

Signs on corner lots shall be located outside the visibility triangle established by the City Engineer and not be nearer than twenty-five (25) feet to either the curb or the ditch. No sign shall be located in any right-of-way or public easement.

For sale, lease or rent signs shall be removed not later than seven (7) days after the contract for sale or rent of the property has been approved. Signs indicating that the property has been sold shall not be displayed for more than seven (7) days after final closing.

- (c) Portable or temporary signs, erected or displayed without a permit, shall be removed immediately after the delivery of written notice to that effect by the Enforcement Officer, who may be a Hilliard police officer, to the owner or occupant of the premises on which the signs are located.
- (d) Mobile signs, wheeled or non-wheeled with or without changeable letters, illuminated or non-illuminated are prohibited.
- (e) Gas-inflatable sign/devices are permitted only for special events and holiday decorations. Such signs shall be located only on the site where the special event occurs. A temporary sign permit is required for all gas-inflatable devices, and may be granted to an Applicant for a period not to exceed three consecutive (3) days, for a period of not more than nine (9) days in a twelve-month period, unless otherwise approved by the Commission. A scaled diagram of the device and a site plan showing where the device is to be located are required. Such signs must not be inflated with helium or any other buoyant gas. Such signs shall be securely attached/tethered to the ground so that they will not shift more than three (3) feet in any direction during any wind condition up to twenty-five (25) miles per hour. Such signs shall not be attached to or mounted on any platform, roof, or similar structure, nor to any trees. Such signs must be placed so that they will be clear of all utility lines, roads, parking lots and adjacent property in case of collapse. Such signs shall not be internally illuminated.
- (f) Non-residential Banners shall be securely attached entirely to a principal building and shall not cover or block any part of any window or door. Banners shall not be attached to or mounted on any platform, roof, or similar structure, nor to any trees. The size of Banners shall be proportionate to the building or tenant space so as not to be overwhelming. Banners shall not be illuminated.
  - (1) "Opening Soon" Banners may be displayed once for a period of fourteen consecutive (14) days prior to the official day of opening.

(2) "Grand Opening" Banners may be displayed once for a period of fourteen (14) consecutive days starting on the first official day of opening. A Grand Opening occurs only when there is a change of tenant or owner that brings a new business to a site.

(3) All other Miscellaneous Banners may be displayed for a period not to exceed fourteen (14) consecutive days which constitutes one time period regardless of whether the sign is actually displayed for the full fourteen days. No business shall display Miscellaneous Banners more than two time periods per twelve month period.

(g) The Enforcement Officer shall have the authority to grant approval for the installation of temporary signs in accordance with the requirements of this section and subject to additional requirements and conditions as the Enforcement Officer may deem necessary, and except as may be otherwise provided herein, for a continuous period not to exceed fourteen (14) consecutive days. However, no more than three (3) temporary signs shall be granted to any location in any calendar year without prior approval of the Commission.

1191.20

#### AWNING AND CANOPY SIGNS.

(a) Awning and canopy signs shall be limited in display surface to that allowed for mounted signs as provided in this Chapter. Measurement of the sign area is determined by Section 1191.11(d). The display area shall be limited to forty-five percent (45%) of the total face area of the awning and canopy. The remaining area of the awning shall be considered as awning and canopy area only and not signage. When an awning and canopy sign covers multiple store fronts, each store or tenant shall be allowed display area of no more than eighty percent (80%) of the store width, in order to maintain adequate separation between tenant spaces.

(1) Erection requirements for awning and canopy signs shall meet, at minimum, the following:

(A) All frames are to be manufactured from tubular or structurally shaped steel or aluminum with finishes or coatings as required to ensure against corrosion.

(B) Canvas fabric coverings are to be fourteen ounces per yard minimum weight with certification as to tensile strength and flame resistance to meet industry and local Building and Fire Code standards.

(C) Fastenings and/or structural attachments to buildings shall be only to structural members and of sufficient size and strength to meet Building Code standards.

