



SIGN REGULATIONS OF INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY

Chapter 734 of the Indianapolis Code

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Chapter 734 SIGN REGULATIONS*

**Editor's note: This chapter consists of the sign regulations, G.O. 4, 1995, adopted Jan. 23, 1995. Future amendments will be indicated by a parenthetical history note following the amended section.*

Cross references: Buildings and construction, ch. 536.

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ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**Sec. 734-100. Statement of purpose.**

This chapter creates the legal framework for sign regulations that are intended to facilitate an easy and agreeable communication between people. It is recognized that signs serve an important function and, therefore, reasonable and adequate display of signs is permitted under the provisions of this chapter. This chapter recognizes that aesthetics and design quality cannot be satisfactorily legislated, as individual opinions vary and generally public opinions vary from one to another. It is recognized, however, that a great percentage of that which is unattractive can be eliminated by sensible quality control, through adequate maintenance and inspection and by reasonable guidelines formulated to minimize clutter.

The purpose of the sign regulations set forth in this document shall be to eliminate potential hazards to motorists and pedestrians; to encourage signs which, by their good design, are integrated with and harmonious to the buildings and sites which they occupy; and which eliminate excessive and confusing sign displays; to retain current residents and attract new residents to the city; to preserve and improve the appearance of the city as a place in which to live and work as an attraction to nonresidents who come to visit or trade; to safeguard and enhance property values; to protect public and private investment in buildings and open spaces; to supplement and be a part of the regulations imposed and the plan set forth under the Comprehensive Plan for Marion County; and to promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare.

Sec. 734-101. Application of regulations.

- (a) The regulations of this chapter shall apply to the location, erection, and maintenance of signs in all zoning districts within Marion County, Indiana.
- (b) Moratorium. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a moratorium hereby is imposed throughout Marion County, Indiana on the construction, erection, conversion, enlargement, extension, reconstruction or relocation of, or placement of off-premises signs, outdoor advertising signs, and advertising signs, that are subject to the provisions of this chapter, unless a valid improvement location permit for such work has been obtained prior to the effective date of the moratorium. Such moratorium shall be in effect until the date when additional amendments to the outdoor advertising sign provisions of the sign regulations of the zoning ordinance of Marion County, Indiana are adopted or until December 1, 2003, whichever is earlier in time.

(G.O. 44, 2003, § 4)

ARTICLE II. GENERAL REGULATIONS**Sec. 734-200. General regulations.**

The requirements, conditions, prohibitions and exceptions specified in Chapter 730 of this Code shall apply to all signs and sign structures in all zoning districts in Marion County, Indiana.

Sec. 734-201. Exempt signs.

- (a) The following signs are permitted in any zoning district unless specifically limited to certain zoning districts in this section and are exempt from other provisions of this chapter, except the provisions for a clear sight area as noted in section 734-204(j). The area of such signs shall not be included in the calculation of the area of signs permitted for any parcel or use. The requirements for Improvement Location Permits (ILPs) shall not apply to certain of the signs specifically referenced in this section:
- (b) **Signs on municipal bus shelters.**
 - (1) In all zoning districts, two (2) signs that provide information about public transportation shall be permitted on the walls of a municipal bus shelter that is located within a public right-of-way.
 - a. One (1) sign, being no larger than twenty (20) square feet, may be located on the walls of the municipal bus shelter subject to the following:
 - 1. Sign may be double-faced;
 - 2. Sign shall not be internally illuminated;

3. Sign shall not move or rotate, shall not include an EVMS component, and shall not flash or otherwise turn any illumination on and off repeatedly;
4. Sign shall not be an advertising sign;
5. Sign shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches above the finished grade; and
6. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- b. One (1) sign, being no larger than four (4) square feet, may be located on the walls or inside the municipal bus shelter subject to the following:
 1. Sign may be double-faced;
 2. Sign may be internally illuminated;
 3. Sign may be an EVMS;
 4. Sign shall not be an advertising sign; and
 5. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (2) One (1) sign, with a maximum horizontal dimension of 3.5 feet and a maximum vertical dimension of 5.5 feet (Refer to Diagram 41), shall be permitted in addition to the signs indicated above in subsection (1), subject to the following:
 - a. Sign shall only be located in the following zoning districts:
 1. Any commercial zoning district;
 2. Any industrial zoning district;
 3. Any central business district zoning district;
 4. HD-1, UQ-1, SZ-1 and SZ-2 zoning district;
 5. D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-9, D-10 and D-11 zoning district;
 6. Airport Special Use zoning district; or
 7. Any special use zoning district, except SU-1, SU-2, SU-3, SU-10, SU-37, and SU-38.
 - b. Sign shall not be located:
 1. Within 200 feet from a D-S, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-5II, or D-8 dwelling district measured along the centerline of the adjoining public right-of-way, or
 2. Adjacent to a lot improved with a legally-established single-family residence.
 - c. Sign shall only be located on the far-side wall of a municipal bus shelter that is located either:
 1. At a far-side municipal bus stop, or
 2. At least 150 feet from a street intersection (measured from the centerline of the intersecting street) (Refer to Diagrams 38 and 39).
 - d. Sign shall only be located on a municipal bus shelter that enables an occupant of the shelter to see around the sign, such as a shelter provided with a convex mirror, or a shelter with a clear area along the side of the sign.
 - e. Sign shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches above the finished grade.
 - f. Sign shall not include an EVMS component; and the sign shall not consist of rotating panels, commonly known as Tri-vision.
 - g. Sign may be an advertising sign.
 - h. Sign may be internally illuminated and may be double-faced.
 - i. If located within the Mile Square or in a Central Business District, sign size may be a maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet with a maximum horizontal dimension of four (4) feet and a maximum vertical dimension of eight (8) feet.
 - j. Sign is subject to all requirements of any secondary zoning district that may apply.
 - k. Sign shall not be considered as or subject to the regulations for Off-premise (outdoor advertising) signs, as regulated in Sec. 734-306 and Sec. 734-403.
 - l. An ILP shall be required and an encroachment license, as regulated in Chapter 645, Article V, shall be required for the sign.
- (c) **Signs on municipal bus benches.** One (1) one-sided sign shall be permitted on a municipal bus bench that is located within a public right-of-way and located within 12 feet of a municipal bus stop without a municipal bus shelter (Refer to Diagram 40) subject to the following:
 - (1) Sign shall only be located in the following zoning districts:

