

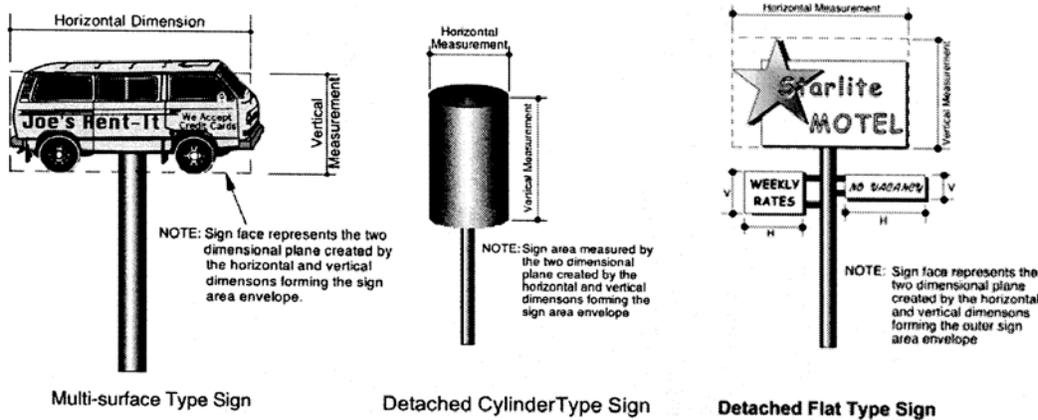
Sec. 8-10. - Sign regulations.

- A. *Purpose.* It is hereby determined that regulation of the location, size, placement and certain features of signs is necessary to enable the public to locate goods, services and facilities without difficulty and confusion, to prevent hazards to life and property and to assure the continued attractiveness of the community and protect property values. It is further determined that signs which may lawfully be erected and maintained under the provisions of this ordinance are consistent with customary usage, and that signs which may not lawfully be erected and maintained under the provisions hereof are not consistent with customary usage, are an abuse thereof and are an unwarranted invasion of the rights of legitimate business interests and of the public.
- B. *Applicability.* The provision of this subsection on signs, as set forth herein, shall apply to all developments within the City of Saginaw. The following shall not be subject to the provisions of this regulation:
1. Signs of an authorized government entity, including traffic or similar regulatory devices, legal notices, or warnings at railroad crossing.
 2. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit the display of the flag of the United States, State of Texas or any political subdivision.
 3. Flags or emblems of a political, civic, philanthropic, or educational organization.
 4. Signs which announce a campaign, drive, or event of any political, civic, philanthropic, educational, or religious organization as long as they are not displayed more than 30 days in any one period of 12 months. The period of time extending from the day of the regular election to the day of any required run-off election shall be exempt from the 30-day maximum limit. All signs must be picked up at least 48 hours following the election.
 5. Memorial signs or tablets.
 6. Signs which are required to be maintained by law or governmental order, rule, or regulation, including exit and fallout shelter signs.
 7. Signs which are displayed for the direction or convenience of the public, including signs which identify restroom. Freight entrances, or the like, but which do not exceed two square feet in area per sign.
 8. Temporary real estate signs which are located on the premise offered for sale or lease.
- C. *Sign regulation procedures.* The following procedures shall apply to all placement of signs within the City of Saginaw:
1. *Permits.* It shall be unlawful for any person, unless otherwise provided in this ordinance, to erect, construct, reconstruct, structurally alter or relocate any sign within the city without first obtaining a sign construction permit.
 2. *Application.* All applications for sign construction permits shall, whenever practical, be submitted as part of any required site plan. Whenever the sign construction permit application is submitted as a separate action from the site plan, it shall be reviewed and acted on by the enforcing officer as an independent event. The sign construction permit shall be accompanied by a plan or plans drawn to scale which shall include the following:
 - a. The dimensions of the sign and, where applicable, the dimensions of the wall surface of the building to which it is to be attached.
 - b. The dimensions of the sign's supporting members.
 - c. The maximum and minimum height of the sign.
 - d. The proposed location of the sign in relation to the boundaries of the lot upon which it is to be situated.

