

# City of Grants Pass Municipal Code



Chapter 9.21 has been added by Ord. 4952 §2, 1998

## Chapter 9.21

### SIGN STANDARDS

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## 9.21.010 Purpose.

- A. The purposes of this Chapter are to:
1. Protect the health, safety, property and welfare of the public;
  2. Provide a neat, clean, orderly and attractive appearance of the community;
  3. Improve the effectiveness of signs;
  4. Provide for safe construction, location, erection and maintenance of signs;
  5. Prevent proliferation of signs and sign clutter, minimize adverse visual safety factors to travelers on public highways and on private areas open to public travel;
  6. Improve the ability of business owners/lessees to identify their businesses to the community to enhance the furtherance of commerce; and
  7. Achieve these purposes consistent with state and federal constitutional limits on the regulation of speech.

To achieve these purposes, it is necessary to regulate the design, quality of materials, construction, location, electrification, illumination, and maintenance of signs that are visible from public property, public rights of way and private areas open to public travel. (Ord. 5466 §3, 2008)

## 9.21.020 Definitions.

- A. Abandoned Sign: A sign that advertises a business or event that has been closed for more than 30 days.
- B. Alteration: Any modification of a sign excluding routine maintenance, painting or change of commercial message of an existing sign.
- C. Animated Sign: Any sign that uses movement or change of lighting to depict action or create a special effect or scene.
- D. Attached Sign: A sign attached to or painted on any part of a building as contrasted to a freestanding sign.
- E. Awning or Canopy Sign: Any sign painted on or applied to the surface of an awning or canopy.
- F. Banner: A strip of cloth or other material bearing a design, slogan or message typically hung by string or rope.



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- G. Billboard: A sign located on a zone lot not containing a building.
- H. Blade Sign: A sign that is perpendicular to a store frontage, usually hangs from a canopy or awning.
- I. Building Frontage: A lineal front of a building or portion thereof devoted to a specific business or enterprise that fronts a street or customer parking area.
- J. Changing Image Sign: Any sign that, through the use of moving structural elements, flashing or sequential lights, lighting elements, or other automated method, results in movement, the appearance of movement or change of sign image or message. Changing image signs do not include otherwise static signs where illumination is turned off and back on not more than once every 24 hours, nor signs with manually changeable copy/text. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
- K. Commercial Message: Any sign wording, logo. Note: the paint scheme of a building will not be considered as part of a commercial message.
- L. Directional Sign: Signs limited to directional messages, principally for pedestrian or vehicular traffic, such as 'One Way', 'Entrance' and 'Exit'.
- M. Directory Sign - A sign, oriented for pedestrian traffic that lists the names or locations of various businesses or activities located in a building or group of buildings. Directory signs shall be limited to one per building entrance or one per street frontage, whichever is less. Directory signs shall have a maximum size of 3 square feet if the sign is visible from a public right of way. (Ord. 4970 §1, 1999)
- N. Double-Faced Sign: A sign with a commercial message on two sides.
- O. Downtown Mall: A shopping area in the Central Business District which includes a minimum of three separately taxed businesses, which share common pedestrian entrances.
- P. Drive-Up Service Sign: A sign for a drive-up service such as a menu board for fast food restaurants, ATM or listing of any other services.
- Q. Electric Sign: Any sign which has electrical wiring in, on, or attached to it.
- R. Flag: Any fabric, banner, or bunting containing distinctive colors, patterns or symbols used as a symbol of government. A flag is not considered a sign.
- S. Freestanding/Ground Sign: A sign anchored in the ground and independent from any building.

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- T. Government Sign: A sign installed by a public agency for the purpose of public information. This includes stop signs, directional signs, warning signs and other notification that is in the interest of public health, safety and welfare.
- U. Grade: The final grade of paving, sidewalk or landscaped area at any given point upon completion of construction. (Grants Pass Development Code, Article 30.)
- V. Internally Illuminated: Any sign which has the source of light entirely enclosed within it. Source may be fluorescent lamps, incandescent bulbs, neon tubing etc.
- W. Historic Advertising Art: Artwork that contains advertising for a specific company or product and can be proven to have actually existed at least fifty years ago.
- X. Marquee: A structure attached to and supported by a building that can project over the public right-of-way.
- Y. Mural: Artwork that contains no advertising message or content and does not represent a company or product(s).
- Z. Non-Conforming Sign: A sign that does not conform to the requirements of this Code.
- AA. Owner/Lessee: The owner, lessee or authorized designee of the lot or building.
- BB. Pennant: A lightweight plastic or fabric ~~containing no message~~, suspended from a rope, wire, or string, usually in series, designed to move in the wind.
- CC. Election Sign: A temporary sign usually used to represent a candidate or an issue, restricted to the time frame immediately surrounding a State sanctioned election.
- DD. Project Sign: A sign located at the site of a construction project.
- EE. Projecting Sign: A sign other than a wall sign that projects from and is supported by a wall of a building or structure.
- FF. Real Estate Sign: A sign used to indicate the lot or business on which the sign is located is for sale, lease or rent.
- GG. Residential Sign: A sign located in a residential zone.
- HH. Secondary Outdoor Business: An additional business located outside of the structure in which the principal business resides, usually in the parking area.