- a. Any commercial zoning district;
 - b. Any industrial zoning district;
 - c. Any central business district zoning district;
 - d. HD-1, UQ-1, SZ-1 and SZ-2 zoning district;
 - e. D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-9, D-10 and D-11 zoning district;
 - f. Airport Special Use zoning district; or
 - g. Any special use zoning district, except SU-1, SU-2, SU-3, SU-10, SU-37, and SU-38.
- (2) Only one municipal bus bench with a sign shall be permitted at any one municipal bus stop.
- (3) Sign shall not be located adjacent to a lot improved with a legally-established single-family residence.
- (4) Sign shall only be located on a municipal bus bench located either:
- a. At a far-side municipal bus stop; or
 - b. At least 150 feet from a street intersection (measured from the centerline of the intersecting street)(Refer to Diagrams 38 and 39).
- (5) Maximum horizontal dimension of the sign shall not exceed eighty-one (81) inches and the maximum vertical dimension of the sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) inches. Maximum height of the sign shall be 42 inches (Refer to Diagram 41).
- (6) Sign shall not be internally illuminated.
- (7) Sign shall not move or rotate, shall not include an EVMS component, and shall not flash or otherwise turn any illumination on and off repeatedly.
- (8) Sign may be an advertising sign.
- (9) Sign shall not be considered as or subject to the regulations for Off-premise (outdoor advertising) signs, as regulated in Sec. 734-306 and Sec. 734-403.
- (10) An ILP shall be required, and an encroachment license, as regulated in Chapter 645, Article V, shall be required for the sign.
- (d) **Construction signs, project.** One (1) construction sign per project construction site shall be permitted on each street frontage of the project, subject to the following:
- (1) *Maximum sign area.* The construction sign shall not exceed:
 - a. Sixty-four (64) square feet in area.
 - b. Twenty (20) feet in height.
 - (2) *Additional standards.* Further, such signs shall:
 - a. Not be erected until the applicable zoning and platting approvals have been obtained;
 - b. Be confined to the site of construction;
 - c. Meet the setback requirements for signs in the applicable district; and
 - d. Be removed five (5) days after completion of construction and prior to occupancy.
- An Improvement Location Permit (ILP) shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (e) **Flags, emblems, or insignia of any nation, state or political subdivision** shall be permitted, provided the setback requirements for signs in the applicable district are met. In addition, one (1) flag, displaying a corporate emblem, shall be permitted for each business not located in an integrated center. A flag displaying a corporate emblem, however, shall be included in the calculation of the maximum sign area permitted for freestanding signs for the site. An Improvement Location Permit (ILP) shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (f) **Garage sale signs** are permitted provided there shall be only one (1) sign, not exceeding six (6) square feet in total surface area and four (4) feet in height for each lot. Such sign shall be located on the lot having the sale and not on or within any public right-of-way. In the case of corner lots, one (1) additional sign is permitted on the other street frontage of the lot, for a maximum of two (2) signs on the lot. Further, such sign(s) shall be permitted for no longer than two (2) days prior to the sale and be removed immediately after the sale is completed. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

- (g) **Historic or commemorative plaques.** An historic or commemorative plaque shall not exceed four (4) square feet. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied. Historic or commemorative plaques in excess of four (4) square feet shall be regulated and permitted as wall signs.
- (h) **Home improvement, home construction, home remodeling signs** are permitted, provided there shall be only one (1) such sign not exceeding six (6) square feet in total surface area and four (4) feet in height for each lot. Such sign shall be located on the lot on which the described activity is occurring, shall not be located on or within any public right-of-way, and shall be displayed only while such work is actually occurring. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (i) **House number and name plates.** House numbers and name plates, each not exceeding two (2) square feet in area, are permitted for each residential unit or dwelling. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied. House numbers and name plates in excess of two (2) square feet in area shall be regulated as wall signs.
- (j) [Skipped]
- (k) **Interior signs.** Signs located:
- (1) Within the interior of any building, or within an enclosed lobby or court of any building;
 - (2) Located within the inner or outer lobby, court or entrance of any theatre, that are not viewable or intended to be viewable from the public right-of-way and do not qualify as "window signs" as herein defined, are permitted.
- An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (l) **Memorial signs or tablets.** Memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings and date of erection when cut into any masonry surface or inlaid so as to be part of the building or when constructed of bronze or other incombustible material. Such signs shall not be located within any public right-of-way. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (m) **Model home signs** are permitted, provided there shall be only one (1) such sign not exceeding sixteen (16) square feet in total surface area and four (4) feet in height located on the street frontage of the lot containing the model home. Such sign shall:
- (1) Not be located on or within any public right-of-way or located on the model home building; and
 - (2) Be removed immediately after the building no longer serves as a model home.
- An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (n) **Murals**, defined as works of graphic art painted or applied to building walls, which contain no advertising, commercial messages, or logos. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied, however, such murals are still subject to all requirements of any overlay district zoning which may apply.
- (o) **Noncommercial opinion sign**, as defined in section 734-501 shall be permitted, provided the following provisions are met:
- (1) Noncommercial opinion signs may be displayed as freestanding signs, as follows:
 - (a) Number of signs per street frontage--Five (5).
 - (b) Maximum sign area--Six (6) square feet.
 - (c) Maximum sign height--Four (4) feet.
 - (d) Setback--Not within the public right-of-way, nor within the clear sight triangular area.
 - (2) Window sign--Regulated per the applicable zoning district provisions pertaining to window signs.
 - (3) Notwithstanding the limitations set forth in Section 734-201(m)(1), noncommercial opinion signs may be displayed on a sign face that has been legally established to display advertising signs, in the same manner and size as an advertising sign is permitted to be displayed on the same sign face.

(4) Noncommercial opinion signs shall have no time limits.

An Improvement Location Permit (ILP) shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

- (p) **Official signs authorized by a government or governmental subdivision** which give traffic, directional, or warning information, and signs of public service companies indicating danger and aids to service or safety which are erected by, or on the order of, a public officer in the performance of their public duty. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (q) **Public notices.** Official notices posted by public officers, employees or their agents in the performance of their duties, or as directed by such officers, employees or agents. An ILP shall not be required.
- (r) **Public signs.** Signs required or specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute or ordinance, or Administrator's approval; which may be of any type, number, area, height above grade, location or illumination required by the law, statute or ordinance under which the signs are erected.

Signs authorized by Administrator's approval shall:

- Not be applicable in any "protected district";
- Be preceded by a petition for approval to the hearing examiner of the Metropolitan Development Commission with notice given to each neighborhood organization whose boundaries include all or some part of the subject request, and, including with respect to any petitions within the regional center, notice to all registered neighborhood organizations whose boundaries include all or part of the regional center.

Provided, the Administrator may approve public signs to be located temporarily, for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, within the Central Business District for purposes of promoting specific civic, sporting or special events, on condition that such signs be removed prior to the end of such period.

An ILP shall not be required.

- (s) **Real estate signs.** Real estate signs announcing the sale or lease of that property by the owner or a real estate company shall be permitted, provided there shall be only one (1) sign for each lot, not exceeding:
- (1) Six (6) square feet in total surface area and four (4) feet in height (for all districts permitting single- or two-family residential development); or
 - (2) Thirty-two (32) square feet in total surface area and four (4) feet in height (for any other zoning district).

Such sign shall be located on the lot for sale or lease and not on or within any public right-of-way.

Real estate signs shall not be directly illuminated and shall be removed within seven (7) days after the sale/lease/rental has been accomplished.

Real estate signs which remain on the site for no longer than one (1) year shall not be required to obtain an ILP; however, if such signs remain beyond the one-year period, an ILP shall be required, and such signs shall meet the requirements applicable to freestanding identification signs of the district.

Exceptions: In the case of a:

- (1) Corner lot, one (1) additional sign, with the same maximum dimensions, is permitted, for a maximum of two (2) signs on a corner lot.
- (2) Through lot, one (1) additional sign, with the same maximum dimensions, is permitted on a second street frontage, for a maximum of two (2) signs on a through lot.
- (3) Lot which abuts a water body or golf course, one (1) additional sign, with the same maximum dimensions, is permitted on the water or golf course frontage of the lot, for a maximum of two (2) signs on such a lot. This exception shall not apply if the water body is designated as a "greenway corridor" in the "Indianapolis Greenways Plan" adopted by the Metropolitan Development Commission (May, 1994).