- e. The location of all electrical transmission lines within 30 feet of any part of such proposed sign structure.
 - f. If applicable, plans and specifications for the electrical system of the sign.
3. Exceptions. A permit shall not be required for the following:
 - a. The changing of the advertising copy or message of a painted sign or a face replacement of an existing sign.
 - b. The electrical, repainting or cleaning maintenance of a sign.
 4. Stop orders. The issuance of a sign construction permit shall not constitute a waiver of this ordinance or other ordinances of the city. The building inspector is authorized to issue stop orders for any sign which is being constructed in violation of this or any other ordinance of the city.
 5. Construction standards. All signs regulated by this ordinance shall be designed to ensure the public safety and shall not be installed until compliance with all applicable codes and regulations, including requirements for minimum structural design criteria, fastening devices, foundations, strength and type of materials, and electrical wiring and fixtures has been demonstrated by securing approval for all necessary permits from the building inspector or other issuing agencies.
 - a. A freestanding sign exceeding 25 feet in overall height shall be designed and sealed by a professional engineer.
 - b. All electrical signs must display a UL sticker.
- D. *Permanent signs permitted in residential districts.* The following regulations shall apply to permanent signs in the residential zoning districts:
1. Residential subdivisions are allowed one permanent identification sign at each major entrance. The total sign surface area at each entrance shall not exceed 50 square feet. The height of such sign shall not exceed eight feet above the average finished grade and the lowest point of the sign face shall be no higher than 18 inches above the adjacent grade. Each sign may be illuminated so as to be seen at night. Illumination may be from within or external sources. The source of light shall be screened from and directed away from public rights-of-way.
 2. Nameplates, not to exceed one square foot in area, shall be permitted for each dwelling unit. Such nameplates indicate only the name and/or address of occupants or premises. Address numerals shall consist of three-inch letters posted over garages or primary entrance to the structure.
 3. Multiple family complexes are allowed one sign totaling not more than 50 square feet in area per complex. The sign may be illuminated in a manner to be seen at night. Permitted signs may be anywhere on the premises except as restricted by this section. They may not project beyond any property line and, if ground mounted free-standing, the top shall not be more than eight feet over ground level and the bottom of the sign no higher than 18 inches above the adjacent ground level. If building mounted, such sign shall be flush mounted and shall not project above the roof eaves line.
 4. Advertising signs shall not be permitted in residential districts except:
 - (i) Signs traditionally used by builders and realtors on a specific lot being advertised for sale, and
 - (ii) Kiosk signs in public rights-of-way erected in accordance with Subsection K. of these sign regulations.
- E. *Permanent signs permitted in nonresidential districts.* The following regulations shall apply to permanent business signs in the nonresidential zoning districts:

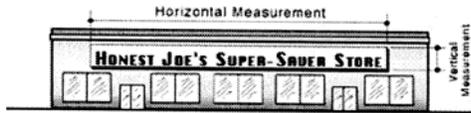
1. In all districts, the applicant for any sign permit shall provide a scaled exhibit that shows the location of pole signs; monument signs or freestanding signs located or proposed to be located on the site.
 2. NC neighborhood commercial district.
 - a. One free-standing ground sign oriented for view from each abutting public street is permitted for each unified shopping center structure containing two or more businesses with an allowable total sign area of two square feet for every linear road frontage per street, with a maximum size of 100 square feet, including the frame for each sign.
 - b. The height of free-standing signs including any part of the sign or structure shall not exceed 12 feet in height above the average finished grade at the front property line and the lowest point of the sign face shall be no higher than 18 inches above the adjacent grade. The sign must be located on the site where the goods or services are offered.
 - c. Wall mounted signs shall be shown on the site plan(s) required by section 8-1.E, Site Plan Contents hereof.
 - d. A wall sign shall not project above the roof line more than four feet. The sign must be located on the site where the goods or services are offered.
 - e. No sign shall be located in a POSE (public open space easement) as established by the city.
 3. CC Community Commercial District, LI Light Industrial District, and HI Heavy Industrial District.
 - a. The area of all freestanding signs shall not exceed the ratio of two square feet of sign area for each linear foot of street frontage, with a maximum size of 400 square feet per sign and a separation of 100 feet.
 - b. Freestanding signs shall not exceed 40 feet in height and the lowest point of the sign face shall be no higher than 18 inches above the adjacent grade. The sign must be located on the site where the goods or services are offered.
 - c. Wall mounted signs shall be shown on the site plan(s) required by section 8-1.E, Site Plan Contents hereof.
 - d. A wall sign shall not project above the roof line more than four feet. The sign must be located on the site where the goods or services are offered.
 4. OP office park district. The area of freestanding signs shall not exceed the ratio of one square foot of sign area for each linear foot of building width measured along the front of the building.
- F. *Permanent signs permitted in community facility districts.* The following regulations shall apply to signs in the CF zoning district:
1. The total area of all free-standing signs shall not exceed the ratio of 0.5 square feet of sign area for each linear foot of building width measured along the front of the building for each principle use.
 2. Each use shall be permitted one freestanding sign facing each bordering street. Such sign may be illuminated by a constant nonflashing light source and shall not exceed a height of five feet above the average grade.
 3. The provisions of section 8-10.I, Prohibited Signs, shall apply to CF districts.
- G. *Measurement of signs.* The following procedures shall be followed in measuring the area of signs to determine compliance with these regulations:
1. Ground signs (free-standing). The sign face or surface area shall be computed as including the entire area within a regular geometric form comprising all display area of the sign and including all elements of the matter displayed including the frame.

