

Sign Code Revision Project

**Joint subcommittee of the Planning Commission
and Citizen Sign Code Committee**

March 6, 2017

06/23/2017

1



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



Approval of Minutes / Legal Action Report for February 27, 2017

06/23/2017

2



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



Review of the Process

06/23/2017

3



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



1st Call to the Audience

06/23/2017

4



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



Clarification on the following items

06/23/2017

5



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



Review and discussion by Subcommittee of Suggested Edits Matrix

06/23/2017

6



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson



7A.3.14 – Edit #16 (review of edits from February 27, 2017)

Subcommittee Suggestions: Subcommittee Meeting: Committee not in agreement if non-affixed interior window signs should be regulated.

Redline edit #1: Window sign. Any sign affixed to interior or exterior **of** window surface.

Redline Edit #2: Window sign. Any sign ~~affixed to interior or exterior window surface~~ **intended to be seen from exterior of window surface.**



7A.10.1.C – Edit #30 (review of edits from February 27, 2017)

Subcommittee Suggestions: Committee suggested staff look into options on how menu boards and drive through windows are addressed in the sign code and through other code regulations. There was no consensus on how to regulate this.

Staff Comment: Staff has reviewed the regulations, existing and proposed, and provided the following options. If the committee is unable to come to a consensus, they may also send this as unresolved to the larger bodies.



7A.10.1.C – Edit #30 (review of edits from February 27, 2017)

Redline Edit #1: Keep existing language that sets back two-way communication device 30 feet from a residence or residential zone.

Redline Edit #2: If there is a two-way communication device, use of a wall or fence should be used to mitigate noise.

Redline Edit #3: Remove language to how it used to be and utilize the Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance to mitigate sound.



7A.11.2.D – Edit #48 (review of edits from February 27, 2017)

Subcommittee Suggestions: Staff suggested allowing commercial murals in the pedestrian districts. Committee agreed to this and were in general agreement.

Redline Edit: E. Commercial Murals are exempt.

Staff comment: Staff is amenable to these changes.



Sign Standards Key Issues

Article 7A

March 6, 2017

7A.12 Appeals and Variances pg 68

- Appeals and variances follow the normal Board of Adjustment processes (Sec. 3.10).
- Signs application may also be appealed to Mayor and Council (Sec. 3.9.2) or Superior Court.
- Appeals to M/C may also be appealed to Superior Court.

7A.13 Sign Design Review Committee pg 68

- Committee's duties listed in UDC Article 2.2.12
pp 71-74

Sign Design Review Committee

- Advises on Text Amendments
- Advises on 7A.7 Design Options
- Composition
- Appointment Term
- Vacancies
- Meetings
- Removal
- Administrative Procedures

Sec. 2.2.12 Sign Design Review Committee pp 71-74

- **Composition** – Architect, sign business rep, local business rep, (architect/landscape architect/planner), general neighborhood association rep, ad hoc neighborhood association rep, Outdoor Lighting Committee rep, (one) at-large member appointed by City Manager. Total 8
- **Authority** – Advises Planning Commission on text amendments and reviews Sign Design Options
- **Appointment and Term** – 1) Mayor and Council, 2) City Manager
- **Term** – Four-year term, two terms, may return after one-year hiatus
- **Vacancies** - Filled in same manner as initial appointments
- **Meetings** – Quorum –four members Director may request Design Professional to make recommendation if quorum not obtained. Pre-app meetings allowed, one continuance by committee,
- **Removal** - 1) Per Chapter 10A for M/C option. 2) On request by City Manager
- **Administrative Procedures** – Executive Secretary is Zoning Administrator, and committee shall elect chairperson. Notification per PDSD policy.