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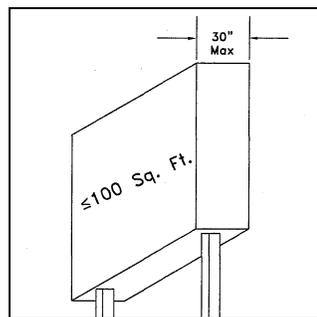
- II. **Setback:** The minimum horizontal distance from a given point or line of reference, which, for purposes of this Code unless otherwise stated, shall be the lot line, to the nearest edge of a building or structure, fence, or other elements as defined by the Grants Pass Development Code.
- JJ. **Shopping Center:** A retail complex including at least six separately taxed businesses which are located on one or more lots and which share parking area and driveway entrances.
- KK. **Sign:** A device, fixture, placard, painting or structure that uses color, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to advertise, announce, identify or communicate information.
- LL. **Sign Structure:** A structure specifically intended for supporting or containing a sign. (Ord. 5434 §5, 2008)
- MM. **Street Frontage:** The lineal dimension in feet that the property upon which a structure is built abuts a public street or streets.
- NN. **Temporary Sign:** A sign which is erected for a limited period of time.
- OO. **Temporary Sign Displays:** An attention attracting device or devices, including but not limited to, flags (non-governmental), pennants, streamers, lawn signs, balloons, inflatable objects, and air powered objects.
- PP. **Visual Clearance Area:** The area located at a corner, intersection or driveway that is required for proper visibility from a motorized vehicle or by a pedestrian. (Grants Pass Development Code Article 30)
- QQ. **Wall Sign:** Any sign placed or painted directly against a building with the exposed face of the sign in a plane approximately parallel to the plane of said wall and projects outward from the wall not more than 18 inches.
- RR. **Window Sign:** A sign affixed to the inside or outside of the glass of a window or door.

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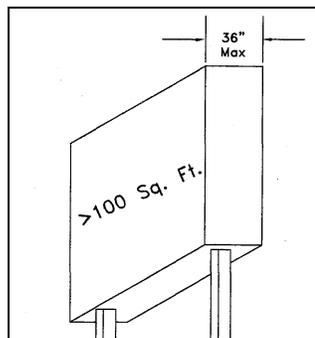


## 9.21.030 Computations.

- A. Computation of the area of a freestanding or projecting sign shall be calculated by adding the square footage of all the faces presenting a commercial message. Pole covers and columns shall not be included in the area of the measurement if they do not bear a commercial message. For signs 100 square feet or less per face, double-faced signs will be calculated as one sign only when placed back-to-back, with each outside face separated by no more than 30 inches. For signs greater than 100 square feet per face, double-faced signs will be calculated as one sign only when placed back-to-back, with each outside face separated by no more than 36 inches. See figures below: (Ord. 5434 §5, 2008)



*Double-faced signs (100 sq. ft. or less per face) will be calculated as one sign only when placed back-to-back, with each outside face separated by 30 inches or less.*



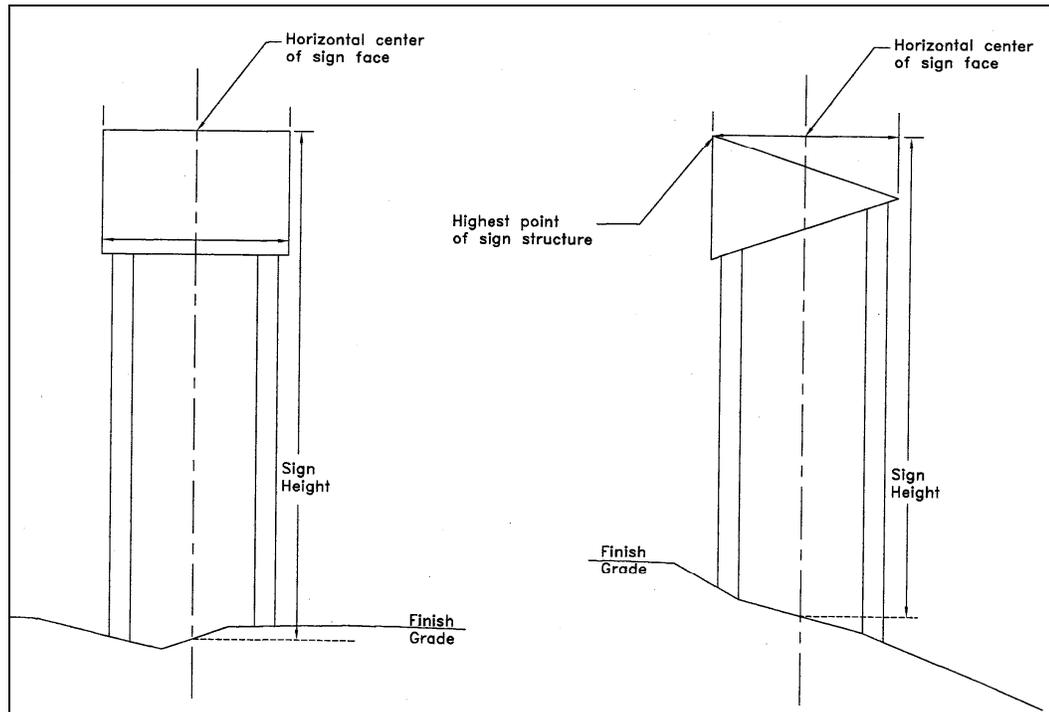
*Double-faced signs (greater than 100 sq. ft. per face) will be calculated as one sign only when placed back-to-back, with each outside face separated by 30 inches or less.*

- B. The area of a wall sign shall be computed by enclosing the entire commercial message, including logo, within sets of parallel lines touching the outer limits of the commercial message.

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- C. Computation of the height of a freestanding sign will be the vertical distance measured between the elevation of the ground directly below the horizontal center of the sign face and the highest point of the sign structure. See figure below:



## 9.21.040 Permits Required.

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to construct, alter or relocate a sign, or direct an employee or agent to do the same without first obtaining a permit for each separate sign from the City as required by this chapter.
- B. No sign permit shall be issued for an existing or proposed sign unless such sign conforms to the requirements of this Article.