An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

- (t) **Real estate signs, temporary directional.** Temporary directional real estate signs shall not exceed twenty (20) per subdivision with no more than five (5) signs per subdivision allowed on the same street, in the same direction.

The maximum number of temporary directional real estate signs at an intersection shall be twelve (12). The intersection, for purposes of this provision, is defined as an area within a one-hundred-foot radius of the intersecting center lines of two (2) or more streets.

Temporary directional real estate signs shall be placed at no less than two hundred (200) feet from any sign of the same subdivision and no closer than twenty (20) feet from another temporary directional real estate sign.

Further, temporary directional real estate signs shall be permitted only if:

- (1) They are limited to freestanding signs not to exceed eight (8) square feet in total area or four (4) feet square feet per sign face and shall not exceed forty (40) inches in height.
- (2) Signs shall not be placed before 5:00 p.m. on Friday and shall be removed by 7:00 a.m. on Monday. Signs shall be installed no earlier than 5:00 p.m. preceding any commonly recognized holiday and shall be removed by 7:00 a.m. the day following a holiday. All poles and stakes shall be completely removed.
- (3) Signs shall not be placed on private property without permission of the owner. Signs shall be placed at least six (6) feet from the pavement edge of the street (such pavement edge of the street includes the shoulder). Signs shall not touch or block any road marking signs, nor shall they be attached to utility poles, trees or natural features.

An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

- (u) **Seasonal or holiday displays** shall not be considered signs and shall not be regulated by these regulations, so long as they contain no commercial message, are primarily decorative in nature, and are clearly incidental and customarily and commonly associated with any national, local or religious holiday.
- (v) **Temporary signs** for grand openings or city-recognized special events provided that the maximum sign area of each sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet. Temporary signs allowed under this subsection include pennants and banners.
 - (1) Grand openings: Temporary signs for grand openings may be erected no more than ten (10) days prior to the grand opening and shall be removed no more than five (5) days after the event. In no case shall such signs remain on the premises for more than thirty (30) days.
 - (2) City-recognized special events: Temporary signs for city-recognized special events may be erected throughout the year, however, the maximum number of days such signs may be displayed shall not exceed a total of thirty (30) days per year.Such signs shall not be located on or within any public right-of-way. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (w) **Tombstones.** An ILP shall not be required.
- (x) **Works of art.** Three-dimensional works of art (statuary, sculptures) and two-dimensional works of art (i.e., murals) that are clearly artistic in nature and which do not promote commercial interests are exempt from regulation under this chapter. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.
- (y) **Incidental signs,** other than directional, and parking and loading signs shall be permitted, subject to the following:
 - (1) The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed four (4) feet.
 - (2) The maximum sign surface area shall not exceed (1) square foot.
 - (3) The sign shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the existing street right-of-way.

An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

- (z) **Building outline lighting.** Outlining of structural/architectural elements of buildings, such as roof lines, doors, windows or wall edges using neon, incandescent, or similar type of lighting in any commercial and industrial district shall not be considered a sign, nor regulated by this chapter. If however, such outline contains text or logos, such items shall be considered signs and regulated by this chapter according to their type and placement. Outlining of structural/architectural elements of buildings using neon, incandescent or similar type of lighting shall be prohibited in any protected district, and in no case

shall it be permitted within six hundred (600) feet of a protected district. (See also section 734-202(k) for restrictions on other types of outline lighting.) In no case, however, shall such building outlining flash or be animated.

(aa) **Temporary signs, including pennants and banners**, shall be allowed in SU-1, SU-2, SU-7 and SU-16 districts, without obtaining an ILP, provided that the signs do not exceed a size of thirty-six (36) by thirty-six (36) inches, subject to the following:

- (1) The temporary sign must be placed on the property of the owner of the sign and no more than one (1) temporary sign for each public street frontage may be placed on a lot.
- (2) Temporary signs may not be posted for more than twenty eight (28) hours.
- (3) No sign may be erected or posted in a public right-of-way.
- (4) No sign may be posted more than four (4) times in any thirty (30) day period.

(G.O. 1, 2000, § 1A; G.O. 1, 2003, § 1; G.O. 4, 2011)

Sec. 734-202. Prohibited signs.

The following signs are prohibited in all zoning districts:

- (a) **Signs in the public right-of-way.** No sign or sign structure may be placed on or in the right-of-way of an alley or a street, with the exception of governmental and public signs and signs associated with an approved outdoor cafe within the Regional Center (as noted in section 734-204(k), or projecting signs permitted by this chapter and having obtained an encroachment license from the proper governmental agency.
- (b) **Signs which interfere with official signs/traffic devices.**
 - (1) No sign or sign structure shall be permitted which attempts or appears to attempt to direct the movement of traffic or which interferes with or obstructs the view of, or can be confused with, imitates, or resembles any official traffic sign, signal, or device. No rotating beam, beacon or flashing illumination resembling any emergency light shall be used in connection with any sign display.
 - (2) No sign shall be permitted which prevents the driver of a vehicle from having a clear and unobstructed view, from an adequate and safe distance, of any official sign and approaching or merging traffic. (See section 734-204(j), clear sight triangular area.)
- (c) **Interference with street intersections.** No sign or sign structure shall be located in such a manner as to materially impede the view of any street or highway intersection or in such a manner as to materially impede the view of the intersection of a street or highway with a railroad crossing. (See section 734-204(j), clear sight triangular area.)
- (d) **Prohibition of signs affixed to utility poles, etc.** No sign or sign structure shall be affixed to, displayed, or located upon any utility pole, light standard, tree, public transportation or school bus passenger shelter or bench, traffic control device, or similar structure, equipment, or appurtenance located upon any public right-of-way, utility easement, or other public or private property unless authorized under section 734-210(q), public signs.
- (e) **Signs on natural features.** No signs shall be permitted to be painted on, attached to, or maintained upon trees, rocks or other natural features.
- (f) **Pennants.** Pennants shall not be permitted.
Exception: Temporary exception to this stipulation is noted in section 734-201(u), temporary signs for grand openings and special events.
- (g) **Banners.** Banners shall not be permitted.
Exceptions:
 - (1) Temporary exception to this stipulation is noted in section 734-201(n), temporary signs for grand openings and special events.
 - (2) Special regulations governing temporary promotional banners within the central business districts are found in section 734-305.

(3) Banners that are attached securely to the wall of a building on all four (4) corners shall be considered and regulated as wall signs.

- (h) **Wind signs.** Wind signs shall not be permitted. Temporary exception to this stipulation is noted in section 734-201(o), temporary signs for grand openings and special events.
- (i) **Portable signs.** Portable signs including but not limited to A- or T-frame, or signs on trailer frames whether or not the trailer wheels have been removed, shall be prohibited. No person shall park any vehicle or trailer or truck trailer on a public right-of-way, public property or on private property which is visible from a public right-of-way, which has attached thereto or located thereon any sign or advertising device for the basic purpose of providing advertisement of products or directing people to a business or activity. This section is not intended to apply to standard advertising or identification practices where such signs or advertising devices are painted on or permanently attached to business or commercial vehicles such as buses or cabs.
- (j) **Statuary, commercial.** Statues utilized and intended for commercial advertising purposes shall be prohibited.
- (k) **Outline lighting.** Outlining of property lines or open sales areas, whether flashing or constant, shall be prohibited.
- (l) **Balloon signs.** Lighter-than-air or gas-filled balloons or other similar devices used to advertise or define a fixed location shall be prohibited.