Draft Sign Standards Issues Requiring Resolution

Issues to Be Resolved

- 7A.6 Measurement, Locations, and General Requirements
 - **Five Minute Change Rate of Digital Sign**
 - **Premise definition**
- 7A.7 Sign Design Option
 - **Notice options**
 - **Dark Skies Illumination**
 - **Design Options and prohibited signs**
 - **More prescriptive version?**
 - **Uniform background for listed tenants**
- 7A.8 Exempt and Prohibited Signs
 - **Commercial Flags and Murals**
 - **Roof Signs – see extended parapet option**
- 7A.9 Non-Conforming Signs and Change of Use
 - **Alteration of electronic components**
- 7A.10. Generally Permitted Signs
 - **Interior Signs- Menu Board setbacks**
 - **Window Sign Standards -**
 - **Permanent Signs by Zone**
 - **Maximum Sign Area – increase non-residential uses on arterials to commercial use amounts**
 - **Additional Sign Type Canopy Signs/ Extended Parapet for Wall Signs**
 - **Increase/Decrease all portable sign areas and number of signs**
 - **Allow or prohibit feather banners**
- 7A.11 Special Districts
 - **Scenic Route spacing signs**
- 7A.13 Sign Design Review Committee
 - **Composition of committee**
 - **M/C or City Manager version**
 - **Quorum**

Exempt/Prohibited, Non-Conforming Signs, Special Districts

- *7A.8 Exempt and Prohibited Signs*
 - **Roof Signs**
 - See Extended Parapet Option
 - **Commercial Flags and Murals**
 - Allow commercial flags as part of Portable Master Sign Program.
 - Allow commercial and non-commercial murals to be exempt in the Pedestrian District.
- *7A.9 Non-Conforming Signs and Change of Use*
 - Allow alteration to electronic components but static sign cannot be made into a digital sign
- *7A.11 Special Districts*
 - Keep the spacing currently in the Sign Code
 - Scenic Route spacing signs per MPA letter

7A.6 General - Measurements

– *Five Minute Change Rate of Digital Sign*

- Consider one hour
- Consider five minutes
- Consider one minute

– *Premise Definition*

- Recommend the current draft
- Consider MPA recommendation to allow multiple development plans with access within a unified site premise to have their own sign.

7A.7 Design Option Issues

- *Notice Options*
 - **PDSO Notice Policy**
 - **Mailed notice 300' and/or 50'**

- *Dark Skies Illumination*
 - **Create an interim design guideline**

- *Master Sign Programs (MSP) and Prohibited Signs*
 - **State prohibited signs are not allowed but exempt commercial flags for portable master sign program**

- *More prescriptive version of MSP for Permanent Signs*
 - **No change proceed with current draft**
 - **Include more prescriptive caps to qualify for MSP**

- *Uniform Background for Listed Tenants*
 - **Recommended as in the current draft**
 - **Allow various multi-colored backgrounds and panel sizes**

Sec. 7A.13 Sign Design Review Committee (SDRC)

- *Composition of SDRC*

- **Proceed with draft with 8 members but consider a portable sign expert (commercial real estate broker)**

– *M/C or City Manager Version*

- **Consider a Mayor and Council appointed version**
- **Recommend the City Manager version**

– *Quorum*

- **Recommend set at four**

Sec. 7A.10.3 General Portable Signs Standards

- *Allow or Prohibit Feather Banners*
 - **Allow four using two colors and allow one portable sign in commercial/industrial zones**
 - **Prohibit feather banners by stating in Prohibited Sign Section 7A.8 Exempt and Prohibited Signs**

- *Increase or Decrease all portable sign area allotments (SAA) and Number of Signs*
 - **Decrease the number and SAA as some Commission/CSCC subcommittee members propose**
 - **Increase the SAA as business stakeholders proposed by about doubling the sign area allotment**
 - **Keep as recommended in the draft**

Sec. 7A.10.1 Generally Permanent Signs

Menu Board Setbacks

- **Proceed with 30'**
- **Consider a sound mitigation wall without a set setback**
- **Change to MPA 20' or remove**
- **Change to Neighborhood 40'**

Window Sign Standards

- **Proceed as recommended in draft**
- **Change to include signs hung behind window from a given distance**

Sec. 7A.10.2 Permanent Signs by Zone

– *Maximum Sign Area for Non-residential Uses in Residential Zones*

- **Proceed with 100 sq ft overall increase for non-residential**
- **Increase non-residential uses on arterials to commercial use sign area amounts**

– *Additional Sign Type Canopy Signs*

- **Recommend sign copy be beneath the roofline**

– *Extended Parapet Option for Wall Signs*

- **Ten foot high/ten foot wide extension**
- **Ten foot high up to 100 sq ft sign area**

Forward a draft with edits from the Subcommittee to the Joint Planning Commission /CSCC for review



2nd Call to the Audience

06/23/2017

26



Planning and Development Services
Thank you for Investing in Tucson