- (D) All electrical components and/or lighting equipment is to be labeled and rated for protected outdoor use.
  - (E) Ceilings are optional and may consist of "egg crate" mesh fabric or solid plastic material. Removable panels or sections shall be provided to allow access for service and cleaning.
  - (F) All awning and canopy signs which project over or above back-up walls are to be covered and weather protected with structural plastic, rust proofed metal or aluminum.
- (2) Awning and canopy signs may be attached to buildings or structures with the following projection and height limitations:
- (A) Minimum clearance shall be seven (7) feet to the bottom of the awning and canopy. Structural components shall be a minimum of (8) eight feet above grade.
  - (B) If the structure has a fringe or valance, such fringe or valance may hang below the ceiling line no more than twelve (12) inches.
  - (C) Overall height may not project above the established roof-line or parapet wall of the building to which it is attached.
  - (D) Awning or canopy signs shall be limited to single-story buildings or to the first level only of multi-story buildings.
  - (E) Awning or canopy signs may be attached to buildings at or near property lines. In addition, they may project over a public sidewalk, no more than forty-eight (48) inches or be within twenty-four (24) inches of the curb line, whichever is less.
  - (F) Awning or canopy signs may be attached to buildings and are allowed to project into the building setback no more than forty-eight (48) inches, but shall not project over property lines. In the case of buildings in shopping centers or multi-unit developments, such signs may not exceed control curbs or safety zones unless clearance is adequate to insure against damage.
  - (G) Principal graphics, copy, logos, etc. shall be limited to the face or street side of the awning or canopy.

1191.21

SANDWICH BOARD ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT SIGNS.

Except as otherwise provided, the Enforcement Officer may authorize the erection of a temporary sandwich board sign in accordance with the

requirements of this section and subject to those additional requirements and conditions as it may deem necessary. See Section 1191.31 for Sandwich Board signs in Old Hilliard.

- (a) Authorization of an "A" frame sandwich board sign shall be for a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days per calendar year.
- (b) No more than three (3) colors may be used on these signs. For the purpose of this section, black or white shall not be considered colors when used as background.
- (c) A sandwich board sign shall not be larger than three (3) feet by five (5) feet and of weather-resistant material, wood, metal or masonite, mounted on stable legs for safety precautions.
- (d) All off-premise signs where the purpose of the display is to advertise persons, products or services available principally at locations other than at the sign site are permitted only with written permission from the owner of property where the off-premise sign is to be erected.
- (e) No such sign may be erected closer than five (5) feet from the right of way line of any street, highway or alley except where the right of way and building line are the same.
- (f) The signs shall be professional in character. No hand-lettered sandwich board signs are permitted.
- (g) Sandwich board signs are not permitted on sidewalks, parking lots of strip centers and shopping malls.
- (h) Sandwich board signs, erected or displayed without legal authorization, shall be removed by the City.
- (i) One "A" frame sandwich board sign per Non-Residential property is permitted.
- (j) All sandwich board signs must be removed to an enclosed area at the close of each business day, except for community activity signs erected pursuant to 1191.10(f).

#### 1191.22

##### INCIDENTAL SIGNS.

Only Non-Residential establishments can have incidental signs. Incidental signs shall have an above-grade height of not more than twenty-four (24) inches or a total display area of not more than eight (8) square feet. Incidental signs shall be excluded from the computation of the display area and shall not exceed twenty (20) square feet of total area for all such signs.

#### 1191.23

##### MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS.

- (a) Should any sign or bench be or become insecure or in danger of falling or become otherwise unsafe, the owner thereof or persons maintaining the same, on receipt of written notice from the Enforcement Officer, shall proceed immediately to put it in a safe and secure condition or remove it.
- (b) Every sign and all the support, braces, guys and anchors thereof,

shall be kept in repair and, unless made of noncorroding material, shall be thoroughly and properly painted at least once every four years. The Enforcement Officer may order removal or compliance of any such signs that are not maintained in accordance with the conditions of this section.

