



Requesting Department:
Development Services

TO: Planning and Zoning Commission

THRU: Brett Burningham, Development Services Director

FROM: Erik Swanson, Planning Administrator

RE: **Public Hearing and Possible Action on P22-0206 Signage Located in Roadway Medians Text Amendment**, a staff initiated text amendment to Article 7 Signage Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting signage from being located within roadway medians.

DATE: October 12, 2022

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The request is for a staff initiated text amendment to Article 7, Signage Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting signage from being located within roadway medians. Staff recommends approval of P22-0206 Signage Located in Roadway Medians Text Amendment.

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend approval of P22-0206 Signage Located in Roadway Medians Text Amendment.

RELEVANT COUNCIL GOAL

 Effective Government

DISCUSSION

In late 2019, Staff initiated a text amendment updating signage regulations throughout the Town. As the Town continues to grow, various businesses, predominantly by use of “bandit” signs, have started posting illegal signage. Bandit signs typically are constructed of corrugated plastic panels, are usually less than two-square feet in size, and have thin metal shanks in order to post the sign into the ground. While these signs are prohibited, Staff is recommending a text amendment to prohibit any signage within roadway medians as a means to ensure the Town’s medians are free and clear of any and all signage not relating to traffic regulations or traffic directions, so as to prevent a hazard to public safety, and obstructing clear vision along the Town’s roadways.

Staff is recommending the following language to create no. 12, of Article 7.2.B. *Prohibited Signs* to read:

12. All forms of signage shall be prohibited from roadway medians including, but not limited to, bandit signs, feather signs, A-frame signs, political signs, and directional signs not related to Town traffic regulations or directions. The posting of any signage shall require submittal and approval of a Traffic Control Plan under Section 11-3-3 of the Town Code prior to installation, and compliance with the Traffic Control Plan at all times. Posting of prohibited signs on medians and/or failure to comply with all requirements shall also be a nuisance under Chapter 10 of the Town Code and enforceable as provided under law and the Town Code, including without limitation Sections 10-2, 10-3, 10-11 and 11-5 of the Town Code.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Zoning Ordinance – Redline
2. Proposed Zoning Ordinance – Clean

ARTICLE 7 – SIGN REGULATIONS



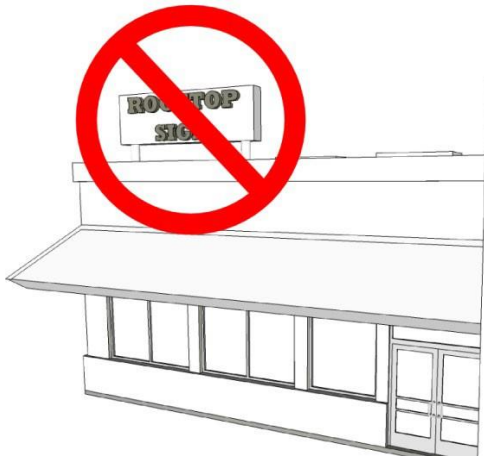
11. Specialty Signage: Awning, Canopy, Neon, and other similar specialty signage may be permitted subject to permit and design review as part of a comprehensive sign plan. Such signage shall count towards the applicable wall or ground mounted freestanding signage allowance.



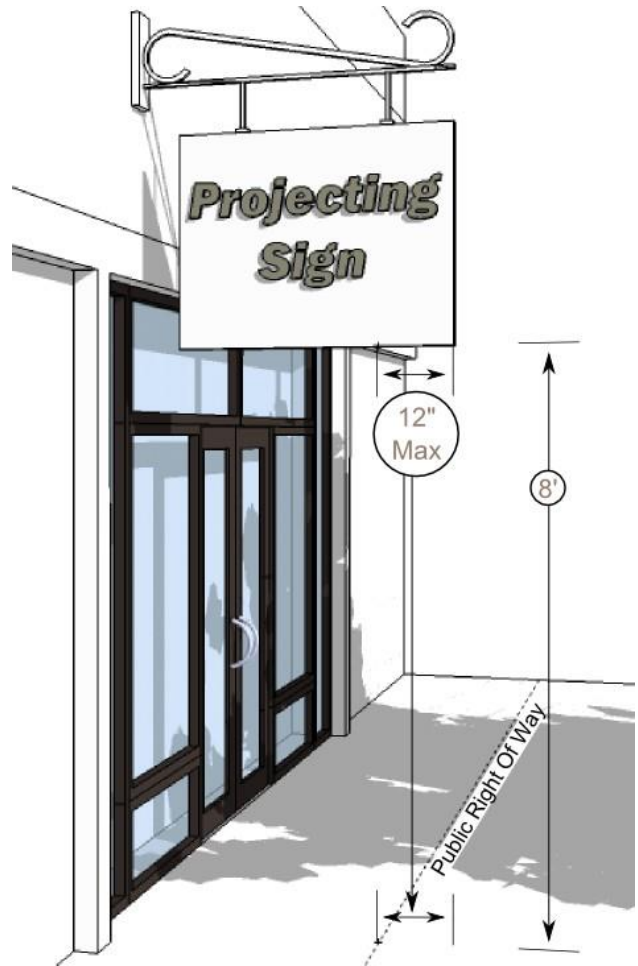
B. *Prohibited Signs.* Signs not specifically authorized are prohibited, including but not limited to the following:

1. *Animated Signs.* Animated signs are not allowed, except for approved pennants, banner, flags, revolving barber poles and clocks including those which alternately display time and temperature having a maximum face area not exceeding three (3) square feet;
2. *Flashing Signs.* Flashing signs other than those which alternately display time and temperature, and are a maximum of three (3) square feet in area;
3. *Sound Signs.* Signs emitting sound or any substance are not allowed;
4. *Signs Affixed to Objects.* The tacking, painting, pasting or otherwise affixing of signs or posters visible from a public way, to any trees, fences, utility poles or other structures, or upon vehicles where such vehicles are used primarily as support for such signs, is prohibited;
5. *Permanent Off-site Sign.* Any form of remote signage, such as off-premises advertising signs or billboards, are prohibited;
6. *Signs with Exposed Raceways.* Except where it is determined by the Planning Administrator that it is structurally feasible to install a sign without using an exposed raceway;
7. *Pole Signs and / or Roof Signs.* Pole signs and / or roof signs except as specifically approved when it is determined that a ground or wall sign is not feasible due to site limitations and / or line of sight interruptions for vehicular traffic;

ARTICLE 7 – SIGN REGULATIONS



8. Wall-mounted cabinet signs are prohibited, unless such sign:
 - a. Utilizes a cabinet that is stylized in shape, rather than rectangular, to reflect the shape of the image printed on the sign face;
 - b. Utilizes a molded sign face, with embossed copy or sign copy or sign copy in relief; or,
9. *Projecting Signs*. Projecting Signs may be permitted in the TC and AT Districts or as part of an approved Comprehensive Sign Plan. Projecting Sign standards:
 - a. Maximum sign area of twelve (12) square feet;
 - b. Minimum/maximum spacing from building of six inches/twelve inches (6"/12");
 - c. The bottom of the sign shall not be less than eight feet (8') from the base of the building;
 - d. No sign shall project into the public right-of-way, except as follows:
 - e. Upon administrative approval, wall signs attached to the front face of building may extend a maximum of twelve inches (12") into the public right-of-way.



10. *Signs Facing Residential Districts*. Signs identifying a business in a non-residential zoning district are not permitted on building façade adjacent to a shared zoning district boundary with a residential zoning district. Not applicable when the zoning district boundary is a public right-of-way; and,

ARTICLE 7 – SIGN REGULATIONS

11. *Vehicle Signs.* Signs attached to a vehicle primarily for the purposes of advertising, with such vehicle placed adjacent to a roadway and not used for the typical conduct of the business so advertised.



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C. *Non-conforming Signs.*

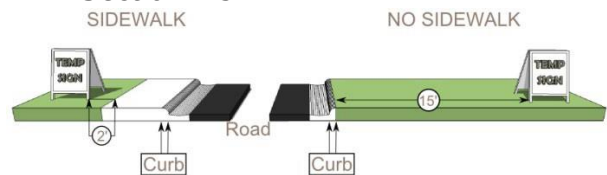
1. **Legal Non-conforming Signs.** Legal non-conforming signs shall mean a sign (or signs) which lawfully exist at the time of the enactment of this Ordinance, and which does not conform to the regulations as specified herein for the zone in which said sign is located. A legal non-conforming sign may not be altered in any manner not in conformance with this Ordinance; however, such sign(s) shall be maintained as required by this Section and may be reasonably repaired as determined by the Planning Administrator.
2. Not with standing any provisions to the contrary contained herein, a legal non-conforming sign may be utilized in perpetuity as noted herein.
3. Whenever the use of given building or premises changes to another use allowed

in the respective zoning district, all non-conforming signs on the building and / or premises shall be modified to bring them into conformance with these regulations.

