Section 4.156.01. Sign Regulations Purpose and Objectives.

(.01) Purpose. The general purpose of the sign regulations are to provide one of the principal means of implementing the Wilsonville Comprehensive Plan by fostering an aesthetically pleasing, functional, and economically vital community, as well as promoting public health, safety, and well-being. The sign regulations strive to accomplish the above general purpose by meeting the needs of sign owners while maintaining consistency with the development and design standards elsewhere in Chapter 4. This code regulates the design, variety, number, size, location, and type of signs, as well as the processes required to permit various types of signs. Sign regulations have one or more of the following specific objectives:

A. Well-designed and aesthetically pleasing signs sufficiently visible and comprehensible from streets and rights-of-way that abut a site as to aid in wayfinding, identification and provide other needed information.

B. Sign design and placement that is compatible with and complementary to the overall design and architecture of a site, along with adjoining properties, surrounding areas, and the zoning district.

C. A consistent and streamlined sign review process that maintains the quality of sign development and ensures due process.

D. Consistent and equitable application and enforcement of sign regulations.

E. All signs are designed, constructed, installed, and maintained so that public safety, particularly traffic safety, are not compromised.

F. Sign regulations are content neutral.

Section 4.156.02. Sign Review Process and General Requirements.

(.01) Permit Required. Unless exempt under Section 4.156.05, no sign, permanent or temporary, shall be displayed or installed in the City without first obtaining a sign permit.

(.02) Sign Permits and Master Sign Plans. Many properties in the City have signs pre-approved through a Master Sign Plan. For the majority of applications where a Master Sign Plan has been approved the applicant need not consult the sign requirements for the zone, but rather the Master Sign Plan, copies of which are available from the Planning Division. Signs conforming to a Master Sign Plan require only a Class I Sign Permit.

(.03) Classes of Sign Permits, Master Sign Plans, and Review Process. The City has three classes of sign permits for permanent signs: Class I, Class II, and Class III. In addition, non-residential developments with three or more tenants require a Master Sign Plan. Class I sign permits are reviewed through the Class I Administrative Review Process as outlined in Subsection 4.030(.01)(A.). Class II sign permits are reviewed through the Class II Administrative Review Process as outlined in
Subsection 4.030 (.01)(B.). Class III Sign Permits and Master Sign Plans are reviewed by the Development Review Board (DRB) as outlined in Section 4.031.

(.04) **Class I Sign Permit.** Sign permit requests shall be processed as a Class I Sign Permit when the requested sign or signs conform to a Master Sign Plan or other previous sign approval. In addition, a Minor Adjustment to a Master Sign Plan or other previous sign approval may be approved in connection with a Class I Sign Permit.

A. **Class I Sign Permit Submission Requirements:** Application for a Class I Sign Permit shall include two (2) copies of the following along with all required application fees:

1. Completed application form prescribed by the City and signed by the property owner or the property owner’s representative,
2. Sign drawings showing all materials, the sign area and dimensions used to calculate sign areas, and other details sufficient to judge the full scale of the associated sign or signs and related improvements,
3. Information showing how the proposed sign or signs conform with all applicable code requirements, Master Sign Plans, or other previous sign approvals for the property, and
4. Information supporting any minor adjustment requests.

B. **Class I Sign Permit Review Criteria:** The sign or signs conform with the applicable master sign plan or other previous sign approvals, and applicable code requirements.

C. **Minor Adjustments:** Notwithstanding approved Master Sign Plans or other previous sign approvals, as part of a Class I Sign Permit Minor Adjustments may be approved as described in 1. and 2. below. Minor Adjustments are valid only for the Sign Permit with which they are associated and do not carry over to future sign permits or copy changes.

1. **Adjustment to Sign Height or Length:** Adjustment of not more than ten (10) percent from the sign height (not height from ground) and/or length may be approved for the reasons listed in a. through d. below, unless otherwise specifically prohibited in the Master Sign Plan. Minor adjustments to sign height and length shall not cause the sign to cross the edge of any fascia, architectural element or area of a building facade identified as a sign band. The area of the sign exceeding the height or length as part of a minor adjustment shall not count against the sign area indicated in a Master Sign Plan or other previous sign approval.
   a. To accommodate the descender on the lower case letters “q, y, p g, or j”, not otherwise accommodated by the measurement method used, where the letter matches the font of other letters in the sign, the descender is no more than 1/2 the cap height of the font, and the descender is no wider than the main body of the letter;
   b. To accommodate stylized fonts where bowls, shoulders, or serifs of the stylized letters extend beyond the cap height;
   c. To accommodate an arching or other non-straight baseline; or
d. To accommodate a federally registered trademark logo where compliance with the defined maximum sign height would result in the cap height of the text in the logo being ninety (90) percent or less of the cap height for letters otherwise allowed. (i.e. if a Master Sign Plan allowed 24” letters and 24” total sign height, and a 24” logo would result in the cap height of the text within the logo being less than 21.6”, the total height of the logo could be increased to 26.4”)

2. **Lateral Adjustment of Building Sign Location:** Lateral adjustment of a building sign location identified in drawings or plans for a Master Sign Plan or other sign approval when all of the following are met:
   a. The lateral distance being moved does not exceed fifty (50) percent of the sign length or ten (10) feet, whichever is greater;
   b. The exact location is not specifically supported or required by written findings or a condition of approval;
   c. The sign remains within the same architectural feature and sign band, except if the location is on a pillar, column, or similar narrow architectural support feature, the sign may be moved to a sign band on the architecture feature which it supports if no other sign is already placed in that sign band for the tenant space; and
   d. The placement maintains any spacing from the edge of an architectural feature, building, or tenant space specifically identified in the Master Sign plan or other sign approval or if no spacing is identified, maintains a definable space between the sign and the edge of architectural features, the tenant space, and building.