## 9.21.041 Signs Exempt From Permits.

The following signs are permitted and are exempt from permits. Other than the exemption from having to obtain a sign permit, the remaining applicable provisions of this ordinance and other applicable laws and ordinances shall apply. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008; 5490 §3, 2009)

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- A. Traffic Signs. Traffic signs and all other public safety, informational or directional signs erected or maintained by a municipal or governmental body or agency or public utility, including danger signs, railroad crossing signs and signs of a non-commercial nature required by public laws, ordinances or statutes.
- B. Holiday Decorations. Temporary decorations or displays topical to a state or federally recognized Holiday and erected not earlier than 30 days prior to said Holiday and removed not later than 4 days after said Holiday.
- C. Garage Sale Signs. Garage sale signs may be placed in accordance with Section 9.08.050 of the Municipal Code.
- D. Entrance Signs. One sign up to 2 square feet may be placed at the entrance to a building on any side of the building. Such a sign will not count against the total sign allocation for the business.
- E. Blade Signs. Blade signs must provide at least 8 feet of vertical clearance; one sign indicating the entrance to the premises is allowed per entrance; maximum size not to exceed 3 square feet.
- F. Real Estate Signs: Sale or Lease.
  - 1. One freestanding real estate sign is allowed per street frontage.
  - 2. Size: Up to 10 square feet in residential zones, including riders and flyer holders; up to 32 square feet in commercial and industrial zones.
  - 3. Height: Maximum height is 6 feet above grade.
  - 4. Off-premise real estate signs are not allowed.
- G. Real Estate Signs: Open Houses. Two "open house" signs are allowed per property, up to 6 square feet each. Signs must be removed daily. Off-premise signs are not allowed.
- H. Project Signs: Residential Zone.
  - 1. One construction project sign is allowed per street frontage on a lot being developed with a current development permit, up to 32 square feet each, up to a maximum of 3 signs.
  - 2. All signs shall be setback 10 feet from the property line and shall not exceed 10 feet in height.

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3. Illumination is prohibited.
  4. All signs must be removed within 30 days of the completion of the project or upon expiration of the development permit, whichever occurs first.
- I. Project Signs: Industrial or Commercial Zone.
1. One construction project sign is allowed per street frontage on a lot being developed with a current development permit, up to 64 square feet each, up to a maximum of 3 signs.
  2. One sign is allowed for each subcontractor up to 6 square feet.
  3. Section 9.21.041 (H) (2) through (4) shall also apply.
- J. Auction Signs.
1. One auction sign up to 6 square feet is allowed per street frontage on the parcel where the auction is located.
  2. Off-premise direction signs up to 3 square feet each are allowed the day of the auction, outside of the public right of way.
- K. Signs on athletic fields and scoreboards intended for on-premises viewing.
- L. Projected Images: One image, up to 4 square feet per business, may be projected onto a sidewalk or other paved surface located on private property.
- M. Historic Advertising Art if located on a landmark building or within a Historic District when approved by the Historic Building and Sites Commission, or murals.
- N. Signs on a Truck, Bus, Car, Boat, Trailer or other motorized vehicle and equipment provided all the following conditions are adhered to:
1. Primary purpose of such vehicle or equipment is not the display of signs.
  2. Signs are painted upon or applied directly to an integral part of the vehicle or equipment.
  3. Vehicle/equipment is in operating condition, currently registered and licensed to operate on public streets when applicable, and actively used in the daily function of a business/or use.

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- 4. Vehicles and equipment are not used as static displays, advertising a product or service, nor utilized as storage, shelter or distribution points for commercial products or services for the general public.
- O. Vehicles and Equipment engaged in active construction projects and the on-premise storage of equipment and vehicles offered to the general public for rent or lease.
- P. Indoor Signs. Signs located in the interior of any building or within an enclosed lobby or court of any group of buildings.
- Q. Drive-Up Window Menu Board Sign, Service Station Price Sign or Electronic / Manual Reader Board. Where an existing permitted Drive-Up Window Menu Board Sign, Service Station Price Sign or electronic / manual reader board is modified by change of message or design on the sign face without any change to size or shape of the sign framework or structure. Includes changing messages on permitted Changing Image Signs.
- R. Window Signs. Window signs located in windows, if they are mounted or painted upon the inside or outside of windows within all commercial or industrial zoning districts.
- S. Hand Carried Signs.
- T. Any sign not legible from the public right of way.
- U. Directory Signs.
- V. Temporary Political Signs in compliance with the provisions of Section 9.21.610 – 650.
- W. Temporary Sign Displays. An attention attracting device or devices, including but not limited to, flags (non-governmental), pennants, streamers, lawn signs, balloons, inflatable objects, and air powered objects.

## 9.21.042 Application.

Application for a permit shall be made to the City upon a form provided by the City and shall include the following:

- A. Two sets of drawings, including the following written information:
  - 1. Location of the sign on the building or building site.
  - 2. Dimensions of the sign.

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3. Construction materials.
  4. Method of attachment.
  5. Identity of the owner/lessee and installer of the sign.
  6. The state contractor ' s registration number and Oregon electrical contractor ' s number for electrical signs.
- B. Any supplemental information required to demonstrate compliance with applicable provisions of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

### 9.21.043 Issuance of Permits.

- A. City personnel shall examine completed applications for permits within 5 working days after filing. If not accomplished within 5 days of completion, the application fee is waived. Note: Does not apply to denials. Does not apply to Section 9.21.400.
- B. If it appears from the application, drawings and specifications therewith that the requested sign(s) conform with all the provisions of this chapter, a permit shall be issued. But, if City personnel find that any requested sign(s) directly related to the application violate this chapter or any other chapter of the City code or ordinance related thereto, a permit shall not be issued until necessary corrections are made. (See 9.21.700 for exceptions.)
- C. No additional permits shall be issued for signs or businesses or uses with signs not already in compliance with this section, including overdue sign regulation fees or unpaid inspection charges.
- D. All signs, except for signs painted directly upon a building, are also subject to Building Department Requirements.
- E. Sign permits in the Historic District are subject to Historic District review.

