N	N	N	N	Ν	N	NA
Roof	N	N	Ν	N	N	N	N	И	И	NA
Roof, Integral	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	NA
Suspended	N	N	N	Р	Р	Ρ	Р	P	Ρ	NA
Wall	N	N	N	s	S	s	s	s	s	NA
Special Use										
Home Occupation (g)	s	s	s	N	Ν	N	N	N	N	NA
Sandwich Board	N	Р	Ρ	Р	Р	Ρ	Р	P	Ρ	NA
Allowed for use with I	businesses on	properties with 5	or less of	front yard must r	neet size, tir	ne and mater	ial requiremer	nts in section (M)(2)	
Service Station	N	N	N	N	s	s	s	s	s	NA
Window	N	N	N	N	s	s	s	s	s	NA
Off-premise										
Cap and Replace	N	N	N	N	s	s	s	s	s	NA
Rural Directional	s	N	Ν	N	s	s	S	s	s	NA
liscellaneous/										
Temporary	1									
Banner (b) (f)	N	N	N	Ρ	S	S	S	S	s	NA
Flag	Р	P	Р	Р	Р	P	P	P	P	NA
Portable (f)	N	N	N	N	s s	s	s	s	s	NA

Portable (f) N N N N N S S S S S

a This column applies to institutional uses permitted under the zoning code in residential districts.
b No commercial message allowed on sign, except for a commercial message drawing attention to an activity legally offered on the premises.
c No commercial message allowed if message is legible off the zone lot on which the sign is located, incidental signs include opinion and political signs.
d Only address and name of occupant allowed on sign
e May include only building name, date of construction, or historical data on historic site; must be cut or etched into masonry, bronze of similar material
f The conditions of section "Q" of this code apply
g May include only name, business activity and phone number.
h Sign requirements shall depend upon type of uses proposed as UD district. In sections designed for residential uses signs shall conform to RS/R1R3
requirements. Otherwise sign requirements shall conform to GB

Tabic ... Number, Dimensions, and Location of Individual Signs by Zoning District

	Zoning D	istricts								
Sign Type	A1/A2	RS/R1/R2	R3	INST (a)	LB	GB	PB	I-1	1-2	UD (d)
Individual signs sh	all not excee	d the applicabl	e maximu	ım number di	mensions	or setbacks	shown on	this table ar	nd on Table	4.
Freestanding	T									
Area (sq. ft.)	32	8	32	32	75	75	75	75	75	NA
Height (feet)	10	5	8	8	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	NA
Setback (feet)	10	5	10	10	5	5	10	10	10	NA
Number Permitted	1									
Per Zone Lot	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA
(One additional freesta	nding sign p	ermitted for ea	ch street	frontage grea	iter than 1	00 feet.)				
Building	7									
Area (max. sq. ft.)	8	8	8	50	150	150	150	150	150	NA
Wall Area (% coverage	e)									
Front wall	NA NA	NA	NA	NA	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	NA
Side wall	NA NA	NA	NA	NA	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	NA
Rear wall	NA	NA	NA	NA	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	NA
Window										
Percent covergae	NA	NA	NA	NA	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	NA

a. This column applies to institutional uses permitted under the zoning code in residential districts.

a mis column applies to institutional uses perimited under integrating code in residential districts.

Individual signs shall not exceed the applicable maximum number dimensions or setbacks shown on this table and on Table 4.

C. Maximum allowable height is based on lot frontage using formulas in Section (D)(4) Computation of height.

d. Sign requirements shall depend upon type of uses proposed as UD district. In sections designed for residential uses signs shall conform to RS/R1R3 requirements. Otherwise sign requirements shall conform to GB.