(.05) **Class II Sign Permit.** Sign permit requests for meeting one or more of the descriptions listed in A. through C. below shall be processed as a Class II Sign Permit when the request does not conform with a Master Sign Plan or other previous sign approval but meets the requirements of the applicable sign regulations, unless the request would modify a condition of approval specifically imposed by the DRB or City Council:

A. Existing residential development;

B. Existing non-residential development with less than three (3) tenants unless the request involves a freestanding or ground mounted sign greater than eight (8) feet in height in a new location;

C. New development or redevelopment in the Coffee Creek Industrial Design Overlay District subject to a Class II administrative review process; [Section 4.156.02 Section (.05)C amended per Ordinance No. 812, 02/22/18]

D. Major Adjustments to a Master Sign Plan when all of the following criteria are met:
   1. The request is compatible with the pattern of signage established in the sign plan in terms of locations, placement on buildings, proportionality to fascia and building facade, architectural design, and materials used;
   2. The request is due to special conditions or circumstances that make it difficult to comply with the established Master Sign Plan;
3. The request involves signs for a single tenant, a single multi-tenant freestanding or ground mounted sign, or a series of similar related multi-tenant freestanding or ground mounted signs in the same development; and
4. The request does not involve a freestanding or ground mounted sign greater than eight (8) feet in height at a new location.

E. Class II Sign Permit Submission Requirements: Application for a Class II Sign Permit shall include two (2) paper copies and one (1) electronic copy of the following in addition to all required fees:
1. Completed application form prescribed by the City and signed by the property owner or their authorized representative;
2. Sign drawings or descriptions of all materials, sign area and dimensions used to calculate areas, lighting methods, and other details sufficient to judge the full scale of the signs and related improvements;
3. Documentation of the lengths of building or tenant space facades used in calculating maximum allowed sign area;
4. Drawings of all building facades on which signs are proposed indicating the areas of the facades on which signs will be allowed;
5. Narrative describing the scope of the project, including written findings addressing all applicable review criteria, along with any other information showing how the proposed signage conforms with requirements for the applicable zone;

F. Class II Sign Permit Review Criteria: Class II Sign Permits shall satisfy the sign regulations for the applicable zoning district and the Site Design Review Criteria in Sections 4.400 through 4.421, as well as the following criteria:
1. The proposed signage is compatible with developments or uses permitted in the zone in terms of design, materials used, color schemes, proportionality, and location, so that it does not interfere with or detract from the visual appearance of surrounding development;
2. The proposed signage will not create a nuisance or result in a significant reduction in the value or usefulness of surrounding development; and
3. Special attention is paid to the interface between signs and other site elements including building architecture and landscaping, including trees.

(.06) Class III Sign Permit. Sign permit requests shall be processed as a Class III Sign Permit when associated with new development, except as noted in Subsection 4.156.02 (.05) C., or redevelopment requiring DRB review, and not requiring a Master Sign Plan; when a sign permit request is associated with a waiver or non-administrative variance; or when the sign permit request involves one or more freestanding or ground mounted signs greater than eight (8) feet in height in a new location. [Section 4.156.02 Section (.06) amended per Ordinance No. 812, 02/22/18]

A. Class III Sign Permit Submission Requirements: Ten (10) paper and electronic copies of the submission requirements for Class II Sign Permits plus information on any requested waivers or variances in addition to all required fees.
B. Class III Sign Permit Review Criteria: The review criteria for Class II Sign Permits plus waiver or variance criteria when applicable.

(.07) Master Sign Plans. A Master Sign Plan is required for non-residential developments with three (3) or more tenants. In creating a Master Sign Plan thought should be given to needs of initial tenants as well as the potential needs of future tenants.

A. Master Sign Plan Submission Requirements: Applications for Master Sign Plans shall include ten (10) paper and electronic copies of all the submission requirements for Class II and III Sign Permits and the following in addition to all required fees:

1. A written explanation of the flexibility of the Master Sign Plan for different potential tenant space configurations over time;

2. A written explanation of the extent to which different sign designs, including those incorporating logos, stylized letters, multiple lines of text, non-straight baselines, or different materials and illumination will be allowed and if allowed how the flexibility of the master sign plan will allow these different sign designs over time;

3. A written explanation of how the sign plan provides for a consistent and compatible sign design throughout the subject development.

B. Master Sign Plan Review Criteria: In addition to the review criteria for Class II and Class III Sign Permits, Master Sign Plans shall meet the following criteria:

1. The Master Sign Plan provides for consistent and compatible design of signs throughout the development; and

2. The Master Sign Plan considers future needs, including potential different configurations of tenant spaces and different sign designs, if allowed.

C. Modifications of a Master Sign Plan: Modifications of a Master Sign Plan, other than Minor and Major Adjustments, shall be reviewed the same as a new Master Sign Plan.

(.08) Waivers and Variances. Waivers and variances are similar in that they allow deviation from requirements such as area, and height from ground. They differ in that waivers are granted by the DRB as part of a comprehensive review of the design and function of an entire site to bring about an improved design and variances are granted by either the Planning Director or DRB to relieve a specific hardship caused by the regulations.

A. Waivers. The DRB may grant waivers for sign area, sign height from ground (no waiver shall be granted to allow signs to exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height), number of signs, or use of electronic changeable copy signs in order to better implement the purpose and objectives of the sign regulations as determined by making findings that all of the following criteria are met:

1. The waiver will result in improved sign design, in regards to both aesthetics and functionality.

2. The waiver will result in a sign or signs more compatible with and complementary to the overall design and architecture of a site, along with
adjoining properties, surrounding areas, and the zoning district than signs allowed without the waiver.

3. The waiver will result in a sign or signs that improve, or at least do not negatively impact, public safety, especially traffic safety.

4. Sign content is not being considered when determining whether or not to grant a waiver.

B. Variances.

1. **Administrative Variance:** In reviewing a Sign Permit the Planning Director may grant or deny a variance to relieve a hardship through the Class II Administrative Review process. Such a variance shall only be approved where the variance does not exceed twenty percent (20%) of area, height, or setback requirements. The Planning Director shall approve such a variance only upon finding that the application complies with all of the required variance criteria listed in Section 4.196.