- (c) The following regulations shall apply to alterations:
  - (1) No sign shall hereafter be altered, rebuilt, enlarged, extended or relocated except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, and then not until after a permit has been issued by the Enforcement Officer.
  - (2) The repainting of signs shall not be deemed to be an alteration within the meaning of this section.
- (d) For provisions concerning damaged nonconforming signs, see Section 1191.06(e)(3)C.
- (e) Closed Business. The following regulations shall apply to a closed, relocated or abandoned business or office:
  - (1) All signs pertaining to the business location shall be removed and replaced with a blank face no later than fourteen (14) days from the last date of operation. Last date of operation means the final day the business is open to the public. Turning the sign face from view is not a permitted "blank face" nor is painting over the sign face.
  - (2) Additional time up to fourteen (14) days may be granted by the Enforcement Officer for bona fide reasons, i.e. inclement weather, scheduling sign company etc.
  - (3) Removal of the sign includes removal of the remaining poles, structures, frames and/or electrical components of the sign.
  - (4) Penalty - see Section 1191.99

1191.24

GENERAL SAFETY.

- (a) Signs shall not closely resemble or approximate the shape, form and color of official traffic signs, signals and devices.
- (b) No signs shall be so placed as to obstruct or interfere with a required doorway, other required means of ingress or egress, or traffic visibility.
- (c) Signs shall be so constructed that they shall withstand a wind pressure of at least thirty (30) pounds per square foot of surface, and shall be otherwise fastened, suspended, or supported so that they shall not be a menace to persons or property.
- (d) No display or advertising sign shall be attached to the standard of a ground sign, other than the display surface originally constructed as a part of the sign. No sign shall be attached to or painted or otherwise displayed on a light standard, gasoline pump, fence, wall, post or other structure, or to any supporting device, except as

specifically authorized in this section.

- (e) For provisions concerning damaged nonconforming signs, see Section 1191.06(e)(3)C.

1191.25

MOVEMENT AND ILLUMINATION.

- (a) To reduce distraction from emergency and traffic signals, all flashing, moving, rotating or intermittently lighted signs that are positioned to be visible from the public right-of-way or similarly located mechanically rotated or eye-catching devices shall be prohibited.
- (b) All illuminated signs shall meet the following requirements:
  - (1) Signs shall be externally illuminated. Neon tubing may be powered by milliamperes transformers only when the tubing is used to backlight silhouetted letters or for the internal illumination of plastic-faced signs or letters. The tubing shall not be visible to the eye and shall not be closer than one inch to the plastic face or letter of any sign. Neon tubing shall not be exposed or visible.
  - (2) For all signs, whether internally or externally illuminated, the level of illumination emitted or reflected from a sign shall not be of intensity sufficient to constitute a demonstrable hazard to vehicular traffic or pedestrians on any right-of-way or parking lot from which the sign may be viewed. All illumination must be of reasonable intensity and shall not spill onto adjacent properties or rights-of-way. Signs adjacent to residential buildings and streets shall not be of such brightness to cause reasonable objection from adjacent residential districts or uses nor to spill light and glare onto adjacent residential properties and structures.
  - (3) Signs shall not be illuminated before 7:00 a.m. nor more than one-half hour after the close of business, except for signs erected pursuant to 1191.09 in the I-270 Business District, which may be illuminated continuously.
  - (4) Ground signs abutting a residential district or use shall be at least fifteen (15) feet from the property line abutting the residential district or use.
  - (5) Mounted signs must face toward the major traffic arterial access.
  - (6) Signs illuminated by electricity or equipped in any way with electric devices or appliances shall conform, with respect to wiring and appliances, to provisions of the Building Code relating to electrical installations. All wiring, fittings and materials used in construction, connection and operation of electrically illuminated signs shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Electrical Code.