(G.O. 1, 2000, § 1B)

Sec. 734-203. Computations.

- (a) **Computation of area of individual signs.** The area of a sign face (which is also the sign area of a wall sign or other sign with only one (1) face) shall be computed by means of the smallest square, rectangle or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the writing, representation, emblem or other display, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the backdrop or structure against which it is placed, but not including any supporting framework, bracing, or decorative fence or wall when such fence or wall otherwise meets zoning ordinance regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself. (Refer to Diagram 1 for illustrative guides to computation methods.)
- (b) **Computation of area of multifaced signs.** The sign area for a sign with more than one (1) face shall be computed by adding together the sign area of all sign faces from any one (1) point. When two (2) identical sign faces are placed back to back, or at no greater than fifteen (15) degrees from one another, so that both faces cannot be viewed from any point at the same time, and when such sign faces are part of the same sign structure and are not more than forty-two (42) inches apart, the sign area shall be computed by the measurement of one (1) of the faces. (Refer to Diagram 2 for illustrative guides to computation methods.)
- (c) **Computation of height.** The height of a sign shall be computed as the distance from the base of the sign or sign structure at normal grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign. Normal grade shall be construed to be the lower of either (1) existing grade prior to construction; or (2) the newly established grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding, or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign. In cases in which the normal grade cannot reasonably be determined, sign height shall be computed on the assumption that the elevation of the normal grade at the base of the sign is equal to the elevation of the nearest point of the crown of the street or the grade of the land at the principal entrance to the principal structure on the lot, whichever is lower. (Refer to Diagram 3 for illustrative guides to computation methods.)

Sec. 734-204. General provisions.

- (a) **Applicability of regulations.** No sign or sign structure, or part thereof, shall be constructed, erected, converted, enlarged, extended, reconstructed or relocated except in conformity with these regulations.
- (b) **Consent of property owner.** No sign or sign structure shall be placed on private or public property without the expressed written consent of the owner or the owner's representative.
- (c) **Maintenance of signs.** All signs and sign structures shall be kept in good repair and in proper state of maintenance.
- (d) **Maintenance and restoration of legally established nonconforming signs and sign structures.** Any legally established nonconforming sign shall be permitted without alteration in size or location. Maintenance of such signs shall not include any changes made to the size, height or bulk of the sign or the temporary or permanent removal of the sign. If such sign is damaged exceeding two-thirds (2/3) of its replacement value, it shall not be rebuilt except in conformance with the provisions of this chapter; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prevent maintenance, repainting, or posting of legally established nonconforming signs.
- (e) **Number of faces permitted on a freestanding identification sign.** Unless specifically restricted by these sign regulations, a sign may contain more than one (1) sign face, and may be two-sided, provided all other requirements of these regulations are met.
- (f) **Discontinuation of nonconformity.** Within thirty (30) days after any lawful nonconforming sign or sign structure is no longer functional or is abandoned, as defined in section 734-501, the sign and sign structure shall be removed.
- (g) **Grade mounding.** Earth mounding, inconsistent with the ground level of the land surrounding the sign structure, which increases the elevation of the sign, shall be included in the measurement of the sign height. (Refer also to section 734-203(c), computation of height and Diagram 4.)

- (h) **Flashing or animated signs.** No flashing or animated sign shall be used in any dwelling, special use, C-1, C-2 and C-3 commercial, or central business district and inside, or within six hundred (600) feet of, any protected district. The method of measurement from a protected district shall be from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district. (Refer to Diagram 7.)
- Exceptions to this provision are the following:
- (1) Time and temperature displays, which are regulated in section 734-406;
 - (2) This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that a commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district.
 - (3) This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that the flashing or animated sign is visibly obstructed from the protected district.
- (i) **Lighting of signs.** No lighting shall be permitted to be used in any way in connection with a sign unless:
- It is effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at vehicles travelling on a street; or
 - Is of such low intensity or brilliance so as not to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or to otherwise interfere with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle. Sign light reflectors must be within twelve (12) feet of a sign facing.
- (j) **Clear sight triangular area.** No sign or sign structure shall be located within a clear sight triangular area. (Refer to Diagram 5.) A clear sight triangular area shall be established as one (1) of the following:
- (1) On a corner lot, the clear sight triangular area is formed by the street right-of-way lines, the pavement edge of the drives or driveways and the line connecting points twenty-five (25) feet from the intersection of such street right-of-way lines and pavement edge lines; or in the case of a round or cut property corner, from the intersection of the street right-of-way lines and pavement edge lines extended; or
 - (2) On a lot adjacent to an at-grade railroad crossing, the clear sight triangular area is formed by the lot line coterminous with the railroad right-of-way, the street right-of-way line or pavement edge line, and the line connecting points twenty-five (25) feet from the intersection of such lines; or
 - (3) On a lot which has a driveway, abuts an alley or which is next to a lot which has a driveway, the two (2) clear sight triangular areas are formed by the street right-of-way line, both sides of either the alley right-of-way or of the surface edge of the driveway, and the line connecting points ten (10) feet from the intersection of the street right-of-way line and driveway or alley lines extended.
- (k) **Standards for outdoor cafe signs within the Regional Center.** A sign shall be:
- (1) No larger than two (2) inches by two (2) inches with an option being that the material may be of slate or plastic where the daily special may be advertised.
 - (2) If the sign is one-sided, then the outdoor cafe owner may erect two (2) signs perpendicular to the building (one (1) for persons approaching the cafe from each direction).
 - (3) If the sign is two-sided, then the outdoor cafe owner may erect the free-standing sign on the interior of the outdoor seating area designated for the cafe.
 - (4) The sign, if one-sided, may be linked or attached to the chain, lattice-work or fence which defines the outer limits of the outdoor cafe.
 - (5) Such outdoor signs may remain in place from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

(G.O. 107, 1997, §§ 1A., B., 6-23-97)

Sec. 734-205. Sign height exception, tall signs.

If a street elevation to which the sign is oriented is more than ten (10) feet greater than the grade elevation at the base of the sign structure, the street elevation may be used as the grade elevation in determining the permitted sign and sign structure height; however:

- in no case shall the height of the sign or sign structure above the actual grade elevation at its base exceed eighty (80) feet; and
- the height of the sign and sign structure at the street's elevation shall not exceed the maximum noted for the sign in the applicable district (See "maximum sign height" provision in the applicable district).

- (a) Tall signs are permitted only in relation to interchanges on I-465 and the freeways between I-465 and the Marion County boundary lines.
- (b) Only signs designed to give information in the specific interest of the traveling public, including identification of places for camping, lodging, eating and vehicle services of gasoline service stations, shall be permitted to be constructed as tall signs.
- (c) Tall signs shall be located only on the premises of the referred use or activity.
- (d) The use to which the tall sign refers shall be located within one thousand three hundred twenty (1,320) feet of the intersection of the center line of the freeway or expressway to which it is oriented and the intersecting street. In no event shall the tall sign be closer to the right-of-way of the main-travelled way of the freeway or expressway than the minimum setback specified in section 734-403 of this chapter (refer to Diagram 28).
- (e) The sign surface area for a tall sign shall not exceed the maximum sign area permitted for a freestanding identification sign in the applicable district.
- (f) Only one (1) tall sign shall be permitted for any one (1) use. Such sign shall constitute the only identification pole or pylon sign permitted on the premises of the referred use.
- (g) Tall signs shall not be permitted within six hundred (600) feet of any protected district, measured from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district.

