

Creating a New Sign Code for Tucson – Public Involvement Detail

Description of Code Improvements	Citizen Sign Code Committee (CSCC)	Planning Commission (PC)	Tucson Residents for Responsible Government (TRRG)	MPA / Metro Chamber / SAHBA / Tucson Association of Realtors ¹	Arizona Sign Association ²	Reps from Sign Industry ³	Staff
2.2.12 – Sign Design Review Committee – Replacement of Citizen Sign Code Committee (CSCC) with a Sign Design Review Committee that reviews plans for the Sign Design Option and to advise the Planning Commission (PC) on sign related text amendments.	Yes	Yes	No	Did Not Comment (NC)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.2.12 – Sign Design Review Committee – Additional professions were suggested for the composition of the Sign Design Review Committee.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.1.1 – Purpose – Updates to include better traffic safety, visual environment, and technical standards references to improve <i>Reed</i> compliance and reliance on technical standards.	Yes	Yes	NC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.1.1 – Purpose – Minor revisions suggested by CSCC and PC to purpose statement. Ultimately to revise purpose statement to use suggestions from TRRG.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.1.1 – Purpose – Update language in purpose statement to include economic impact of signage.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.1.2 – Applicability – Revise language to reference City Administrative Directives.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.2 – Definitions – Keep definition of Billboards as is.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.5 – Definitions – Change Electronic Sign Copy to Digital Signs and remove reference to “scrolling.”	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.5 – Definitions – Remove definition of Emergency Site Locator.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.7 – Definitions – Addition of Interior Sign to definition section.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.10 – Definitions – Addition of Portable Sign to definition section with minor adjustment to text.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.11 – Definitions – Keep definition of Repair as is.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.12 – Definitions – Replace proposed new definition of Sign with definition from existing code.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.13 – Definitions – Change definition of Tenant to include the following text: “site or a portion of a site.”	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.3.14 – Definitions – Change definition of Window Sign to be any sign affixed to a window and not to exceed 30% of total window coverage.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.1.A.1 – Sign Area – Single Face Sign – Measurement of symbols that utilize less than fifty-percent of the usable area clarified.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.4 – Sign Copy – Revise rate-of-change of Electronic Message Centers from once every five minutes to once every one minute.	Yes	Yes	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.5 – Sign Height Measurement – Proposed sign height measurement has been changed to be measured from the average finished grade.	Yes	Yes	NC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.5 – Sign Height Measurement – Change how the sign height is measured as the vertical distance from the average finished grade, (5’ radius from the center of the sign) beneath the sign to the topmost sign copy of the sign.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.6.6 – Clearance – Clarify definition by adding a reference in the definitions.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.9.C.1 & E.1 Street and Building Frontages – allow the transfer of signage from one street frontage to another with approval from zoning administrator.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No

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7A.6.10 – Right-of-Way Signs – Allow M&C and/or City Manager to grant special licenses for signage.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.6.10 – Right-of-Way Signs – Addition of language to help clarify.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.11 – Premise – Clarify definition to mean an entire site.	Yes	Yes	NC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.6.11 – Premise – Change language in definition of premise to include packages, parcels, or ownerships.”	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.6.12 – Illumination – Change language to state “all signs may be illuminated subject to the provisions of Tucson code.”	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.7 – Sign Design Options – Replace Integrated Architecture section with Master Sign Program for permanent and portable signs and an Individual Sign Design Option to encourage better design for signs, allow portable sign options for special sign needs like new subdivisions, as a quid pro quo for flexibility, allow use of design best practices like legibility, and help comply with <i>Reed</i> .	Yes	Yes	No	AR	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1 – Master Sign Program – Permanent Signs – Add the following language to Master Sign Program Purpose, “flexibility, encourage development in designated growth areas,”	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1.E.1 – Master Sign Program – Design Standards – All Signs – Retain portion of design standards that requires illuminated colors that reduce light trespass and are dark skies compliant.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1.E.2.b - Master Sign Program – Design Standards – Revise language to remove Sign Height caps.	Yes	Yes	NC	No	No	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1.E – Master Sign Program – Permanent Signs – Design Standards – Remove design standards for all signs section and add in a height cap for freestanding signs.	No	No	NC	Yes	Yes	NC	No
7A.7.1.E.2.c - Master Sign Program – Design Standards – Clarified language related to sign component requirements.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1.E.3 Wall-mounted Signs – Add language related to publically recognized logos to standards for wall-mounted signs. Staff clarified this proposed changed is already covered by the code and unnecessary.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.7.1.F – Master Sign Program – Best Practice Option – Include City of Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area or an analogous project from which directly relevant comparisons may be made as best practice option.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.7.1.G - Master Sign Program – Findings – Addition of language related to Dark Skies into the required findings.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.7.1.G - Findings – Revise proposed language in findings to allow more flexibility and reduce ambiguity.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.7.2.B – Applicability – Add the following language: “Applications under the master-portable sign program that comply with standards in place at the time of new code adoption shall receive automatic approval.”	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.7.2.C.5 – Master Sign Program – Portable – Design Standards – Clarified language related to allowable sign allotment for portable signs in the Portable Master Sign Program.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes

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7A.7.3 – Singular Sign Option – Renaming of the Individual Sign Option to the Singular Sign Option	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.8.2 – Prohibited Signs – Prohibition of Feather Banners.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	No
7A.8.2 – Prohibited Signs – Clarification of the prohibition of Roof Signs, except in certain cases.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.9.2 – Change of Use – Add new use category of Medical/Health-Related	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10 – Sign Types and General Standards – Add reference stating standards of special districts may be varied by the Master Sign Program.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.10.1.C – Generally Permitted Signs – Menu Boards – Remove language requiring 30 foot setback or sound mitigation wall for menu-boards with two-way communication devices.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Reorganization of Zone Category Standards into tables.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Clarification of where Billboards are an allowed sign type.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Removal of Roof Sign from permitted sign table.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Add legend to table in 7A.10.2.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Increase sign allotment for non-residential uses (churches and schools) in residential zones to accommodate need for more signage.	Yes	Yes	NC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Increase sign allotment for non-residential uses (churches and schools) in residential zones to amounts allowed in the general business category.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Zone Category Standards – Allow the transfer of signage from one street frontage to another with approval from zoning administrator.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10.2. – Permanent Signs – Zone Category Standards – Reduction of illumination standards related to the O-1 zone.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10.2 – Permanent Signs – Allow Historic Landmark Signs in the R-3 zone.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2.C – Permanent Signs – Change in zones where access point signs are permitted.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2.C – Permanent Signs – Remove language reducing total allowable number of freestanding signs for placement along a local frontage.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10.2.C.1.c – Billboards – Language to be kept as is, in relation to Billboards.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2.C.1.d – Canopy Signs – Revised and simplified regulation for canopy signs.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.2.C.2 – Freestanding Signs – Spacing for freestanding signs to be kept as-is.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.3 – Portable Signs – Reorganization of content based sign categories into a portable sign category based on material.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes

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7A.10.3 – Portable Signs – Add language related to increased allowance of portable signs, up to 900sf, determined by frontage or building permits.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.10.2.C.3 – Extended Parapet Option – Goals of proposed extended parapet option was accomplished through revisions to the definitions of wall sign and roof sign.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.3.C.1 – A-Frame Signs – Removed language referencing need for it to be “square in shape.”	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.3.C.2 – Feather Banners – Removed proposed language related to feather banners and prohibited them.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.3.C.3 – Temporary Signs - Rearranged language to be clearer.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.10.4.D.1 – Historic Landmark Signs – Added Wall Signs to allowable sign types for Historic Landmark Signs.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.11.1 – Special Districts – Add reference stating standards of special districts may be varied by the Master Sign Program.	Yes	Yes	NC	AR	NC	Yes	Yes
7A.11.2.D – Pedestrian Districts – Added language making Commercial Murals exempt in Pedestrian Districts.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
7A.11.3 – Scenic Corridor Zone (SCZ) District – Revise Scenic Corridor regulations to change definition, reduce setbacks, and increase sign allowances.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
7A.13 – Sign Design Review Committee – Adjusted composition to include a portable signs expert on the Committee, add term limits, set the quorum number at five and to make this a City Manager appointed committee.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.4.2 – Definitions – Abandoned – Clarified definition related to abandoned structures.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.4.7 – Definitions – Low Profile Freestanding Sign – Clarified definition related to Low Profile Freestanding Signs.	Yes	Yes	NC	NC	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.4.7 – Definitions – Freeway – Add definition of Freeway that would expand eligible roads to include state routes like Houghton and Oracle, as well as PAG Regionally Significant Corridors.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
11.4.17 – Definitions – Parapet – Revise definition of Parapet to define as portion of a wall.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No
11.4.24 – Definitions – Wall – Revise definition of wall to include parapet.	No	No	NC	Yes	NC	NC	No

1. Metropolitan Pima Alliance, Tucson Metro Chamber of Commerce, Southern Arizona Home Builders Association, and Tucson Association of Realtors submitted a combined letter on June 15, 2017 with comments related to the Sign Code Revisions. This column reflects the organizations agreement on those points.
2. Arizona Sign Association submitted a letter of support for the draft Sign Standards on June 20, 2017, prior to the Joint Planning Commission / Citizen Sign Code Committee Public Hearing held on June 21, 2017. Any changes made after that Public Hearing are listed as Organization Did Not Comment.
3. The category Sign Industry Representatives includes Jude Cook and Rob East, who are members of the Citizen Sign Code Committee.

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