4. **Removal of Non-conforming Signs.** Upon adoption of this Ordinance, any signs not enjoying legal non-conforming status shall be removed from display within six (6) months.

D. *Location and Placement of Signs.*

1. Temporary signs, as defined in this Ordinance, may be permitted in the public right-of-way in compliance with Section 7.5.



2. No sign shall be erected, relocated, or maintained so as to prevent free ingress to, or egress from, any door, window or fire escape nor shall any sign be attached to a standpipe or fire escape.
3. No signs (temporary or permanent) shall be erected or maintained within the sight visibility triangle as defined in the Town of Queen Creek Design Standards and Procedures Manual, or at any location where, by reason of its position, shape, color or illumination, it may interfere with, obstruct the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device, or with any device mounted on a police or fire protection vehicle; or which makes use of such words as, "Stop", or "Look", in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse drivers.
4. No sign shall be erected or painted upon or attached to any tree, rock or other natural feature, or to any fence post, or utility pole or structure.
5. Every illuminated sign shall be so placed as to prevent any light or reflection from being cast directly on any adjoining Residential district.
6. The lowest portion of any sign, which extends over an area intended for pedestrian use, shall not be less than eight feet (8') above the finished grade

ARTICLE 7 – SIGN REGULATIONS



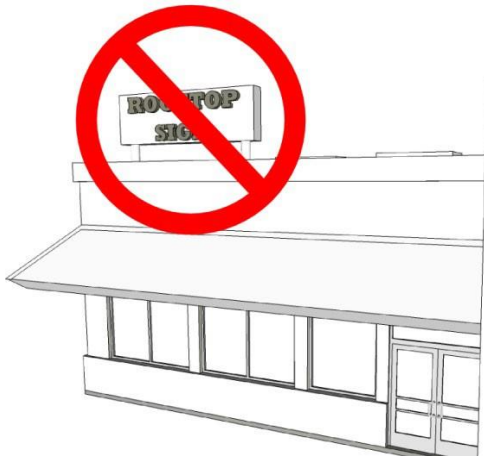
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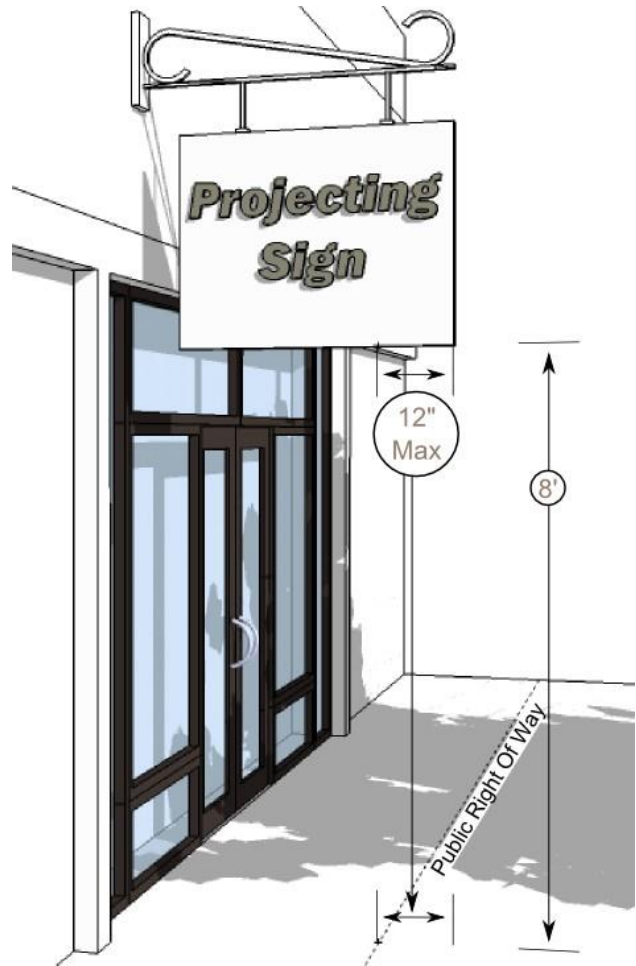
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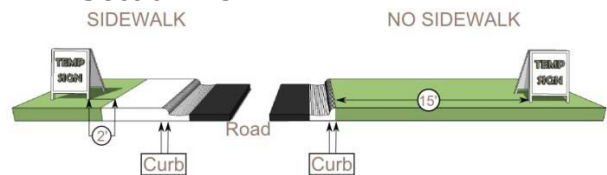
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