2. **Other Variances:** In addition to the authority of the Planning Director to issue administrative variances as noted above, the Development Review Board may authorize variances from sign requirements of the Code, subject to the standards and criteria listed in Section 4.196.

(.09) **Temporary Sign Permits.** Temporary sign permits shall be reviewed as follows:

A. 30 days and less- Class I Administrative Review

B. 31 days up to 120 days- Class II Administrative Review

C. **Submission Requirements:** Applications for a temporary sign permit shall include the following in addition to the required application fee:

   1. Completed application form prescribed by the City and signed by the property owner or their authorized representative,

   2. Two (2) copies of sign drawings or descriptions showing all materials, sign area and dimensions used to calculate areas, number of signs, location and placement of signs, and other details sufficient to judge the full scale of the sign or signs,

   3. Information showing the proposed sign or signs conform with all applicable code requirements.

D. **Review Criteria:** Temporary Sign Regulations in Section 4.156.09

E. When a temporary sign permit request is submitted as part of the broader temporary use permit request of the same duration, the sign request shall not require an additional fee.

(.10) **Waiver of Documentation.** The Planning Director may, in his or her discretion, waive an application document for Class I, Class II, and temporary sign permits where the required information has already been made available to the City, or where the Planning Director determines the information contained in an otherwise required document is not necessary to review the application.
Section 4.156.03. Sign Measurement

[Section 4.156.02 Amended by Ord. #812, 2/22/18]

Section 4.156.03. Sign Measurement

(.01) Sign Area:

A. Cabinet Signs and Similar: The area for signs enclosed by cabinet, frame, or other background (including lighted surface) not otherwise part of the architecture of a building or structure shall be the area of a shape drawn around the outer dimension of the cabinet, frame, or background.

1. If the cabinet, frame, or background is an irregular shape the signs perimeter shall be measured the same as an individual element sign under B. below.

2. The sign area does not include:
   a. Foundations, supports, and other essential structures that are not designed to serve as a backdrop or border to the sign;
   b. Architectural elements of a freestanding or ground mounted sign designed to match or complement the architectural design of buildings on the site not and otherwise meeting the definition of a sign;
   c. A pole or other structural support, unless such pole or structural support is internally illuminated or otherwise so designed to constitute a display device.

B. Individual Element Signs: The area for signs constructed of individual elements (letters, figures, etc.) attached to a building wall or similar surface or structure shall be the summed area of up to three squares, rectangles, circles, or triangles drawn around all sign elements.

1. The descender on the lower case letters “q, y, p g, or j.” shall not be included in sign area when the letter otherwise matches the font of other letters in the sign, the descender is no more than 1/2 the cap height of the font, and the descender is no wider than the main body of the letter.

Figure S-1. Measurement of Cabinet or Similar Signs
Section 4.156.03. Sign Measurement

C. Round or Three-Dimensional Signs: The area of a round or three-dimensional sign shall be the maximum surface area visible from any one location on the ground measured the same as A. above except if the maximum surface area is an irregular shape the signs perimeter shall be measured the same as an individual element sign under B. above.

D. Awning or Marquee Signs: The area of signs incorporated into awnings or marquees shall be the area of the entire panel containing the sign measured the same as A. above unless it is clear that part of the panel contains no sign-related display or decoration, other than the background color of the awning.

E. Painted Wall Signs: The area of painted wall signs shall be determined as follows:
   1. If individual elements are painted without a background it shall be calculated in the manner indicated in B. above.
   2. If a background is painted it shall be calculated in the manner indicated in A. above.

F. Temporary Signs: The area of temporary signs including banners, lawn signs, and rigid signs shall be calculated in the manner indicated in A. above.

G. Unless otherwise specified, the sign area of a two-sided sign, with two matching sides, shall be considered to be the area of one side. For example, the sign area of a two-sided sign having thirty-two (32) square feet per sign face shall be considered to be thirty-two (32) square feet, unless this code specifies otherwise.

(.02) Sign Height above Ground.

A. The height above ground of a freestanding or ground-mounted sign is measured from the average grade directly below the sign to the highest point of the sign or sign structure except as follows:
   1. A freestanding or ground mounted sign on a man-made base, including a graded earth mound, shall be measured from the grade of the nearest pavement or top of any pavement curb to the highest point of the sign or sign structure. In all cases signs on a berm shall be allowed to be eight (8) feet in height from the top of the berm.
Section 4.156.04. Non-Conforming Signs.

2. A freestanding or ground mounted sign placed below the elevation of the right-of-way it fronts shall be measured from the lowest point in the right-of-way along the frontage to the highest point of the sign.

![Figure S-3. How to Measure Height of a Freestanding or Ground Mounted Sign](image)

(03) Sign Height and Length.
A. Height of a sign is the vertical distance between the lowest and highest points of the sign.
B. Length of a sign is the horizontal distance between the furthest left and right points of the sign.

(04) Final Determination of Sign Measurement. The Planning Director shall be responsible for determining the area, height above ground and height and length of a sign, subject to appeal as specified in Section 4.022. Applicants for sign plans and permits shall provide the dimensions needed to calculate the area, height above ground, height, and length.

Section 4.156.04. Non-Conforming Signs.

(01) Non-Conforming Signs. Non-conforming signs, which may be non-conforming structures or non-conforming uses, are subject to the standards for non-conforming uses and non-conforming structures delineated in Sections 4.189 through 4.190. Except, however, that a non-conforming sign that is damaged beyond fifty percent (50%) of its value, as determined by the City Building Official, may only be reconstructed if the reconstructed sign meets all applicable zoning, structural, and electrical standards applicable at the time of reconstruction. Nothing in this Section is intended to impair any previously approved sign permit that has been issued by the City of Wilsonville, subject to state or federal law, or to require the removal of any sign that was legally erected or installed prior to the effective date of these regulations. In the event that a previously erected or installed sign no longer meets applicable City zoning standards it may remain in place, subject to the standards for non-conforming uses or nonconforming structures noted above. However, a sign that
Section 4.156.05. Signs Exempt From Sign Permit Requirements.

is required to be moved solely because of a public taking may be replaced on the site, and maintain its non-conforming status, subject to a Class II Sign Permit, provided the replacement sign is found to not increase in non-conformity to current code standards other than required setbacks.