### 9.21.044 Installation.

- A. All companies installing electrical signs must have a current Oregon electrical contractor ' s license and will comply with all state and federal regulations pertaining to equipment and safety regulations.
- B. All electric signs must have an Underwriter Laboratories or other approved electrical underwriting service sticker and the sign manufacture ' s label. Note: It is illegal to remove or cover a manufacturer ' s label

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## 9.21.045 Permit Fee/No-Fee.

- A. The fee for a sign permit shall be set by the City Council. Fees collected will be used to enforce and implement this code. The fee for any sign erected without a sign permit shall be double the regular sign fee.
- B. All signs, whether permanent or temporary, with a commercial message require a permit with a fee, unless exempt. (9.21.041) Note: A permitted sign removed from a building for maintenance or painting of the sign or building requires a no-fee permit to re-install the sign within 30 days of removal. A non-permitted sign must be brought into compliance within 30 days of removal and requires a permit.
- C. Any balloon/blimp in excess of 3 feet in diameter that is tethered over 10 feet above ground requires a no-fee permit, excluding hot air balloons.
- D. Banners require a no-fee permit.

## 9.21.046 Indemnification of City.

As a condition to the issuance of a sign permit as required by this chapter, all persons engaged in the hanging or painting of signs, which involves, in whole or in part, the erection, alteration, relocation, maintenance or other sign work in, over or immediately adjacent to a public right of way or public property if used or encroached upon by the sign hanger or painter in the said sign work, shall agree to hold harmless and indemnify the City, its officers, agents and employees from liability for damages resulting from said erection, alteration, relocation, maintenance or other sign work.

## 9.21.047 Prohibited Signs.

The following signs or devices are prohibited, and may neither be erected nor maintained: (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008, Ord. 5456 §2, 2008)

- A. Traffic hazards: No sign shall be permitted at the intersection of a street or driveway in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision of motor vehicle operators or at any location where by reason of its position, shape or color it may interfere with or be confused with authorized traffic sign, signal or device, or which makes use of a word, symbol or phrase, shape or color in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic. Refer to the Grants Pass Development Code for setback restrictions.
- B. Strobing lights or animated signs that resemble an emergency vehicle are prohibited and may not be displayed in any location visible from a public street, whether located inside or outside a building.
- C. Billboards.

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- D. Murals in the Historic District.
- E. Signs on public property:
  - 1. Except as set forth below or permitted elsewhere in this Chapter, no person shall paint, mark or write on, or post or otherwise affix in any manner, any hand-bill or sign to or upon any sidewalk, crosswalk, curb, curbstone, traffic sign, street lamp post, hydrant, public bench, tree, shrub, tree stake or guard, tree grate, railroad trestle, electric light, power, telephone or telegraph wire pole or wire appurtenant thereof, public art, ballot drop off box, bus shelter, utility vault, manhole cover, fire alarm, or upon any lighting system, public bridge, drinking fountain, statue, or fountain;
  - 2. Any hand-bill or sign found posted or otherwise affixed upon any public or utility property contrary to the provisions of this section may be removed by any company, utility, organization, or individual owing or responsible for maintaining that property or any City employee. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person or organization whose name, telephone number or address appears as the person to contact on any hand-bill or sign posted is the person responsible for having posted the same. The person responsible for any such illegal posting shall be liable for the cost incurred in the removal thereof. The remedy is not exclusive of any other provisions allowed by law including being subject to the penalty provisions of Grants Pass Municipal Code 1.36.010.
  - 3. The City reserves the right acting by resolution of the City Council to attach or affix in or on any public property metal plaques or plates or individual letters commemorating a historical, cultural, or artistic event, location or individual, flags, flower baskets, banners or public art.

### 9.21.048 Abandoned Signs.

- A. Any abandoned sign and supporting structure shall be removed by the owner of the sign or owner of the premises within 60 days following the date of abandonment.
- B. Any owner of an abandoned sign which is otherwise in conformance with this chapter may apply to the City for a 90 day extension of the removal date, upon proof of intent of occupancy within that period.

### 9.21.050 Dangerous Signs.

- A. Any dangerous or defective sign is hereby declared a nuisance and the owner/lessee has 48 hours after receiving notice to rectify the problem.

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- B. Any sign which represents an immediate danger or imminent public safety hazard shall be rectified or removed at the direction of the City Manager.

## 9.21.060 Signs in the General Commercial Zone.

- A. Freestanding Signs: Each parcel of land is permitted 1 freestanding sign per street frontage, subject to the following limitations:

1. Maximum height above grade: 25 feet. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
2. Allowable square footage: 2 square feet per linear foot of street frontage up to 50 square feet, then 1 square feet per linear foot of street frontage thereafter.
3. Maximum allowable: 100 square feet. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
4. Minimum allowable: up to at least 60 square feet regardless of street frontage.
5. Freestanding signs in a pedestrian area must not extend below 8 feet above the ground/surface.
6. Freestanding signs in a vehicular traffic area must provide at least 14.6 feet of clearance above the ground/surface.
7. Freestanding signs must be out of the visual clearance areas at driveways and intersections.
8. No part of a freestanding sign may project over a property line. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
9. Permanent accessory equipment, including (but not limited to) catwalks and ladders, may not be attached to any portion of a freestanding sign structure. Structural elements shall be limited to those necessary to support the sign. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
10. Any freestanding sign located within, or projecting over, a City Utility Easement (CUE) or potential future CUE shall be subject to the provisions of Section 9.21.130 (Freestanding Signs Within a City Utility Easement.) (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

- B. Wall Signs / Projecting Signs: Wall signs and projecting signs are permitted subject to the following requirements:

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1. **Alternate Determination of Maximum Sign Area:** Total sign area for wall and projecting signs shall be based upon the primary building frontage or the number of separately taxed businesses located on the same lot, whichever is greater. In no circumstances shall the sign area exceed this determination.
2. **Number of Signs:** There is no limit as to the number of wall or projecting signs so long as they are within the aggregate area limitations noted herein.
3. **Calculation Based Upon Separate Businesses:** Subject to subsection (6) below regarding Calculations for Conflict, each business is allowed up to 80 square feet of sign area for wall or projecting signs. Said sign allotment may be placed on any side wall of a building in which the business is located, subject to the permission of the owner or lessee.
4. **Primary Building Frontage:** The owner or lessee of a building will select the primary building frontage to be used by the City in determining allowable square footage for wall and projecting signs. Building frontage shall be based upon the side of a building which is capable of displaying advertising visible by the public from a public street.
5. **Calculation Based Upon Frontage:**
  - a. **Primary Building Frontage Side Allowance** is 2 square feet per linear foot of frontage up to a maximum of 200 square feet. Such allowance is not transferable to any other side.
  - b. **Each Non-Primary Building Side** shall receive an additional allowance equal to 50% of the Primary Building Frontage Side Allowance. Such allowance is not transferable to any other side.
6. **Calculations for Conflicts:** If because of existing signage, the addition of the minimum 80 square feet of signage for a business would result in any side exceeding the maximum amount noted in subsection (1) above, then the minimum will be reduced to conform to the maximum allowable sign area.
7. **Clearance:** Wall and projecting signs must be out of the visual clearance areas at driveways and intersections.
8. **Awning and Canopy Marquees:** Awning and canopy marquees may incorporate signs and may project over the right-of-way up to 3 feet. The sign shall be assessed against the aggregate for wall signs.



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9. Any attached sign, awning or canopy marquee which projects into the airspace above a City Utility Easement that interferes with the installation, maintenance, access or operation of a public utility may be removed by the utility at the sole cost of the utility. Any replacement or relocation of the sign shall be at the sole cost of the owner or occupant. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

9.21.070 Signs in a Freeway Overlay Zone.

(Deleted in its entirety by Ord. 5325, 2005)

9.21.080 Signs in a Neighborhood Commercial Zone.

- A. Freestanding Signs: Each parcel of land is permitted 1 freestanding sign subject to the following limitations:

1. Maximum height above grade: 25 feet. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
2. Allowable square footage: .5 square feet per linear foot of street frontage.
3. Maximum allowable: 60 square feet.
4. Minimum allowable up to 40 square feet.
5. Section 9.21.060 (A) (Freestanding Signs) (5) through (10) apply. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

- B. Wall and Projecting Signs are permitted with the following limitations:

1. Primary Building Frontage: The business owner/lessee will determine the primary building frontage of the business. The aggregate area of all wall and projecting signs on the primary building frontage will not exceed 1 square feet per linear foot of primary building frontage. Maximum allowable - 80 square feet.
2. Each business is allowed up to at least 40 square feet aggregate, regardless of primary building frontage size.
3. Up to 1/2 of the allowable square footage of the primary building frontage may be used for wall and projecting sign on any other side or sides of the building.

9.21.090 Businesses in Residential Zones.

- A. One freestanding and one attached sign, not to exceed 32 square feet per sign on a permitted use.

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- B. No internally illuminated signs except emergency signs for hospitals, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities.

## 9.21.100 Signs for a Shopping Center.

### A. Freestanding Signs:

1. Maximum height above grade: 25 feet except as noted below. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000) (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
2. Allowable square footage: 1 square foot per linear foot of street frontage with no single freestanding sign exceeding 400 square feet. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
3. Number of signs: No more than one 400 square foot freestanding sign per street frontage with entrance access and placed on said frontage. Notwithstanding said placement restriction, 2 frontage signs may be located on a single entrance frontage if the following are applied: (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
  - a. The allowable size of the first freestanding sign is reduced to 50% of the allowable square footage up to a maximum of 200 square feet; and (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)

The allowable size of the second freestanding sign is reduced to a maximum of 50 square feet. (Ord. 4997 1, 2000)
  - b. The second freestanding sign is of monument construction and has an overall height of less than 7 feet from grade, inclusive of any construction or supporting structure used to support, suspend, or accentuate said sign. (Ord. 4997 1, 2000)
  - c. The two freestanding signs are located not less than 50 feet from one another. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
  - d. The two freestanding signs are located not less than 25 feet from all adjoining property lines except public right-of way lines. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
  - e. A deed restriction is placed on the property in favor of the City of Grants Pass, acknowledging any subsequent land division or change in use which results in loss of the shopping center status for the lot on which the signs are located will require immediate removal of both freestanding shopping center signs. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)

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4. Directional signs will not exceed 3 square feet in size and will not count against total signage allotment. No more than two directional signs per entrance or exit. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
  5. One lighted entrance sign is allowed up to 40 square feet per street frontage. The entrance sign must be out of the visual clearance areas at driveways and intersections. (Ord. 4997 §1, 2000)
  6. Section 9.21.060 (A) (Freestanding Signs) (5) through (10) apply. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
- B. Wall and Projecting Signs: The square footage for wall and projecting signs is same as allowed in the General Commercial Zone. Section 9.21.060 (B) (Wall Signs / Projecting Signs) (1) through (9) apply.

### 9.21.110 Signs in Industrial Zones.

- A. Freestanding Signs:
1. Maximum height: 25 feet. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
  2. Maximum square footage: 150 square feet per freestanding sign. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
  3. Maximum number: No more than 1 freestanding sign shall be permitted per street frontage.
  4. Section 9.21.060 (A) (Freestanding Signs) (5) through (10) apply. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)
- B. Wall and Projecting Signs: The square footage for wall and projecting signs is same as allowed in the General Commercial Zone. Section 9.21.060 (B) (Wall Signs / Projecting Signs) (1) through (9) apply.
- C. Medical Park Overlay: In addition to 9.21.110, no more than 2 directional signs allowed per entrance or exit. Signs shall not exceed 3 square feet in size and will not count against total signage allotment.
- D. Business Park Overlay: Same as Medical Park Overlay.