2. Supporting structural members not bearing advertising matter, identifying color, symbols, wording or pictures shall not be included in computation of surface area except as noted herein.
 - a. *Irregular signs.* In calculating the area of irregular signs or separately mounted signs on one supporting structure, the area shall be that of the smallest regular geometric form that will wholly contain all of the elements including the frame.
 - b. *Multi-faced signs.* Where a sign has two or more faces, the area of all faces shall be included separately in determining the area of the sign. The area of the signs shall be combined to meet the total requirement of maximum sign size.
3. Measurement of detached signs. The sign area for a detached on-premise sign shall be the area included within vertical and horizontal line projections of the furthestmost points of any logo, letters, or other symbols, composed of the total area of the message, and any border, trim, or surface upon which the message is displayed. One sign area will be calculated for a detached sign no matter how the message is displayed. The sign structure shall not be included in the sign area unless there is a sign displayed thereon.

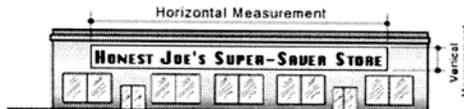


Signs (1)

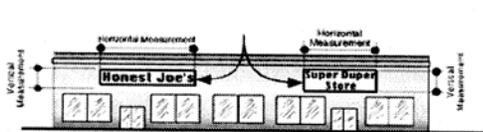
4. Measurement of attached signs. The sign area for an attached on-premise sign shall be the area included within the vertical and horizontal line projection of any logo, letters, or other symbols intended to be read together, composed of the total area of the message and any border, trim or surface upon which the message is displayed. There may be several sign areas on the wall of a building depending upon how a sign is displayed.
5. Attached single panel wall mounted signs. Use only area of panel in calculation of sign area.
6. Painted wall panel sign. Use painted area (for sign contrast) of wall in calculation of sign area.
7. Attached multiple panel wall mounted sign. Calculate area of each panel and add individual panel areas together for total sign area. Total sign area maximum of ten percent for primary wall.
8. Nonpanel wall sign (individual letters). Use overall horizontal and overall vertical measurements to calculate the sign area of a wall sign composed of individual letters attached to the wall; and use total of individual signs for total sign area.



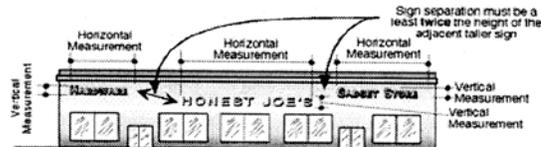
ATTACHED SINGLE PANEL WALL MOUNTED SIGN



PAINTED WALL PANEL SIGN



ATTACHED MULTIPLE PANEL WALL MOUNTED SIGN



NON-PANEL WALL SIGN (INDIVIDUAL LETTERS)

Signs (2)

- H. *Sign maintenance.* All signs and sign structures shall be kept in good repair and neat appearance. Signs shall be maintained at reasonable intervals including replacement of defective parts, painting, repainting and cleaning. The building inspector shall inspect all signs and sign structures on an annual basis and shall require corrections of any signs deemed in violation of this Section.
- I. *Prohibited signs.* The following signs are prohibited from installation, construction, repair, alteration, or relocation within the city, except as otherwise permitted in this ordinance:
1. "A" frame or sandwich board, and sidewalk or curb signs, except as temporary signs.
 2. Balloons, or inflatable signs.
 3. Moving, flashing, animated, or rotating signs, signs with moving lights, or signs which create the illusion of movement, except for reader boards which convey messages that change.
 4. Temporary signs.
 5. Signs placed on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers which are parked on a public right-of-way, public property, or private property so as to be visible from a public right-of-way where the apparent purpose is to advertise a product or direct people to a business or activity located on the same or nearby property. However, this does not prohibit signs placed on vehicles and trailers that are incidental to the primary use or ownership of the vehicle or trailer as transportation.
 6. Signs attached to utility poles or other surfaces which are not the property of the utility or serve a public purpose located within a public right-of-way or easement.
 7. Permanent off-premises signs, as defined by the Highway Beautification Act (excluding churches and civic organization signs not exceeding 300 square feet but meeting all other applicable sign regulations and shall be limited to one off-premises sign per organization).
 8. Signs which advertise an activity, business or service no longer conducted on the premises upon which the sign is located.
 9. Signs which contain or have attached thereto banners, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners or other similar devices.
 10. Signs which contain statements, words or pictures of an obscene, indecent or immoral character which offend public morals or decency.
 11. Signs or portions thereof which are located on project or extend over any public sidewalk, street, alley or other public property.