Exception: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that a commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district.

Refer to Diagrams 6 and 7 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

Sec. 734-206. Front sign setback exception.

Unless otherwise stated in this chapter, no part of any freestanding business identification sign shall be located closer to a street right-of-way line than fifteen (15) feet, except that if an established building setback line along such right-of-way within two hundred (200) feet of the base of such sign, and not beyond the limits of the nearest street intersection in each direction, is less than fifteen (15) feet from the right-of-way, the sign may be located so that no part of the sign is closer to the right-of-way than such building's setback line.

Sec. 734-207. Required permits.

Any sign not exempted from the requirements of obtaining an Improvement Location Permit (ILP) as noted in section 734-201, exempt signs, or identified as a prohibited sign type shall be required to obtain an ILP as stated in Chapter 730, Article III of this Code. Furthermore, any sign not identified as a permitted sign type in the tables in section 734-500 of this chapter is prohibited.

This provision shall not be construed to require an ILP for the routine maintenance or changing of the parts or copy of a sign for which an ILP has previously been issued, including changing a sign face, provided that the maintenance or change of parts or copy of a sign does not alter the surface area, height, or otherwise render the sign nonconforming, or increase the existing degree of nonconformity, with the standards of this chapter.

ARTICLE III. SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

Sec. 734-300. Basic design elements for all on-premises signs.

- (a) **Pole sign.** At its lowest point, the sign face of a pole sign shall be located a minimum of nine (9) feet above the grade (refer to Diagram 8).
- (b) **Wall sign.** A wall sign shall not extend outward more than eighteen (18) inches from the building or structure wall. A wall sign may extend to a maximum of four (4) feet upward above a roof or parapet line, provided that at least fifty (50) percent of the area of the wall sign shall be located below the roof or parapet line (refer to Diagram 9).
- (c) **Roof-integral sign.** A roof-integral sign shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and shall not project more than eighteen (18) inches outward from the level of the roof measured horizontally from the sign's closest point to the roof. A roof-integral sign may extend up to the roof level line and not above the roof line or the top of the building or structure (as viewed in the elevation), provided the maximum height of the extended sign does not exceed twenty-six (26) feet measured from grade perpendicularly to the sign's highest point (refer to Diagram 10).
- (d) **Pylon sign.** A sign face of a pylon sign may extend up from grade level provided the clear sight triangle provisions of section 734-204(j) shall be maintained.
- (e) **Projecting sign.** A projecting sign or sign structure may extend up to, but not above, the roof level line or the top of the building or structure, as viewed in the elevation (refer to Diagram 11).

Sec. 734-301. On-premises signs; dwelling districts.**(a) Regulations for freestanding identification signs.**

- (1) *Where permitted.*
 - a. *Pole or pylon signs.* Pole or pylon signs shall not be permitted in any dwelling district, as noted in section 734-500, Table B, permitted sign types on-premises signs residential districts.
 - b. *Ground signs.* Ground signs shall be permitted for subdivision or project signs in the D-A, D-S, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, D-5II, D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-8, D-9, D-10, D-11, D-12, and D-P Dwelling Districts.
- (2) *Maximum sign height, ground signs.* No part of the sign face or the sign support structure of a ground sign shall be more than four (4) feet above grade level, subject to the provisions of section 734-204(g), grade mounding. If subdivision or project signs are attached to fences or walls, such fences or walls shall meet all height requirements outlined in section 731-219 of this Code relative to structural barriers.
- (3) *Minimum setbacks, front.* The minimum setback for all freestanding identification signs shall be fifteen (15) feet from the existing street right-of-way line unless subject to the provisions of section 734-206, front sign setback exception, provided, however, the following provisions shall also be met in the location of minimum front setbacks: No freestanding identification sign shall be erected within any area designated by the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County as required for right-of-way for a public street unless the owner of such sign provides a written commitment to the Department of Metropolitan Development to relocate such sign out of the right-of-way at his/her expense upon the acquisition of the property by the applicable governmental agency for transportation purposes and shall waive all claims to damages or compensation by reason of the existence or relocation of the sign.
- (4) *Minimum setbacks, side and rear.*
 - a. If illuminated, no freestanding identification sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line. Exception: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that the illuminated freestanding identification sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.
 - b. No freestanding identification sign shall be located closer than five (5) feet to a side or rear property line.
- (5) *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign area of a freestanding identification sign shall not exceed forty (40) square feet. If the sign is located on a fence or wall, only the area of the actual sign itself shall be calculated in determining the maximum sign area, not the fence or wall itself.
- (6) *Number of signs.* Two (2) freestanding identification subdivision or project ground signs shall be permitted at each entrance to a subdivision or project.

(b) Regulations for building identification signs.

- (1) *Wall signs.*
 - a. *Maximum size for wall signs.* The maximum total sign area for a wall sign on a facade shall not exceed an amount equal to three (3) percent of the building facade or other architectural elevation to which the sign is oriented or three hundred (300) square feet, whichever is the lesser. The linear measurement of the sign shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of the linear frontage of the facade of the building (refer to Diagram 12).
 - b. *Number of wall signs.* One (1) wall sign shall be permitted for each building.
 - c. *Wall signs on corner lots.* On buildings having more than one (1) street frontage, the maximum allowable square footage of wall signs are permitted for each building's street frontage. Such maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) building frontage to another nor from one (1) occupancy to another.

- d. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* If illuminated, wall signs facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall not be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line. Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - 1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district.
 - 2. The illuminated wall sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.
- (2) *Roof signs.* Roof signs shall not be permitted in any dwelling district, as noted in section 734-500, Table B, permitted sign types on-premise signs residential districts.
- (3) *Roof-integral signs.* Roof-integral signs shall not be permitted in any dwelling district, as noted in section 734-500, Table B, permitted sign types on-premise signs residential districts.
- (4) *Projecting signs.* Projecting signs shall not be permitted in any dwelling district, as noted in section 734-500, Table B, permitted sign types on-premise signs residential districts.
- (5) *Awning or canopy signs.* Awning or canopy signs shall be permitted in the D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-8 (multifamily), D-9, D-10, and D-P Dwelling Districts and shall:
 - a. Be nonilluminated; and
 - b. Comply with the provisions of section 734-400(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (7), awning and canopy sign regulations.
- (6) *Marquee signs.* Marquee signs shall be permitted in the D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-8 (multifamily), D-9, D-10, D-11 and D-P Dwelling Districts and shall:
 - a. Be nonilluminated; and
 - b. Comply with the provisions of section 734-400(a)(1), (3), (4), (5) and (6), marquee sign regulations.
- (7) *Suspended signs.*
 - a. *Where permitted.* Suspended signs shall be permitted in the D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-8 (multifamily), D-9, D-10, D-11 and D-P Districts.
 - b. *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign surface area for a suspended sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet.
 - c. *Number of signs.* One (1) suspended sign shall be permitted per each building facade.
 - d. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any suspended sign or sign structure (except for the supporting building) shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.