Table 4. Number and Dimensions of Certain Individual Signs by Sign Type

			Vertical Clearance	
	Number Allowed	Maximum Sign Area	From Sidewalk or Private Drive or Parking	From Public Street (b)
Freestanding				
Residential, Other and				
Incidental	See Table 3	See Table 3	N/A	N/A
Building				
Awning	1 per building	25% of vertical surface	9 ft.	5 ft.
Banner	N/A	N/A	9 ft.	(c)
Building Marker	1 per building	4 sq. ft.	N/A	N/A
Сапору	1 per building	25% of vertical surface	9 ft.	5 ft.
Identification	1 per building	N/A	N/A	N/A
Incidental	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marquee	1 per building	N/A	9 ft.	5 ft.
Projecting*	1 per building or business	40 sq. ft.	9 ft.	5 ft.
Residential	1 per zone lot	N/A	N/A	N/A
Suspended	1 per entrance	N/A	9 ft.	N/A
Wall	See Table 3	150 sq. ft.	N/A	N/A
Special Use				
Home Occupation	1 per building	4 sq. ft. (wall) 8 sq. ft. (ground)	N/A	N/A
Sandwich Board	1 per building or business	12 sq.ft. (d)	N/A	N/A
Service Station (e)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Window (f)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Temporary	See Section (Q)	N/A	N/A	N/A
fiscellaneous/				
Temporary				
Banner	N/A	N/A	9 ft.	(c)
Flag	N/A	N/A	9 ft.	12 ft.
Portable	1 where allowed	32 sq. ft.	N/A	N/A

<sup>a. Permitted on same term as temporary sign, in accordance with section xx, except that it may be freestanding.
b. Setback for signs allowed to extend within pedsetrian public right-of-way.
c. Banners approved in street and highway public right-of-ways for public events by entity with legal jurisdiction, over right-of-way must meet set by public entity in agreement in accordance with Sections "O" and "R".
d. Maximum height of 48" and maximum width of 36".
e. See Section (M)(4) for details.
f. See Section (M)(3) for details.</sup>

Table ... Permitted Sign Characteristics by Zoning District

	Zoning Dis	oning Districts										
	A1/A2	RS/R1/R2	R3	INST (a)	LB	GB	PB	I-1	1-2	UD(c)		
Animated	N	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA		
Changeable Copy	N	N	Ν	s	S	S	S	S	S	NA		
Illumination (b)	1											
Internal	N	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	S	NA		
External	N	Ν	Ν	S	S	s	s	S	S	NA		
Exposed Bulbs	N	Ν	Ν	N	S	s	s	s	S	NA		
or Neon	l											

P = Allowed without sign permit S = Allowed only with sign permit N = Not allowed

This column applies to institutional uses permitted under the zoning code in residential districts.
 No direct or significant glare shall be cast onto any adjacent zone lot that is zoned for and/or used for residential purposes.
 Sign requirements shall depend upon type of uses proposed as UD district. In sections designed for residential uses signs shall conform to RS/R1R3 requirements. Otherwise sign requirements shall conform to GB.

Table 6. Off-premise sign dimensional and district requirements

Sign Area (square feet)	Height (max)	Sign Spacing (lineal feet)	Minimum Lot Frontage	Setback from public right -of-way	Setback from side property line	Buffer from sensitive areas (radial feet)	Buffer from designated scenic or recreation corridor (radial feet)	Districts permitted
Greater than 25	25'	300'	300'	20'	As per zoning district requirements	150'	150'	LB, GB, PB, I-1, I-2
25	15'	500'	500'	20'	As per zoning district requirements	150'		LB, GB, PB, I-1, I-2 A-1, A-2

New or relocated off-premise signs of any size along. Federal-Aid Primary System Highways (Indiana Routes 1 and 44) are allowed only in business and industrial areas as per Indiana Administrative Code (105 IAC 7-3). Off-premise signs along these require permits from Indiana Department of Transportation prior applying for local permits.
 Lineal distances are to be measured from the point on the nearest edge of the public right-of-way from the point of the sign face closest to the public right-of-way and radial distances are to be measured from the center point of the sign structure.
 Lineal spacing includes both sides of the frontage along the Primary Urban Arterial between off-premise signs.