## PROHIBITED SIGNS AND SIGN LOCATIONS.

- (a) The following signs or similar devices are prohibited:
- (1) Flashing, moving, rotating, strobe light, intermittently lighted signs, moving or stationary beacon, string of lights or other mechanical devices not to include barber poles.
  - (2) Projected images and animated signs.
  - (3) Portable signs.
  - (4) Roof signs or signs that extend above any portion of the roof.
  - (5) Billboards and all other off-premise signs except as specifically authorized in this chapter.
  - (6) Electronic variable message signs and portions of signs except time and temperature indicators that do not use incandescent displays.
  - (7) No sign or banner shall contain or consist of pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, whirligigs or balloons except as specifically authorized in this chapter.
  - (8) Externally visible neon and neon look-alike signs. Neon may be used for internal illumination if totally enclosed and not externally visible; however, neon signs in accordance with Section 1191.07(d) are permitted.
  - (9) Search lights or laser lights.
  - (10) Any look-alike versions of these prohibited sign types.
  - (11) A sign attached to, painted on or placed on a motor vehicle, trailer, or other licensed or unlicensed vehicle located on private property and readable from any public right-of-way, and which serves the purpose of advertising or identifying any product, service or the like, and is used as, in lieu of, or in addition to any sign permitted under this chapter.
  - (12) A sign constructed, located, positioned or illuminated so as to block from view, imitate or interfere with the effectiveness of any official traffic control device or official public sign.
- (b) Signs may not be installed in any of the following locations:
- (1) In any public right-of-way or easement unless specifically authorized by this Chapter and the City Engineer.
  - (2) In any no-build zone unless specifically authorized by this Chapter and the City Engineer.
  - (3) In any public park unless specifically authorized by this Chapter and the Director of Recreation and Parks.
  - (4) On any other public property unless specifically authorized by this Chapter and the Director of Public Service and the Director of Public Safety.
  - (5) On any traffic control signs, construction signs, fences, utility poles, street signs, trees or other natural objects

- except as otherwise specifically provided in this Chapter.
- (6) In any location where the view of approaching and intersecting traffic would be obstructed. No sign shall be located so as to interfere with the safe movement of vehicles or pedestrians entering, leaving or crossing a public right-of-way.
  - (7) In any residential area, except as expressly provided herein.
  - (8) On any property without the prior authorization granted by the property owner on which a sign is to be placed.
  - (9) In any location which obstructs a doorway or fire escape.
- (c) Any sign placed in a prohibited sign location shall be removed by the City and stored at the Service Department complex for a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours and shall thereafter be destroyed.

1191.27

ABANDONED SIGNS.

- (a) A sign shall be considered abandoned under any of the following circumstances:
  - (1) When the owner or user of the sign is no longer located at the location of the sign or permanently leaves the premises on which the sign is located.
  - (2) When the sign remains after the discontinuance of a use. A business is considered to have discontinued operations if it is closed to the public for at least sixty (60) consecutive days and no active building permit is on file for remodeling or reconstruction. Seasonal businesses are exempt from this determination.
  - (3) When the sign on its immediate premises is not adequately maintained, becomes unsafe or is in danger of falling, and the repairs or maintenance ordered by the Enforcement Officer, who may be a Hilliard police officer, under this Chapter is not effected within fourteen (14) days.
  - (4) When a pre-existing legal sign does not conform to the provisions of this Chapter and is not brought into conformity upon any change in use, design, replacement or as otherwise provided in this Chapter.
  - (5) When a nonconforming sign remains after its use is no longer permitted as provided in this Chapter.
- (b) Abandoned signs shall be removed by the property owner, including the sign face, poles, structures, frames and/or electrical components of the sign within fourteen (14) days.
- (c) If the property owner or sign owner does not remove the abandoned sign as defined herein, the following procedure shall apply. The Enforcement Officer shall request a public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals for a determination by that Board as to whether or not the sign is abandoned pursuant to the