Refer to Diagram 13 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

(8) *Reserved.*

(c) Regulations for incidental signs. On-premises incidental signs shall be permitted in those districts identified in section 734-500, Tables A, B, D in accordance with the following development standards:

- (1) *Directional incidental signs.*
 - a. The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed two and one-half (2.5) feet.
 - b. The maximum sign surface area of the sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet.

- c. The sign shall be set back a minimum of two (2) feet from the existing street right-of-way.
- d. Two (2) such signs shall be permitted at each ingress or egress point on a lot.

(2) Parking and loading incidental signs.

- a. The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed four (4) feet.
- b. The maximum sign surface area of the sign shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet and may contain the name of the lot owner/operator.
- c. The sign shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the existing street right-of-way.
- d. One (1) such sign shall be permitted per each frontage that contains an ingress/egress point.

(3) Internal directory signs. Internal directory signs indicating only the names and addresses of the occupants of the premises on which the sign is to be located but containing no advertising material of any kind shall be subject to the following:

- a. The internal directory signs may be either wall, ground or pylon signs.
- b. There shall not be more than one (1) internal directory sign for each building or complex under unified control consisting of two (2) or more occupants. Internal directory signs shall not be permitted for single occupant buildings.
- c. The aggregate gross surface area of an internal directory sign shall not exceed one (1) square foot for each occupant located in the building or complex.
- d. The internal directory sign may be located within two (2) feet of any right-of-way, provided the requirements of section 734-204(f), clear sight triangular area, are maintained.
- e. An internal directory sign shall not project higher than ten (10) feet, as measured from the base of the building or the ground to which the sign is to be affixed.

(4) Other incidental signs. See section 734-201, exempt signs.

(d) Regulations for window signs.

- (1) *Where permitted.* Window signs shall be permitted in any dwelling district as noted in chapter 734, Table B, "Permitted sign types--On-premise signs--Residential Districts."
- (2) *Maximum sign copy area.* The sign copy area shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the window surface area on which it is placed or through which it is viewed. However, in no case shall the sign copy area exceed a maximum of six (6) square feet.
- (3) *Number of window signs.* One (1) window sign shall be permitted for each building.
- (4) *Illumination.* Window signs shall be non-illuminated.

The sign surface area of window signs shall be calculated separately from the calculation of other signs and shall not be included in the total area of other signs permitted.

(G.O. 1, 2000, §§ 1C, 1D)

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Sec. 734-303. On-premises signs; commercial and industrial districts.**(a) Freestanding identification signs.****(1) Maximum sign height, pole and pylon signs.**

- a. *Single use.* The maximum height of a freestanding identification pole or pylon sign and its supporting structure shall not exceed the heights noted in Table 3.00-A. These signs shall be measured from grade level at the base of the sign structure.

Table 3.00-A Maximum Sign Height, Pole and Pylon Signs, Single Use

Zoning District	Permitted Maximum Height
C-1*, C-2*, C-3C*	Twenty-five (25) feet
C-3, C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-ID	Forty (40) feet
Any industrial district	Forty (40) feet

* Pole or pylon signs shall not be permitted within six hundred (600) feet of a protected district, as defined in section 734-501. The method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7).

Pole or pylon signs shall not be illuminated within six hundred (600) feet of a protected district. The method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7).

Exceptions: The provision prohibiting pole or pylon signs within six hundred (600) feet of a protected district shall not apply if it can be determined that:

1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district; or
2. The sign is visibly obstructed from the protected district.

- b. *Integrated centers.* The maximum height of a freestanding identification pole or pylon sign and its supporting structure identifying an integrated center shall not exceed forty (40) feet above grade level at the base of such structure.

- (2) *Maximum sign height ground sign.* No part of the sign face and the sign support structure of a freestanding identification ground sign shall be more than four (4) feet above grade level (refer to Diagram 14).
- (3) *Minimum setbacks, front.* The minimum setback for all freestanding identification signs shall be fifteen (15) feet from the existing street right-of-way line, unless subject to the provisions of section 734-206, front sign setback exception. Provided, however, the following provisions shall also be met in the location of minimum front setbacks: No freestanding identification sign shall be erected within any area designated by the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County as required for right-of-way for a public street unless the owner of such sign provides a written commitment to the Department of Metropolitan Development to relocate such sign out of the right-of-way at his/her expense upon the acquisition of the property by the applicable governmental agency for transportation purposes and shall waive all claims to damages or compensation by reason of the existence or relocation of the sign.
- (4) *Minimum setbacks, side or rear.*

- a. No freestanding identification sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line. Exception: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that a commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district.

- b. No freestanding identification sign shall be located closer than five (5) feet to a side or rear property line.

(5) *Maximum sign area.*

- a. *Freestanding identification signs not a part of an integrated center.*

- 1. The sign surface area of a freestanding identification sign shall not exceed that specified in the following table:

Table 3.00-B Freestanding Identification Sign Single Use

Frontage (to which the sign oriented)	Maximum Sign Area
a. Up to fifty (50) linear feet	One hundred fifty (150) square feet
b. Between fifty (50) and one hundred ten (110) linear feet	1.5 additional square feet of sign area per each additional linear foot of frontage over fifty (50) feet to which the sign is oriented
c. Between one hundred ten (110) and three hundred (300) linear feet	No additional square feet of sign area than that allowed by b. above
d. Between three hundred (300) and five hundred (500) linear feet	0.75 additional square foot of sign area per each additional linear foot of frontage over three hundred (300) feet to which the sign is oriented. In no case shall the sign area exceed three hundred ninety (390) square feet
e. Over five hundred (500) linear feet	Three hundred ninety (390) square feet

- 2. On lots with a linear frontage oriented to the same street in excess of three hundred (300) linear feet, a second freestanding identification sign may be utilized (see subsection (6) below, number of signs, for additional provisions). If two (2) freestanding identification signs are utilized, however, the combined area (in square feet) of both signs shall not exceed that allowed based upon the linear street frontage to which the sign is oriented or three hundred ninety (390) square feet, whichever is the lesser (refer to Diagram 15).

b. *Freestanding identification signs for integrated centers.*

1. The sign surface area of a freestanding identification sign for an integrated center shall not exceed that specified in the following table:

Table 3.00-C Freestanding Identification Sign Integrated Centers

Frontage (to which the sign is oriented)	Maximum Sign Area
a. Up to fifty (50) linear feet	Two hundred (200) square feet
b. Between fifty (50) and three hundred fifty (350) linear feet	One (1) additional square foot of sign area per each additional linear foot of frontage over fifty (50) feet to which the sign is oriented
c. Between three hundred fifty (350) and five hundred (500) linear feet	No additional square feet of sign area than that allowed by b. above
d. Between five hundred (500) and one thousand one hundred (1,100) linear feet	0.75 additional square foot of sign area per each additional linear foot of frontage over five hundred (500) to which the sign is oriented. In no case shall the sign area exceed nine hundred (900) square feet
e. Over one thousand one hundred (1,100) linear feet	Nine hundred (900) square feet

2. On lots with a linear frontage oriented to the same street in excess of five hundred (500) linear feet, a second freestanding identification sign for an integrated center may be utilized (see subsection (6) below, number of signs, for additional provisions). If two (2) freestanding identification signs are utilized, however, the combined area (in square feet) of both signs shall not exceed that allowed based upon the linear street frontage to which the sign is oriented or nine hundred (900) square feet, whichever is the lesser. Provided, however, the sign surface area of a freestanding identification sign for an integrated center shall not exceed a maximum of five hundred (500) square feet for a sign oriented to a secondary arterial, collector, local, marginal access or private streets.