Section 4.156.05. Signs Exempt From Sign Permit Requirements.

(.01) The following signs are exempt from the permit requirements of this code and do not require sign permits. Unless otherwise specified, the area of the exempted signs shall not be included in the calculations of sign area permitted on a given site:

A. Traffic or other governmental or directional signs, as may be authorized by the City or other units of government having jurisdiction within the City.

B. Signs installed by public utility companies indicating danger, or which serve as an aid to public safety, or which show the location of utilities or public facilities, including underground utilities.

C. Flags displayed from permanently-located freestanding or wall-mounted flagpoles that are designed to allow raising and lowering of flags. One site may have up to two (2) exempt flags; no exempt flag may be more than thirty (30) feet in height.

(.02) Other Signs. No sign permit is necessary before placing, constructing or erecting the following signs. However, in all other particulars such signs shall conform to the requirements of applicable Building and Electrical Codes, as well as this Code.

A. Signs inside a building except for prohibited signs listed in Section 4.156.06.

B. Name Plates and Announcements.

1. A sign identifying the name, street address, occupation and/or profession of the occupant of the premises in the aid of public health and safety. One name plate, not exceeding a total of three (3) square feet shall be allowed for each occupant. The name plate shall be affixed to the building.

2. Announcements posted on a given property (e.g., no smoking, no parking, rules of conduct, etc.) and not intended to be read from off-site, are permitted to be located as needed. Such announcements shall not be considered to be part of the sign allotment for the property.

C. Directional Signs. Designed for non-changing messages, directional signs facilitate the safe movement of the traveling public. Such signs are subject to the following standards and conditions:

1. The sign area does not exceed three (3) square feet per sign face,

2. The sign location is not within public rights-of-way and meets City vision clearance requirements;

3. No sign lighting;

4. No logo or a logo that does not exceed one (1) square foot in size; and

5. No more than one (1) directional sign is located on the same tax lot.
D. Changes of Copy Only, where the graphics contained on an existing sign are changed, but the sign itself is not structurally altered, and no building or electrical permit is required.

E. Signs not visible from any off-site location.

F. Holiday lights and decorations, in place between November 15 and January 15.

G. Signs on scoreboards or ballfields located on public property.

H. One small decorative banner per dwelling unit placed on site, in residential zones.

I. Lawn Signs meeting the standards of Table S-1 and the following conditions:
   1. Such signs shall not be intentionally illuminated and shall not display movement.
   2. Such signs shall not obscure sight lines of the motoring public, obscure traffic or other government signs, or create a nuisance to the use or occupancy of any property.
   3. Lawn signs associated with temporary events may be posted no longer than sixty (60) days before the beginning of an event and must be removed at the event’s completion.
   4. Lawn signs not associated with temporary events may be posted for one period of up to sixty (60) days in a calendar year.
   5. Such signs may be up to six (6) feet in height.
   6. Such signs may be one (1) or two (2) sided.

J. Rigid Signs meeting the standards of Table S-1 and the following conditions:
   1. Such signs shall not be intentionally illuminated and shall not display movement.
   2. Such signs shall not obscure sight lines of the motoring public, obscure traffic or other government signs, or create a nuisance to the use or occupancy of any property.
   3. Such signs may be up to six (6) feet in height, except signs on lots with an active construction project (active building permit), which may be up to ten (10) feet in height. (Note that signs exceeding six (6) feet in height typically require building permits.)
   4. Such signs may be one (1), two (2), or three (3) sided.
   5. On Residential and Agriculture zoned lots:
      a. A rigid sign not associated with an ongoing temporary event may be displayed for no more than sixty (60) days each calendar year.
      b. A rigid sign associated with an ongoing temporary event may be displayed for the duration of that event. Note: Section 4.156.06 (.01) Q. of this Code prohibits signs associated with temporary events to remain posted after the completion of the event.
   6. On Commercial, Industrial, or Public Facility zoned lots:
Section 4.156.05. Signs Exempt From Sign Permit Requirements.

a. A rigid sign not associated with an ongoing temporary event may be displayed for no more than ninety (90) days each calendar year.

b. A rigid sign associated with an ongoing temporary event may be displayed for the duration of that temporary event. Note: Section 4.156.06(.01)(Q.) of this Code prohibits signs associated with temporary events to remain posted after the completion of the event.

c. A temporary event must have an end, marked by the occurrence of a specifically anticipated date or happening. A temporary event may not be a part of a broader, continuing event or of related, serial events. Temporary events shall not be defined by content, but may include isolated merchandise sales or discounts, or availability of real estate for sale or lease.

K. Signs allowed in Subsections 6.150 (1) and (2) Wilsonville Code for special events.
Section 4.156.06. Prohibited Signs

(.01) **Prohibited Signs.** The following signs are prohibited and shall not be placed within the City:

A. Search lights, strobe lights, and signs containing strobe lights or other flashing lights, unless specifically approved in a sign permit.

B. Obstructing signs, a sign or sign structure such that any portion of its surface or supports will interfere in any way with the free use of any fire escape, exit, hydrant, standpipe, or the exterior of any window; any sign projecting more than twelve (12) inches from a wall, except projecting signs that are specifically permitted through the provisions of this Code.

C. Changing image signs, including those within windows.

D. Changeable copy signs that use lighting changed digitally, unless specifically approved through a waiver process connected with a Class III Sign Permit or Master Sign Plan. In granting a waiver for a digital changeable copy signs the DRB shall ensure the following criteria will be met:
   1. The sign shall be equipped with automatic dimming technology which automatically adjusts the sign’s brightness in direct correlation with ambient light conditions and the sign owner shall ensure appropriate functioning of the dimming technology for the life of the sign.
   2. The luminance of the sign shall not exceed five thousand (5000) candelas per square meter between sunrise and sunset, and five hundred (500) candelas per square meter between sunset and sunrise.