### 9.21.120 Signs in the Central Business District (CBD).

- A. Freestanding: Each parcel of land is permitted 1 freestanding sign per street frontage. Limitations for freestanding signs are the same as those in the General Commercial Zone. Section 9.21.060 (A) (Freestanding Signs) (1) through (10) apply. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

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- B. Wall Signs and Projecting Signs: The square footage for wall and projecting signs is the same as allowed in the General Commercial Zone. Section 9.21.060 (B) (Wall Signs) (1) through (7) apply.
- C. Awning and Canopy Marquees in Central Business District: Awning and canopy marquees in the Central Business District may incorporate signs and may project over the right-of-way to within 2 feet of the outer edge of the curb. The sign shall be assessed against the aggregate for wall signs.
- D. A-Frame/Sandwich Board/Sign on Wheels (Ord. 5408 §20, 2007)
  - 1. One additional A-Frame/Sandwich Board/Sign on Wheels not to exceed 8 square feet in area per side for each business entrance is allowed. The edges of each sign face shall not be more than 36-inches apart. The sign may not be lighted or powered by any means.
  - 2. The sign may be located within the public right of way if placed directly in front of the business displaying the sign.
    - a. The sign must be placed to allow a minimum of 4 feet of clearance on the sidewalk.
    - b. In no case may the sign be displayed when a business is closed.
  - 3. A-Frame/Sandwich Board/Sign on Wheels as noted in 1 and 2 above are permitted for businesses located outside of the CBD when the building has a zero lot line setback at the street right of way or sidewalk.

## 9.21.121 Downtown Mall Sign.

One additional sign is allowed for each pedestrian entrance for a downtown mall. The additional signs shall be placed on the wall adjacent to the pedestrian entrance and shall be a maximum of one square foot per business of the downtown mall.

## 9.21.130 Freestanding Signs Within a City Utility Easement. (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

No freestanding sign shall be located within, or project over, any existing City Utility Easement (CUE) or potential future CUE (within 10 feet of any existing public street right-of-way) unless constructed in accordance with the following provisions:

- A. Maximum height above grade: 8 feet.
- B. Maximum allowable square footage: 32 square feet regardless of street frontage.



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- C. No freestanding sign may project over the public right-of-way.
- D. Changing Image Signs are not permitted within a CUE.
- E. A freestanding sign constructed within a CUE shall count towards the maximum allotment for freestanding signage for that particular street frontage.
- F. Any freestanding sign located within a CUE that interferes with the installation, maintenance, access or operation of a public utility may be removed by the utility at the sole cost of the utility. Any replacement or relocation of the sign shall be at the sole cost of the owner or occupant.
- G. Any freestanding sign constructed in accordance with these standards, or in accordance with more restrictive standards where they apply (such as for an office in a residential zone), shall be permitted within a CUE.

9.21.300 Signs for a Fairgrounds.

- A. Freestanding: The limitations for Fairgrounds will be the same as the limitations for freestanding signs for a Shopping Center. See Section 9.21.100 (A) (Freestanding Signs).
- B. Wall Signs and Projecting Signs: The square footage for wall and projecting signs is same as allowed in the General Commercial Zone. Section 9.21.060 (B) (Wall Signs) (1) through (9) apply.

9.21.400 Signs for Regional Hospitals, Schools, and All Sports Parks.

Based upon the health, safety, and welfare of citizens in accessing major government and quasi government facilities and due to the unique nature of these types of facilities, signs for public schools, municipal all sports parks and regional hospitals may exceed the dimensional and numerical standards of this code, subject to the approval procedure set forth herein. Approval shall be at the discretion of the City Council and shall be based upon review of an integrated sign program for the entire facility to ensure sign distribution is adequate to facilitate proper identification of distinct activities. .

9.21.500 Special Signs for all Commercial and Industrial Zones.

(Ord. 4929 §1, 1998; Ord. 5129 §1, 2002; Ord. 5408 §20, 2007) (Ord. 5424 §5, 2008)

- A. A-Frame/Sandwich Board/Sign on wheels, which are located outside the Central Business District and where the building on the property does not have a zero lot line setback from the street right of way or sidewalk. (see Municipal Code section 9.21.120):

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1. A-Frame/Sandwich Board/Sign on Wheels not to exceed 12-square feet in area per side for each business entrance is allowed. The edges of each sign face shall not be more than 38 inches apart. Business entrance is defined as either the door into the business or the area adjacent to a driveway serving the business.
  2. Signs shall not be located within the public right of way except:
    - a. During a community event sponsored or officially sanctioned by the City,
    - b. On weekends or
    - c. After 6:00 p.m. on weekdays.
  3. The sign must be placed to allow a minimum of 4 feet of clearance on the sidewalk.
  4. Signs displayed in a front yard or exterior yard setback area or near a driveway may remain when a business is closed.
  5. Signs displayed on a sidewalk or in a planter strip in accordance with A.2. above (the area in between the curb and a sidewalk) shall be removed when a business is closed.
- B. Second-Story/Basement Business Signs:
1. Second-story and basement enterprises or uses, which are maintained exclusively on a floor other than that on the street floor, shall be allowed a wall sign up to 50% of the ground level allotment. See Section 9.21.060 (B).
  2. Minimum allowed per business is up to 30 square feet.
- C. Service Station Price Signs: Price pod signs and similar signs which are used solely to advertise the price of vehicle fuel and which do not exceed 32 square feet will not count against total sign area or number allotment. Any size in excess shall be counted against sign allotment.
- D. Drive-Up Window Signs: One freestanding sign not to exceed 32 square feet in area for any single parcel of land occupied by a drive-up window business. Such signs shall not project into the public right-of-way and will not count against total signage allotment.