- (6)
- Number of signs.*
- One (1) freestanding identification sign shall be allowed on a lot for each frontage on a separate street.

Exceptions:

- a. *Extensive frontage.* Where a lot has in excess of three hundred (300) linear feet of street frontage on the same street, one (1) additional freestanding identification sign shall be allowed for each additional three hundred (300) linear feet of street frontage on that street. Such additional signs shall be subject to all other provisions of this chapter. In no event shall an additional freestanding identification sign as permitted in this section be located any closer than three hundred (300) feet to any other freestanding identification sign on the same lot (refer to Diagram 15).
- b. *Corner lots.* On corner lots the maximum number and square footage of freestanding identification signs shall be permitted for each street frontage. Such maximum allowances, however, shall not be transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) street frontage to another.

(b) Building identification signs.*(1) Maximum surface area for building identification signs.*

- a. The maximum sign surface area for building identification signs shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the area of the front facade, fifteen (15) percent of the area of the side facades (each side facade shall be calculated separately) and ten (10) percent of the rear facade (refer to Diagram 16).
- b. Any combination of building identification signs may be utilized, so long as the total surface area of signs on a particular building facade does not exceed the percentage noted in a. above, and subject to any additional provisions of subsection (b), building identification signs.

(2) Wall signs.

- a. *Maximum size for wall signs.* In addition to subsection (b)(1) above, the linear measurement of the sign shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of the linear frontage of the facade of the structure or tenant space (see Diagram 16).
- b. *Number of wall signs.* There shall be no limit on the number of wall signs allowed, provided the provisions of subsection (b)(1) above are not exceeded on the facade on which the signs are located.
- c. *Wall signs on corner lots.* On buildings having more than one (1) street frontage, the maximum allowable square footage of wall signs are permitted for each building frontage or occupancy. Such maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) building frontage to another nor from one (1) occupancy to another occupancy.
- d. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* An illuminated wall sign shall not be permitted within fifty (50) feet of a side or rear lot line of an abutting lot line zoned as a dwelling district when such sign faces such side or rear lot line.

Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:

1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as dwelling district; or
2. The illuminated wall sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.

(3) Roof signs. Roof signs shall not be permitted.*(4) Roof-integral signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Roof-integral signs shall be permitted in any commercial or industrial districts.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* Same as subsection (b)(1).
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) roof-integral sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or tenant space (if an integrated center), subject to the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b.
- d. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* An illuminated roof-integral sign shall not be permitted within fifty (50) feet of a side or rear lot line of an abutting lot line zoned as a dwelling district when such sign faces such side or rear lot line.

Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:

1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as dwelling district; or

2. The illuminated roof-integral sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.

(5) *Projecting signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Projecting signs shall be permitted in any commercial or industrial districts.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* Same as subsection (b)(1).
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) projecting sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center), subject to the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b.
- d. *Maximum projection from a building.* No projecting sign or sign structure shall extend more than eight (8) feet from or beyond its supporting building.
- e. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any projecting sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade (see Diagram 11).
- f. *Minimum setback, front.* The horizontal projection of any projecting sign may extend to a point not closer than two (2) feet from an imaginary perpendicular vertical plane at the street pavement line, curb or outside edge of the sidewalk.

(6) *Suspended signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Suspended signs shall be permitted in any commercial or industrial districts.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign surface area for a suspended sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet. In addition, the provisions of subsection (b)(1) shall apply.
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) suspended sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center).
- d. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any suspended sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.

Refer to Diagram 13 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

(7) *Awning and canopy signs.* See section 734-400, awning and canopy sign regulations.

(8) *Marquee signs.* See section 734-401, marquee sign regulations.

(c) Incidental signs. On-premises incidental signs shall be permitted in those districts identified in section 734-500, Table A, in accordance with the following development standards:

(1) *Directional incidental signs.*

- a. The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed two and one-half (2.5) feet.
- b. The maximum sign surface area of the sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet.
- c. The sign shall be set back a minimum of two feet from the existing street right-of-way.
- d. Two (2) such signs shall be permitted at each ingress or egress point on a lot.

(2) *Parking and loading incidental signs.*

- a. The maximum height of the sign shall not exceed four (4) feet.
 - b. The maximum sign surface area of the sign shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet and may contain the name of the lot owner/operator.
 - c. The sign shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the existing street right-of-way.
 - d. One (1) such sign shall be permitted per each frontage that contains an ingress/egress point.
- (3) *Internal directory signs.* Internal directory signs indicating only the names or addresses of the occupants of the premises on which the sign is to be located but containing no advertising material of any kind shall be subject to the following:
- a. The internal directory signs may be either wall, ground or pylon signs.
 - b. There shall not be more than one (1) internal directory sign for each office, industrial, and institutional building or complex under unified control consisting of two (2) or more occupants. Internal directory signs shall not be permitted for single occupant offices, industrial and institutional buildings or complexes.
 - c. The aggregate gross surface area of an internal directory sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet for each occupant located in the building or complex.
 - d. The internal directory sign may be located within two (2) feet of any right-of-way, provided the requirements of section 734-204(j), clear sight triangular area, are maintained.
 - e. An internal directory sign shall not project higher than ten (10) feet, as measured from the base of the building or the ground to which the sign is to be affixed.
- (4) *Other incidental signs.* See section 734-210, exempt signs.

(d) Window signs.

The sign copy area shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the window surface area on which it is placed or through which it is viewed, however, in no case shall the sign copy area exceed one hundred (100) square feet. The sign surface area of window signs shall be calculated separately from the calculation of other signs and shall not be included in the total area of other signs permitted.

(G.O. 1, 2000, §§ 1E, 1F)

Sec. 734-304. On-premises signs; special zoning districts.

The following regulations shall pertain to on-premises business signs in all special zoning districts where permitted by section 734-500, Table C and this section. Off-premises (outdoor advertising) signs shall not be permitted in any special zoning district.

(a) Regulations for freestanding identification signs.**(1) Where permitted.**

- a. Pole or pylon signs. Pole or pylon signs shall be permitted in any special use (SU) district, the HD-1 and HD-2 Districts (Hospital District One and Two), the PK-2 District (Park District Two), and UQ-1 District (University Quarter One). Provided, however, pole or pylon signs shall not be permitted within six hundred (600) feet of a dwelling district, as defined in section 734-501. The method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the dwelling district (refer to Diagram 7).

Exceptions: The provision prohibiting pole or pylon signs within six hundred (600) feet of a dwelling district shall not apply if it can be determined that:

1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district; or
2. The sign is visibly obstructed from the protected district.

- b. Ground signs. Ground signs shall be permitted in any special use (SU) district, the HD-1 and HD-2 Districts (Hospital District One and Two), the PK-1 and PK-2 Districts (Park District One and Two) and the UQ-1 and UQ-2 Districts (University Quarter District One and Two).

(2) Maximum sign height.

- a. Pole or pylon signs. The maximum height of a freestanding identification pole or pylon sign and its supporting structure shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet above grade level at the base of the structure.
- b. Ground signs. No part of the sign face or the sign support structure of a ground sign shall be more than four (4) feet above grade level, subject to the provisions of section 734-204(g), grade mounding (refer to Diagram 14).