E. Roof signs - signs placed on the top of a building or attached to the building and projecting above the top of that building, unless specifically approved through the temporary sign permit procedures or the architectural design of a building makes the slope of the roof below the peak a practicable location of signs on a building and the general location of signs on the roof is approved by the DRB during Stage II Approval, as applicable, and Site Design Review.

F. Signs obstructing vision clearance areas.

G. Pennants, streamers, festoon lights, balloons, and other similar devices intended to be moved by the wind, unless specifically authorized in an approved sign permit.

H. Signs attached to trees, public sign posts, or public utility poles, other than those placed by appropriate government agencies or public utilities.

I. Signs using bare-bulb illumination or signs lighted so that the immediate source of illumination is visible, unless specifically authorized by the Development Review Board or City Council such as Digital Changeable Copy Signs. This is not intended to prohibit the use of neon or LED’s as a source of illumination.

J. Signs that use flame as a source of light or that emit smoke or odors.
K. Any sign, including a window sign, which is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic sign or signal; and which may include display of words or graphics that are likely to cause confusion for the public, such as “STOP,” “GO,” “SLOW,” “CAUTION,” “DANGER,” “WARNING,” etc.

L. Any sign, including a window sign, which by reason of its size, location, movements, content, coloring or manner of illumination may be confused with, or construed as, a traffic control device, or which hides from view any traffic sign, signal, or device.

M. Portable signs, exceeding six (6) square feet of sign area per side, other than those on vehicles or trailers. The display of signs on a vehicle or trailer is prohibited where the vehicle or trailer is not fully operational for use on public roads or where the primary function of the vehicle or trailer is advertising. Examples where the primary function of the vehicle or trailer is advertising include mobile billboards such as those on which advertising space is rented, sold, or leased.

N. Signs located on public property in violation of Section 4.156.10.

O. Signs placed on private property without the property owner’s permission.

P. Signs erected or installed in violation of standards prescribed by the City of Wilsonville, State of Oregon or the U.S. government.

Q. Signs associated with temporary events, after the temporary event is completed.

R. Any private signs, including window signs, with a luminance greater than five thousand (5000) candelas per square meter between sunrise and sunset and five hundred (500) candelas per square meter between sunset and sunrise.

S. Video Signs

Section 4.156.07. Sign Regulations In Residential Zones.

(.01) Ground Mounted Signs for Residential Developments. One ground mounted sign, not exceeding eighteen (18) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height above ground, shall be permitted for each residential subdivision or for any multi-family development.

A. Additional ground mounted signs of eighteen (18) square feet or less shall be permitted for additional entrances to the subdivision or development located on a separate street frontage or on the same street frontage located at least two hundred (200) feet apart.

B. For one entrance on a street frontage, an additional ground mounted sign may be placed on opposite side of the street or private drive at the intersection.

(.02) Ground Mounted Signs for Outdoor Recreational Areas on Separate Lots. Public or private parks or other similar outdoor recreational areas on separate lots than dwelling units are allowed one (1) ground mounted sign of eighteen (18) square feet or less in area and six (6) feet or less in height above ground.
Section 4.156.08. **Sign Regulations in the PDC, TC, PDI, and PF Zones.**

(.03) **Non-Residential Uses.** Uses, other than residential and outdoor recreation, shall be subject to the sign regulations for PDC, TC, TPDI, and Public Facility zones. [Amended by Ord. 835, 6/5/19]

**Section 4.156.08. Sign Regulations in the PDC, TC, PDI, and PF Zones.**

(.01) **Freestanding and Ground Mounted Signs:**

A. One freestanding or ground mounted sign is allowed for the first two-hundred (200) linear feet of site frontage. One additional freestanding or ground mounted sign may be added for through and corner lots having at least two-hundred (200) feet of frontage on one street or right-of-way and one-hundred (100) feet on the other street or right-of-way.

B. The allowed height above ground of a freestanding or ground mounted sign is twenty (20) feet except as noted in 1-2 below.

1. The maximum allowed height above ground for signs along the frontage of Interstate 5, and parallel contiguous portions of streets, as identified in Figure S-4, associated with multiple tenants or businesses may be increased by three (3) feet for each tenant space of ten thousand (10,000) square feet or more of gross floor area up to a maximum of thirty-five (35) feet.

2. The allowed height above ground for signs in the TC Zone, Old Town Overlay Zone, and PDI Zone is eight (8) feet, except those signs along the frontage of Interstate 5 and parallel contiguous portions of streets identified in Figure S-4. [Amended by Ord. 835, 6/5/19]

C. The maximum allowed area for each freestanding or ground-mounted sign is determined based on gross floor area and number of tenant spaces:

1. For frontages along streets other than those indicated in 2 below sign area allowed is calculated as follows:
   a. The sign area allowed for signs pertaining to a single tenant:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross Floor Area in a Single Building</th>
<th>Maximum Allowed Sign Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 11,000 sq. ft.</td>
<td>32 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,000-25,999 sq. ft.</td>
<td>32 sq. ft. + 2 sq. ft. per 1000 sq. ft. of floor area greater than 10,000 rounded down to the nearest 1,000 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26,000 sq. ft. or more</td>
<td>64 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   i. For PF (Public Facility) zoned properties adjacent to residential zoned land the maximum allowed area is thirty-two (32) square feet.
   b. The maximum allowed sign area for signs pertaining to multiple tenants or businesses is thirty-two (32) square feet plus the following for each tenant space:
Section 4.156.08. Sign Regulations in the PDC, TC, PDI, and PF Zones.

### Gross Floor Area of Tenant Space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross Floor Area of Tenant Space</th>
<th>Additional Allowed Sign Area for Tenant Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1,000 sq. ft.</td>
<td>3 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000-10,999</td>
<td>3 sq. ft. + 3 sq. ft. per 1,000 sq. ft. of floor area rounded down to the nearest 1,000 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,000 sq. ft. or more</td>
<td>32 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

i. The total sign area shall not exceed two hundred (200) square feet, except in the TC Zone, Old Town Overlay Zone, and PDI Zone the total sign area shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet.