12. Signs which constitute hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic, or interfere with, obstruct the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.
 13. Signs which make use of any word, phrase, symbol or character in such manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse vehicular traffic.
 14. Portable or wheeled signs; however, portable signs may be permitted for civic and public events for a period not to exceed 30 days, upon approval of the director of community development or his designee.
 15. Signs attached to or located upon exposed amenities such as benches or trash containers.
 16. Signs placed on the side or rear of any building of property when such sign faces upon a contiguous residential area.
- J. *Signs exempt from regulation.* The following signs are exempt from the provisions and regulations of this section:
1. Public signs. Signs required by governmental bodies or specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute, or ordinance. Such public signs may be of any type, number, area, height, location, or illumination as required by law, statute, or ordinance.
 2. Signs on vehicles. Signs placed on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers where the sign is incidental to the primary use of the vehicle or trailer as transportation.
 3. Warning signs. Signs warning the public of the existence of danger but containing no advertising material; to be removed within three days upon the subsidence of danger. Such warning signs may be of any type, number, area, height, location, or illumination as deemed necessary to warn the public of the existence of danger.
 4. Flags. Flags of governmental entities or nonprofit organizations. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent the display of a national or state flag, or to limit flags, insignias, or legal notices, or informational, directional, or traffic signs which are legally required and necessary to the essential functions of government agencies.
 5. Governmental signs. Signs of a duly constituted governmental body, including traffic or similar regulatory devices, legal notices, warnings at railroad crossings, and other instructional or regulatory signs having to do with health, hazards, parking, swimming, dumping, etc.
 6. Address numerals. Address numerals and other signs required to be maintained by law or governmental order, rule, or regulation are allowed, provided that the content and size of the sign do not exceed the requirements of such law, order, rule, or regulation.
 7. Athletic signs. Signs used as scoreboards in athletic stadiums.
 8. Directional signs. Signs which direct vehicles and pedestrian traffic, which may display arrows, words, or other symbols to indicate direction of facilities.
 9. Directory signs. Signs which are located in or adjacent to entrances or foyers.
 10. Instructional signs. Signs providing no advertising of any kind, which provide direction or instruction to guide persons to facilities intended to serve the public, including but not specifically limited to the signs identifying restrooms, public telephones, public walkways, parking areas, and other similar facilities.
 11. Public seasonal decorations or special public events.
- K. *Kiosk signs.* Kiosk signs are intended to create a uniform, coordinated method of providing homebuilders and developers a means of utilizing directional signs, while minimizing the negative impacts of weekend homebuilder's signs on the appearance of the city. Kiosk signs are also intended to provide a service to the public by giving directions to municipal facilities and parks, community events and school district facilities.

1. The city council may, by duly executed license agreement, grant the exclusive right to design, erect and maintain kiosk signs within the city limits.
2. Kiosk signs shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the specifications contained in the aforementioned license agreement.
3. Prior to erecting any kiosk sign, the licensee shall submit a sign location map to the code enforcement supervisor for approval.
4. Kiosk sign installations shall include break-away design features as required for traffic signs in the street right-of-way.
5. No additional or extraneous signs, pennants, flags or other devices for visual attention or other appurtenances shall be attached to kiosk signs.
6. Kiosk signs shall not be illuminated.
7. Individual sign panels on kiosk signs shall have a uniform design and color.
8. Kiosk signs shall not interfere with the use of sidewalks, walkways, bike and hiking trails; shall not obstruct the visibility of motorists, pedestrians or traffic control signs; shall not be installed in the immediate vicinity of street intersections; and shall comply with the 25-foot visibility triangle or other visibility easements.
9. In accordance to the specifications contained in the aforementioned license agreement, a percentage of the kiosk sign panels shall be reserved for the city to use as directional signage to municipal or community facilities or locations of community events.
10. Kiosk signs may be used by private businesses in possession of a current city-issued certificate of occupancy, on a first come first serve basis, pursuant to the current terms and conditions applicable to home builders. Businesses shall be permitted a maximum of one panel, per side, per kiosk.

(Ord. No. 2003-03, § 1, 4-1-03; Ord. No. 2003-14, § 1, 12-2-03; Ord. No. 2004-15, § 1, 9-21-04; Ord. No. 2009-04, §§ 1, 2, 2-17-09; Ord. No. 2011-24, § 1, 11-15-11)