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- E. Banners (Attached to a building and/or Displayed on the property)
1. One temporary sign up to 40 square feet is allowed per building side.
  2. Where multiple businesses are connected to each by common walls; one (1) banner up to forty (40) square feet is allowed per business.
  3. No more than two (2) banners not attached to a building are permitted per street frontage.
  4. Display period is limited to 6 months. A no-fee permit is required.
  5. Banners may be installed on temporary man-made structures such as posts or fences; however in no case shall banners be attached to trees or public utility poles.
- F. Secondary Outdoor Business on Lot: A secondary outdoor business may have one sign up to 12 square feet and 8 feet in height. The sign must be attached to the cart or structure and be located outside the building setback area.
- G. Use of an Undeveloped Lot in a Commercial or Industrial Subdivision: One freestanding sign may be erected on an undeveloped lot in a commercial or industrial subdivision for the purpose of directing attention to a business, commodity, service, entertainment or attraction sold, offered, existing or planned either on the lot where the sign is displayed or elsewhere within the subdivision, provided that all of the following conditions are met: (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)
1. The sign is located on an undeveloped lot of land in a commercial or industrial subdivision with a minimum of 5 lots within the subdivision; and (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)
  2. Only one such sign is permitted per subdivision; and (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)
  3. The size of the sign is subject to the provisions of Section 9.21.060 (A) Signs in the General Commercial Zone or Section 9.21.110 (A) Signs in Industrial Zones, depending on the zoning of the property; and (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)
  4. If the lot on which the sign is proposed to be located has more than one street frontage, the sign shall front the street with either the higher functional classification or the higher number of daily traffic counts; and (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)



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5. When the lot is developed, the existing sign will be credited against the current limits for both size and number of signs on a developed lot. (Ord. 4974 §1, 1999)

H. Temporary decorations over 40 square feet in size, which qualify as a sign and which are lit with electrical bulbs or tubes, may be erected beginning November 1 of each year so long as they are removed by the following January 31.

I. (Ord. 5019 §1, 2000)

Said signs may not be electrically lit until the day after Thanksgiving and shall not remain lit after January 7 of the following year. (Ord. 5019 §1, 2000)

Words, logos, and corporate symbols which could be reasonably construed as commercial advertising shall consist of not more than 10% of the overall size of the sign (decoration). (Ord. 5019 §1, 2000)

Such signs shall be subject to the review and approval of not less than two members of a three member panel of citizens appointed by the Council. A denial by the panel may be appealed to the Council if the appeal is filed in writing not less than one week from the date of the denial by the panel. (Ord. 5019 §1, 2000)

### 9.21.600 Special Signs in Residential Zones.

A. Offices, Bed and Breakfasts and Apartments in a Residential Area.

1. One sign is allowed per street frontage up to 12 square feet and 5 feet in height.

2. Signs may not be internally illuminated.

B. Real Estate Signs: Housing Development/Subdivision:

1. One real estate sign is allowed at each entrance or frontage road.

2. Size: Up to 32 square feet each.

3. Flags are allowed on flag poles not exceeding 30 feet above the ground.

4. Temporary signs must comply with Section 9.21.500 (E) of this code.

5. Off-premise real estate signs are not allowed.

### 9.21.610 Temporary Political Signs Defined. (Ord. 4929 §1, 1998)

A temporary political sign is a rigid or flexible material used to advertise a candidate or ballot measure.

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## 9.21.620 General Placement Rules for all Temporary Political Signs. (Ord. 5248, 2004)

- A. Temporary political signs must be placed behind any sidewalk and cannot extend on or over public property or public right-of-way.
- B. Temporary political signs may be placed on vacant property.
- C. A “double sided” temporary political sign with no more than six inches of separation between each plane is considered a single sign.
- D. Temporary political signs may be erected no earlier than 11 weeks prior to the applicable election and must be removed no later than one week after the applicable election.

## 9.21.630 Temporary Political Signs in Industrial and Commercial Zones.

(Ord. 4929 §1, 1998; Ord. 5129 §1, 2002)

There is no limit to the number of temporary political signs which may be placed on property in an industrial or commercial zone. However, no temporary political sign in an industrial or commercial zone may exceed 32 square feet. A sign permit is not required for these signs.

## 9.21.640 Temporary Political Signs in Residential Zones.

(Ord. 4929 §1, 1998; Ord. 5129 §1, 2002)

There is no limit to the number of temporary political signs which may be placed on a single lot in a residential zone. However, each sign cannot exceed 3 square feet. A sign permit is not required for these signs.

## 9.21.650 Enforcement (Ord. 4929 §1, 1998; Ord. 5129 §1, 2002; Ord. 5455 §2, 2008)

- A. Candidates shall remove and City employees are authorized to remove and dispose of any sign which does not have a valid sign permit and which is located on or over public property or public right of way.
- B. Candidates shall remove and City employees are authorized to remove and dispose of any temporary political sign erected earlier than 11 weeks prior to the applicable election or not removed within one week after the applicable election.

## 9.21.700 Grandfather Clause.

- A. All signs in service as of the date of the passage of this code with the exception of those signs which violate the setback area or are sight obscuring at intersections are allowed to remain.



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- B. It any alterations are made after the adoption of this code, other than changes of face, a sign must be brought into compliance and permitted.
- C. Temporary signs, including banners, are not grandfathered and must meet the requirements of this code upon adoption. See Section 9.21.500 (E).