[Amended by Ord. 835, 6/5/19]

ii. Though the maximum allowed sign area is calculated based on number of tenant spaces and their size, the content of the sign and area used for different content is at the discretion of the sign owner, except for required addressing.

2. Signs fronting Interstate 5 and parallel contiguous street sections, as identified in Figure S-4.
   a. For signs on properties or within developments with a single tenant or business the sign area allowed is sixty-four (64) square feet.
   b. For signs on properties or within developments with multiple tenants or businesses the maximum allowed area is sixty-four (64) square feet plus an additional thirty-two (32) square feet for each tenant space of 10,000 square feet or more of gross floor area up to a maximum total sign area of three hundred (300) square feet.
      i. Though the sign area allowed is calculated based on number of large tenant spaces, the content of the sign and area used for different content is at the discretion of the sign owner, except for any required addressing.

D. Pole or sign support placement shall be installed in a full vertical position.

E. Freestanding and ground mounted signs shall not extend into or above public rights-of-way, parking areas, or vehicle maneuvering areas.

F. The location of free standing or ground mounted signs located adjacent to or near the Public Right-of-Way shall be in compliance with the City’s Public Works Standards for sight distance clearance. Prior to construction, the location of the sign shall be approved by the City of Wilsonville Engineering Division.

G. Freestanding and ground mounted signs shall be designed to match or complement the architectural design of buildings on the site.

H. For freestanding and ground mounted signs greater than eight (8) feet in height, the width of the sign shall not exceed the height.

I. Along street frontages in the TC Zone and Old Town Overlay Zone monument style signs are required.

[Amended by Ord. 835, 6/5/19]
J. Freestanding and ground mounted signs shall be no further than fifteen (15) feet from the property line and no closer than two (2) feet from a sidewalk or other hard surface in the public right-of-way.

K. Except for those signs fronting Interstate 5, freestanding and ground mounted signs shall include the address number of associated buildings unless otherwise approved in writing by the City and the Fire District.

L. When a sign is designed based on the number of planned tenant spaces it shall remain a legal, conforming sign regardless of the change in the number of tenants or configuration of tenant spaces.

Figure S-4. Interstate 5 and Contiguous Parallel Street Frontages
Figure S-4. Interstate 5 and Contiguos Parallel Street Frontages (continued)
(02) **Signs on Buildings.**

A. **Sign Eligible Facades:** Building signs are allowed on a facade of a tenant space or single tenant building when one or more of the following criteria are met:

1. The facade has one or more entrances open to the general public;
2. The facade faces a lot line with frontage on a street or private drive with a cross section similar to a public street, and no other buildings on the same lot obstruct the view of the building facade from the street or private drive; or
3. The facade is adjacent to the primary parking area for the building or tenant.

B. **Sign Area Allowed:**

1. The sign area allowed for all building signs on a sign eligible façade is shown in the table below:


### Linear Length of Façade (feet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linear Length of Façade (feet)</th>
<th>Sign Area Allowed*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 16</td>
<td>Area equal to linear length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24</td>
<td>24 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than 24 to 32</td>
<td>32 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than 32 to 36</td>
<td>Area equal to linear length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than 36 to 72</td>
<td>36 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than 72</td>
<td>36 sq. ft. plus 12 sq. ft. for each 24 linear feet or portion thereof greater than 72 up to a maximum of 200 sq. ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Except as noted in 2. through 5. below

2. The sign area allowed for facades with a primary public entrance or with a frontage along a public street dominated by windows or glazing may be increased by transferring to the façade up to one half (1/2) the sign area allowed for adjacent facades up to fifty (50) square feet. In no case shall the allowed sign area exceed an area equal to the linear length of the façade.

3. The sign area allowed is increased as follows for signs at separate building entrances:
   a. For building entrances open to the general public located at least fifty (50) feet apart on the same façade, the sign area allowed is increased by fifty (50) percent up to fifty (50) square feet.
   b. For building entrances located less than fifty (50) feet apart on the same facades, the sign area allowed is increased by twenty (20) percent up to twenty (20) square feet.

4. For businesses occupying multiple buildings in a campus setting, sign area shall be limited to that allowed for the largest building, which may then be distributed throughout the campus.

5. If a façade otherwise not sign eligible faces a lot line with frontage on Interstate 5, the applicant can transfer sign area allowed from one (1) of the locations described in a. and b. below. In no case shall the allowed sign area exceed an area equal to the allowed sign area for a sign eligible façade of the same linear length.
   a. The freestanding sign along the Interstate 5 frontage. This generally involves placing building signs on the subject façade in lieu of installing a freestanding sign.
   b. Adjacent façade up to fifty (50) square feet, when a majority of the adjacent façade from which the sign area is being transferred is visible from Interstate 5.

6. Calculating linear length of a façade for the purpose of determining maximum sign area allowed. For facades of a single tenant building the length the facade measured at the building line, except as noted in a. and b. below. For multi-tenant buildings the width of the façade of the tenant space shall be measured
from the centerline of the party walls or the outer extent of the exterior wall at the building line, as applicable, except as noted in a. and b. below. Applicants shall provide the dimensions needed to calculate the length. Each tenant space or single occupant building shall not be considered to have more than five (5) total facades.

a. If a façade is curvilinear, stepped, or otherwise not a straight line, the façade shall be measured by drawing a straight line between the edges of the façade as shown in the figure below.

b. For an “L” shaped tenant space or single tenant building the longest leg of the interior of the “L” shall be basis for measuring the length of the L-shaped facade. Sign area allowed based on the longest leg can be distributed between legs.

C. The length of individual tenant signs shall not exceed seventy-five (75) percent of the length of the facade of the tenant space.

D. The height of building signs shall be within a definable sign band, fascia, or architectural feature and allow a definable space between the sign and the top and bottom of the sign band, fascia, or architectural feature.

E. Types of signs permitted on buildings include wall flat, fascia, projecting, blade, marquee and awning signs. Roof-top signs are prohibited.

