

**AN ORDINANCE
OF THE
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

By Schiff

**Amending Title 20, Chapter 520 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances
Relating to Zoning Code: Introductory Provisions**

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Section 520.160 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

520.160. Definitions. Unless otherwise expressly stated, or unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning, the words and phrases in the following list of definitions shall, for the purposes of this zoning ordinance, have the meanings indicated. All words and phrases not defined shall have their common meaning.

Sign. A structure, fixture, placard, announcement, declaration, image, device, demonstration, logo or insignia used for direction, information, identification, attraction, or to advertise or promote any business, product, activity, service, interest or entertainment.

Auxiliary sign. A sign that has a purpose secondary to the use of the lot on which it is located, such as "telephone," "drive-through," "cash machine," "air," "entrance," "exit," parking restrictions, security warnings or similar directives.

Awning sign. A sign printed on or in some fashion attached directly to an awning.

Back-to-back sign. A sign structure with two (2) sign faces oriented in opposite directions and spread not more than two (2) feet apart.

Balloon sign. A sign consisting of a bag or similar device made of lightweight material supported by helium, hot, or pressurized air, which is greater than eighteen (18) inches in diameter.

Building sign. A sign attached to a building, including but not limited to an awning, canopy, or marquee, wall, projecting or window sign.

Canopy sign. A sign printed on or in some fashion attached directly to a canopy.

Changeable copy sign, dynamic. A sign or portion thereof with letters or numbers only that can be electronically changed or rearranged without altering the face or the surface of the sign.

Changeable copy sign, manual. A sign or portion thereof with ~~characters,~~ letters or illustrations letters or numbers only that can be manually changed or rearranged without altering the face or the surface of the sign.

Flashing off-premise sign. A sign which exhibits changing light or color effect by any means, so as to provide intermittent illumination or the illusion of intermittent flashing light by any means. Also, any mode of lighting which resembles zooming, twinkling or sparkling.

Dynamic sign. A sign, or any element of a sign, which provides the ability to change text or images, or exhibits changing effects in order to provide intermittent illumination or the illusion of such illumination, or any series of imagery or display which may appear to move or change, including changes produced by any electronic method. A dynamic sign is not a changeable copy sign, dynamic.

Freestanding sign. A sign which has supporting framework that is placed on, or anchored in, the ground and which is independent of any building or other structure.

~~Ground sign. A freestanding sign with its sign face mounted on the ground, on a solid base at least as wide as the sign, or on one (1) or more poles or beams with not more than one (1) foot of open area between the sign face and the ground or base.~~

Identification sign. A sign containing principally the name of the individual or establishment occupying the premises, and which also may include the street address, telephone number or other information identifying the use.

Illuminated sign. A sign lighted by or exposed to artificial lighting either on or in the sign or directed toward the sign.

Interior sign. A sign which is located within the interior of any building, or within an enclosed courtyard, that is not visible from the property line or public right-of-way.

Marquee sign. A building sign painted on or attached to a marquee.

Monument sign. A freestanding sign with its sign face mounted on the ground, on a solid base at least as wide as the sign, or on one (1) or more poles or beams with not more than one (1) foot of open area between the sign face and the ground or base.

Off-premise advertising sign or billboard. A sign which directs attention to a business, establishment, product, service, interest, activity or entertainment not exclusively related to the premises where such sign is located.

On-premise sign. A sign which directs attention to or promotes a business, establishment or activity conducted, or a product, service, interest or entertainment sold or offered, on the premises where such sign is located.

Pole sign. A freestanding sign which has its supportive structure anchored in the ground or on a solid base not ~~at least~~ as wide as the sign, or which has a sign face elevated above the ground or base by one (1) or more poles or beams and with an open area between the sign face and the ground or base of more than one (1) foot.

Political sign. A sign posted by a person or group promoting or commenting on a political issue, opinion or candidate for political office.

Portable sign. A sign which is designed or intended to be moveable, including by trailer or on its own wheels, even though the wheels of such sign may be removed.

Project information sign. A sign erected on the premises on which construction is taking place, identifying the project, the architects, engineers, landscape architects, contractors or similar artisans, or the owners, financial supporters, sponsors or similar individuals having a role or interest in the project.

Projecting sign. A sign which projects from a wall of a building in such a manner that the sign face is perpendicular to the wall, or a sign which is suspended from a soffit or other permanent roof overhang.

Real estate sign. A sign which advertises the sale, rental or lease of the property on which the sign is located.

Roof sign. A sign which is mounted on the roof of a building or which projects above the top of the wall of a building with a ~~flat~~, gambrel, gable or hip roof, ~~or the deck line of a building with a mansard roof.~~

Service area canopy sign. A sign which is part of, or attached to, a service area canopy.

Snipe sign. A sign of any material, including but not limited to paper, cardboard, wood or metal, attached to any object and having no application to the premises where located.

Specific product or brand name sign. A sign which mentions a specific product or brand name sold or offered on the premises.

Stringer sign. A sign that is made of commercial or decorative pennants, flags or streamers which are attached to a string, rope or cable.

Temporary sign. A sign which is intended to be displayed for a limited time period only.

Time and temperature sign. A sign which displays current time and temperature only.

Wall sign. A sign attached parallel to, or painted on, a wall, which is supported by such wall, and which displays only one (1) sign surface, or a sign attached parallel to, or within forty-five (45) degrees of parallel, or painted on, the surface of the lower slope of a mansard roof.

Window sign. A sign that is placed inside a window or upon the surface of a window and is visible or is intended to be viewed from the exterior of the window.