### 9.21.750 Heritage Markers.

Notwithstanding any provision in the Municipal Code to the contrary, the following structures (herein referred to as Heritage Markers), which meet all of the following criteria, are permitted:

- A. After obtaining a sign permit (and an encroachment permit if located on public property), it has been built consistent with the character, dimensions, and materials noted in diagram “9.21.750-1” below (including a pitched roof, rough cut logs, shake or metal roof) and has been inspected and approved by the City Building Division. Said inspection shall include compliance with all of the provisions of section 9.21.750 through 9.21.760 in addition to all structural requirements of the Building Code;
- B. It describes one or more elements of the community’s history (over 50 years old), geography, geology, mapping, weather, wildlife, or vegetation. The information shall be permanently protected with a weather impervious material;
- C. It contains no personal or commercial advertising but may indicate the donor or sponsor of the Heritage Marker so long as the size of the printing of the name of the donor or sponsor is no greater than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch;
- D. It is not located in a residential zone;
- E. It is not located within public right of way; (Ord. 5490 §3, 2009)
- F. It is located a minimum of 15 feet from an intersection (measured from the back of sidewalk) and is located in such a manner that it does not create a vision hazard, as defined by the Grants Pass Development Code;
- G. If located within or projecting over a City Utility Easement, it is in conformance with Section 9.21.130 (Freestanding Signs Within a City Utility Easement) of this Code, including maximum height and size restrictions; (Ord. 5490 §3, 2009)
- H. Only one Heritage Marker may be placed on a single tax lot and it may not be placed in such a manner that it is in conflict with any Development Code requirements such as parking and landscaping; and

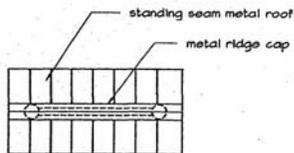
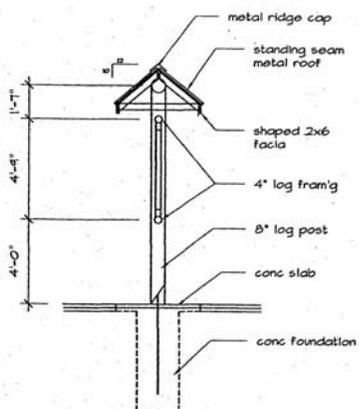
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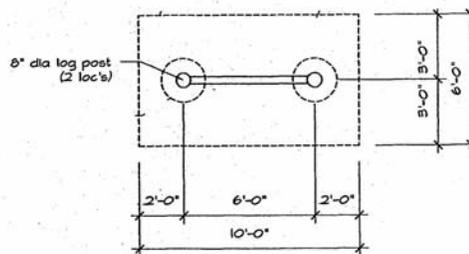
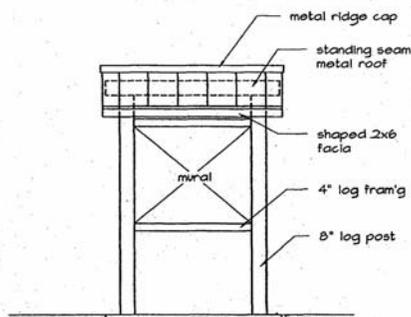
- I. At least 2 parking spaces are typically available to the general public and are located within 100 feet of the Heritage Marker, whether on private or public property (and shall not be required as additional parking). (Ord. 5393 §3, 2007)

DIAGRAM 9.21.750-1

9.21.750 - 1  
Specifications for Heritage Marker



9.21.750 - 1  
Specifications for Heritage Marker



## Marker Details

1/4" = 1'-0"

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## 9.21.755 Heritage Markers Located on Private Property.

If a Heritage Marker is located on private property, the property owner shall be responsible for maintaining it in excellent condition. If a Heritage Marker is not properly maintained, the City Manager shall so notify the property owner and allow 4 weeks for repair or replacement. If not properly repaired or replaced, the Heritage Marker shall be immediately removed upon the expiration of the 4 week period. Failure to remove shall be a violation of the Municipal Code for each day the Heritage Marker remains. (Ord. 5393 §3, 2007)

## 9.21.760 Heritage Markers Located on Public Property.

If a Heritage Marker is located on public property that is not public right of way, placement must be approved by the City Manager; an encroachment permit must be obtained and complied with; and an agreement with the City (regarding placement, maintenance, liability, removal, etc.) must be executed by the Heritage Marker owner. If the agreement is breached, the City Manager shall so notify the owner(s) and allow 4 weeks to cure the breach. If not properly cured, the Heritage Marker shall be immediately removed upon the expiration of the 4 week period. Failure to remove shall be a violation of the Municipal Code for each day the Heritage Marker remains. (Ord. 5393 §3, 2007)

## 9.21.800 Appeals.

- A. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this section is to provide procedure and criteria to exceed measurable standards for signs including height, number and area.
- B. **APPLICABILITY:** This section applies only to applications for sign permits.
- C. **PROCEDURE:** The procedure for reviewing a request for a sign that involves an appeal shall require review before the City Council. If the lot has a Landmark Building or is located within the National Registry of Historic Places (Historic District), the appeal shall be reviewed by the Historic Buildings and Sites Commission. Their decision may be appealed to City Council.
- D. **CRITERIA:** No appeal shall be approved by the review body unless such appeal is shown to meet all of the following criteria:
  - 1. The appeal is required to alleviate unique physical circumstances or conditions, such as lot dimensions, topography, or other physical conditions or to enhance the historic significance of a building located within the Historic District.
  - 2. The appeal is the minimum increase required to prevent unnecessary hardship or to allow reasonable use of the property.



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3. The proposal is not a substantial deviation from the standards outlined in this chapter and is consistent with the Purpose Section (9.21.010). The Review Body may require alterations to the sign or other signs on the property in order to provide a balanced exchange for the modifications being proposed. (Ord. 5514 §17, 2010)