(.03) Additional signs. Notwithstanding the signs allowed based on the site in (.01) and (.02) above, the following signs may be permitted, subject to standards and conditions in this Code:

A. Directional Signs: In addition to exempt directional signs allowed under Section 4.156.05 (.02) C. freestanding or ground mounted directional signs six (6) square feet or less in area and four (4) feet or less in height:
   1. The signs shall be designed to match or complement the architectural design of buildings on the site;
Section 4.156.09. Temporary Signs In All Zones.

2. The signs shall only be placed at the intersection of internal circulation drives; and
3. No more than one (1) sign shall be placed per intersection corner with no more than two (2) signs per intersection.

B. Planned Development Signs. Up to thirty (32) square feet of the allowed sign area for freestanding signs in a planned development may be used for a separate on-site monument sign or off-site monument sign on an adjacent parcel identifying the Planned Development project.

C. Blade Signs. To aid in pedestrian wayfinding, one (1) blade sign, not to exceed six (6) square feet, per facade eligible for building signs. Blade signs over pedestrian accessible areas shall provide a minimum of eight (8) feet of clearance from the ground.

D. Fuel or Service Station Price Signs. In addition to the freestanding or ground mounted signs allowed, changeable copy signs shall be allowed for the purpose of advertising fuel prices, subject to the following standards and conditions:
1. The signs shall have a maximum of eleven (11) square feet in area per face per type of fuel sold and shall be permanently affixed to the building or a freestanding sign.
2. The signs shall not be considered in calculating the sign area or number of signs allowed.
3. Signs on fuel pumps shall be permitted, providing that they do not project beyond the outer edge of the pump in any direction.

Section 4.156.09. Temporary Signs In All Zones.
The following temporary signs may be permitted in addition to the permanent signs allowed in different zones and exempt temporary signs unless specifically prohibited in a master sign plan or other sign approval:

(.01) General Allowance. Except as noted in subsection (.02) below up to two (2) temporary signs not exceeding a combined total of twenty four (24) square feet may be permitted per lot or non-residential tenant. Such signs may be banners, rigid signs, lawn signs, portable signs, or other signs of similar construction.

(.02) Opening Banner for a New Business or Housing Development. A banner corresponding with the opening of a new business or housing development may be permitted, subject to the following standards and conditions:
A. One such banner shall be allowed either from the date of issuance of Building Permits until four (4) weeks after issuance of Certificates of Occupancy, or if no Building Permit is issued, for four (4) weeks after occupancy of a new business.
B. Such banner may be two-sided but shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet per face.
C. Such signs shall not be permitted at the same time as general allowance signs in (.01) above.
Section 4.156.10. Signs on City and ODOT Right-Of-Way.

(.03) **Annual Event Signs.** Up to ten (10) lawn signs may be permitted to be located in the public right-of-way for up to fourteen (14) days if all of the following are met:

A. Signs will not be located in the areas listed in Subsection 4.156.10 (.01) A. 4.
B. The applicant or event has not been issued a permit for and placed signs in the public right-of-way in the previous six (6) months;
C. Not more than one (1) other permit has been issued for lawn signs in the right-of-way during the time period the applicant is requesting;
D. The event to which the signs pertain is expected to attract two hundred fifty (250) or more people;
E. The request is not in addition to exempt lawn signs for large special events allowed for in Section 6.150; and
F. The applicant has indicated on a map the exact locations the signs will be placed and has submitted an application along with the required fee.

(.04) **Inflatable Signs.** Inflatable signs may be permitted for a maximum of fifteen (15) days of display use in any calendar year subject to the following standards and conditions:

A. Does not exceed ten (10) feet in overall height; and
B. If attached to a building in any manner, it meets applicable building code requirements including consideration of wind loads.

Section 4.156.10. Signs on City and ODOT Right-Of-Way.

(.01) **Signs on City Property.** For the purposes of this section, City property is defined as physical sites, City rights-of-way, and rights-of-way over which the City has jurisdiction. City property includes, but is not limited to, the following: City Hall, the Community Center, the Library, parks and open space, Transit and Fleet Building, SMART Central, and the City’s reservoir, pump station, and treatment plant properties.

A. **Allowed Signs.** The following signs may be placed on City property and/or City rights-of-way and right-of-ways over which the City has jurisdiction under the following conditions:

1. Such signs as are necessary to locate and direct the public to City premises, or other governmental premises.
2. Such signs as are necessary for the public’s health, safety and welfare authorized under law, regulation, ordinance, or order including but not limited to traffic signs. This shall include signs authorized to conform with the State’s Tourism Information program and any similar local government program.
3. Signs and their placement as authorized in subsections 1 and 2, above, shall meet all other applicable standards and criteria under law, regulation, ordinance, or order.
Section 4.156.10. Signs on City and ODOT Right-Of-Way.

4. Lawn signs may be placed, subject to the standards in subsection 4.156.10 (.01)A. 5., below, on City rights-of-way and rights-of-way over which the City has jurisdiction except 1) those rights-of-way adjoining City properties defined in subsection 4.156.10 (.01) above, and 2) in the following locations where the placement of signs could damage landscaping or interfere with the maintenance of the rights-of-way:
   a. In any median or landscaped strip inside the City limits as identified below in Sections 4.156.10 (.01) A. 4. b. through p.
   b. Either side of French Prairie Road.
   c. Either side of Canyon Creek Road North, from Boeckman Road to Elligsen Road.
   d. Either side of Wilsonville Road between Town Center Loop East and the Portland & Western (previously Burlington Northern) Railroad property.
   e. Either side of Town Center Loop West and East.
   f. Both sides of former S.W. Parkway frontage between Town Center Loop West and Wilsonville Road.
   g. Wilsonville Road between Willamette Way West and Willamette Way East.
   h. The north side of Wilsonville Road from Town Center Loop East to Boeckman Creek.
   i. Either side of Wilsonville Road between Boeckman Road and the southern boundary of the Wilsonville High School property.
   j. Either side of Parkway Center Avenue.
   k. The south side of Elligsen Road from the eastern city limits to a point directly across from the west side of the Tualatin Valley Fire District fire station.
   l. Either side of Boeckman Road and all islands, from the railroad tracks west to 110th.
   m. Either side of 110th between Barber Street and Boeckman Road.
   n. The eastern side of Grahams Ferry Road from Tooze Road to the City limits.
   o. Either side of Barber Street between 110th and Brown Road, including islands and roundabouts.
   p. Such other areas as the City may designate as requiring protection from landscape damage.

5. Lawn signs shall meet the following standards and conditions:
   a. Allowed only between the hours of 6 a.m. Friday and 8 p.m. Sunday, and the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesdays;
   b. Not greater than thirty (30) inches in height. A-frame signs may be 24” by 36” provided that they are designed to meet vision clearance requirements (typically not over 30 inches in height when standing);
   c. Not placed on street surfaces, sidewalks, paths, median strips, or bicycle ways;
Section 4.156.11. Sign Enforcement.

d. Located within forty (40) feet of an intersection;
e. No more than three (3) signs per person; and
f. Placed no more than one every fifty (50) feet and at least ten (10) feet away from any other temporary sign.

6. Banners on public light and other poles identified in a plan maintained or adopted by the City and installed by or under arrangement with the Public Works Department.

(.02) Signs within ODOT Right-Of-Way. Consistent with the Laws and Administrative Rules of the State of Oregon, all signs of any kind are prohibited within right-of–way of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), except those signs that are specifically determined by ODOT to be necessary for the public’s health, safety, or welfare. The City may assist the State in the removal of signs that are illegally placed within ODOT right-of-way, as provided above for signs in City right-of-way. City assistance is justified in view of the substantial public investment that has recently been made to improve and beautify both freeway interchange areas north of the Willamette River.

Section 4.156.11. Sign Enforcement.

(.01) General. Any person who places a sign that requires a permit under this section, and who fails to obtain a permit before installing the sign, shall be subject to penalties and fines as established in Wilsonville Code 4.025.

(.02) Removal of Signs. Any sign placed on public property in violation of the provisions of this Code shall be immediately removed by the City. As soon thereafter as reasonable, the City shall notify the owner or the owner’s representative that the sign has been removed, and that if the sign is not claimed within ten (10) days, the sign will be deemed abandoned and subject to disposal by the City. The City shall have no responsibility to contact the owner of the sign if the owner’s name, address, and telephone number are not clearly indicated on the sign and shall dispose of the sign ten days after its removal by the City. The City Council may establish fees to be collected at the time of releasing impounded signs in order to cover the City’s costs in collecting, storing, and returning these signs and administering the sign removal program.

(.03) Civil Enforcement. Any sign which is intentionally placed in violation of the provisions of this code after the owner of the sign has been notified of the initial sign removal and reason for its removal, shall subject the owner to a civil violation not to exceed $100.00 as and for a civil fine for each day that a violation continues to exist.

(.04) Additional enforcement. The remedies described herein are not exclusive and may be used in addition to those prescribed elsewhere in the Wilsonville Code, including Sections 1.012 and 1.013, Violations, and 6.200 through 6.620, Nuisances. The City Attorney may use any enforcement process available at law or equity, including but not limited to, seeking injunctive relief, equitable relief, damages, or fines for violations.
### Sign Location

**Description**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lawn Signs</th>
<th>Rigid Signs</th>
<th>Maximum Combined Lawn and Rigid Signs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[see WC 4.156.05 (.02) I.]</td>
<td>[see WC 4.156.05 (.02) J.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Part 1. General Allowances for Lawn and Rigid Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign Location Description</th>
<th>Area per sign face</th>
<th>Exempt at one time</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential or Agriculture zoned lots.¹</td>
<td>6 sq. ft.</td>
<td>3 signs per lot</td>
<td>3 signs per lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 sq. ft.</td>
<td>1 sign per lot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial, Industrial, or Public Facility zoned lots.²</td>
<td>6 sq. ft.</td>
<td>3 signs per lot</td>
<td>3 signs per lot, plus 1 additional rigid sign if the lot is more than 3 acres in area or has multiple street frontages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32 sq. ft.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Part 2. Additional Special Allowances for Rigid Signs³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign Location Description</th>
<th>Area per sign face</th>
<th>Exempt at one time</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lots with <em>active</em> commercial, industrial, public facility, or multi-family construction projects.⁴</td>
<td>64 sq. ft.</td>
<td>1 sign per lot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential or Agriculture tracts of land in excess of 5 acres or recorded residential subdivisions with more than 25% of the lots remaining unsold and undeveloped.</td>
<td>32 sq. ft.</td>
<td>1 sign per qualifying tract or subdivision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

¹ Residential and Agriculture zones include all PDR (Planned Development Residential) zones, along with the R (Residential), RA-H (Residential Agriculture-Holding) zone, and any county-zoned land within Wilsonville City limits. In addition, lots not zoned Residential, but designated exclusively for residential use in an approved Master Plan, shall be considered residentially-zoned for the purposes of this table. This includes residential lots and in the Village Zone.

² Commercial, Industrial, Public Facility zones include all PDC (Planned Development Commercial), PDI (Planned Development Industrial), and PF (Public Facility) zones. In addition, lots zoned Village, but designated for commercial, mixed-use, or publically-owned use in an approved Master Plan, shall fall under this description category for the purposes of this table.

³ Sign allowances in Part 2 are in addition to the allowances and maximums in Part 1.

⁴ An active construction project means a construction project for which any required building permits have been obtained and for which the City Building Official has not approved building occupancy. When the Building Official issues a temporary Certificate of Occupancy, the construction project shall be considered active until a permanent Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Active construction projects involving churches, private schools, or other non-single-family uses are included in this description.

---

Table S-1: Exempt Lawn and Rigid Sign Allowances

[Table added by Ord. No. 675, 3/1/10]

[Sign Regulations revised by Ord. No. 704, 6/18/12.]
Figure 30: Lighting Overlay Zone Map
[Amended by Ord. 821 adopted 7/2/2018]

[Section 4.199 – 4.199.60 added by Ord. No. 649, adopted 6/2/08]