- (3) Minimum setbacks, front. Subject to the provisions of section 734-204(j), clear sight triangular area, the minimum setback for all freestanding identification signs shall be fifteen (15) feet from the existing street right-of-way line unless subject to the provisions of section 734-206, front sign setback exception, provided, however, the following provisions shall also be met for the location of the minimum front setbacks: No freestanding identification sign shall be erected within any area designated by the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County as required for right-of-way for a public street unless the owner of such sign provides a written commitment to the Department of Metropolitan Development to relocate such sign out of the right-of-way at his/her expense upon the acquisition of the property by the applicable governmental agency for transportation purposes and shall waive all claims to damages or compensation by reason of the existence or relocation of the sign.

(4) Minimum setbacks, side and rear.

- a. If illuminated, no freestanding identification sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line.

Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:

1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district.
2. The illuminated freestanding identification sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.

- b. No freestanding identification sign shall be located closer than five (5) feet to a side or rear property line.
- (5) *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign area of a freestanding identification sign shall not exceed an amount equal to three (3) percent of the building facade or other architectural elevation to which the sign is oriented, or two hundred forty (240) square feet, whichever is the lesser.
- (6) *Number of signs.* One (1) freestanding identification sign shall be allowed for each frontage on a separate street.

Exceptions:

- a. *Extensive frontage.* Where a lot has in excess of three hundred (300) feet of street frontage on the same street, one (1) additional freestanding identification sign shall be allowed for each additional three hundred (300) feet of street frontage on that street. Such additional signs shall be subject to all other provisions of this chapter. In no event shall an additional freestanding identification sign, as permitted in this section, be located any closer than three hundred (300) feet to any other freestanding identification sign on the same lot (refer to Diagram 15).
- b. *Corner lots.* On corner lots, the maximum number and square footage of freestanding identification signs shall be permitted for each street frontage. Such maximum allowances, however, shall not be transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) street to another.

(b) Regulations for building identification signs.

- (1) *Maximum surface area for building identification signs.*
 - a. The maximum sign surface area for building identification signs shall not exceed an amount equal to three (3) percent of the building facade or other architectural elevation to which the sign is oriented. The linear measurement of the sign shall not exceed eighty (80) percent of the linear frontage of the facade of the structure or tenant space (refer to Diagram 12).
 - b. Any combination of building identification signs permitted in this section may be utilized, so long as the total surface area of signs on a particular building facade does not exceed the percentage noted in a. above, and subject to any additional provision of subsection (b), building identification signs.
- (2) *Wall signs.*
 - a. *Number of wall signs.* There shall be no limit on the number of wall signs allowed, provided the provisions of subsection (b)(1)a. above are not exceeded on the facade on which the signs are located.
 - b. *Wall signs on corner lots.* On buildings having more than one (1) street frontage, the maximum allowable square footage of wall signs are permitted for each building frontage or occupancy. Such maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) building frontage to another nor from one (1) occupancy to another occupancy.
 - c. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* If illuminated, no wall sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line.

Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:

 - 1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district; or
 - 2. The illuminated wall sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.
- (3) *Roof signs.* Roof signs shall not be permitted in any special zoning district, as noted in section 734-500, Table C, permitted sign types on-premise signs, special zoning districts.

(4) *Roof-integral signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Roof-integral signs shall be permitted in the HD-2 District, and in the PK-2 District for all but residential uses.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* Same as subsection (b)(1) above.
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) roof-integral sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center), subject to the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b. above.

(5) *Projecting signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Projecting signs shall be permitted in any special use (SU) district.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* Same as subsection (b)(1) above.
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) projecting sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center), subject to the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b. above.
- d. *Maximum projection from a building.* No projecting sign or sign structure shall extend more than eight (8) feet from or beyond its supporting building.
- e. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any projecting sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.
- f. *Minimum setbacks, front.* The horizontal projection of any projecting sign may extend to a point no closer than two (2) feet to an imaginary perpendicular vertical plane at the street pavement line, curb or outside edge of the sidewalk. Refer to Diagram 11 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

(6) *Awning or canopy signs.* Awning or canopy signs shall be permitted in any special use (SU) district, the HD-1 and HD-2 Districts (Hospital District One and Two), and the PK-2 District (Park District Two), and shall:

- a. Be nonilluminated; and
- b. Comply with the provisions of section 734-400(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (7), awning and canopy sign regulations, and the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b. above.

(7) *Marquee signs.* Marquee signs shall be permitted in any special use (SU) district, the HD-1 and HD-2 Districts (Hospital District One and Two), and the PK-2 District (Park District Two), and shall:

- a. Be nonilluminated; and
- b. Comply with the provisions of section 734-400(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (7), awning and canopy sign regulations, and the provisions of subsection (b)(1)b. above.

(8) *Suspended signs.*

- a. *Where permitted.* Suspended signs shall be permitted in any special zoning district as noted in section 734-500, Table C, permitted sign types on-premise signs, special zoning districts.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign surface area for a suspended sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet.
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) suspended sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center).

- d. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any suspended sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade. Refer to Diagram 13 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

(c) Regulations for incidental signs.

Incidental signs shall be permitted in any special zoning district subject to the regulations of section 734-303(c), incidental signs.

(d) Window signs.

- (1) *Where permitted.* Window signs shall be permitted in any special zoning district as noted in chapter 734, Table C, "Permitted sign types--On-premise signs, Special Districts."
- (2) *Maximum sign area.* The sign copy area of window signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the window surface area on which it is placed or through which it is viewed, however, in no case shall the sign copy area exceed one hundred (100) square feet.

The sign surface area of window signs shall be calculated separately from the calculation of other signs and shall not be included in the total area of other signs permitted.

(G.O. 1, 2000, §§ 1G, 1H)

Sec. 734-305. On-premises signs; central business district signs (CBD-1, CBD-2, CBD-3 and CBD-S).

The following regulations shall pertain to on-premises business signs in all CBD districts where permitted by section 734-500, Table D, and this section. Off-premises (outdoor advertising) signs in the CBD districts also shall follow the regulations of section 734-306.

Any on-premises business sign erected on a building or lot located within a locally designated historic preservation area as established by, and under the jurisdiction of, the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission (IHPC) shall be exempt from the provisions of this section of this chapter. The type, number, area, height, illumination and location of such signs located within such historic preservation areas shall be as determined by the IHPC. The specific standards and requirements for on-premises business signs shall be as set forth in and specified by the grant of a certificate of appropriateness following all procedures set forth by the IHPC.

(a) Regulations for freestanding identification signs.**(1) Where permitted.****a. Pole or pylon signs:**

1. Shall be permitted only for surface parking lots in the CBD-1 and CBD-2 Districts.
2. Shall be permitted in the CBD-3 District only for surface parking lots. In no case, however, shall pole or pylon signs be permitted on the street frontage of any lot abutting American Legion Mall, Veterans Memorial Plaza, the Indiana War Memorial or University Park.
3. Shall be permitted in the CBD-S District.

b. Ground signs shall be permitted in all CBD districts.**(2) Maximum sign height.**

- a. *Pole or pylon signs:* The maximum height of a pole or pylon sign and its supporting structure shall not exceed twenty (20) feet above grade level at the base of such structure, subject to the provisions of section 734-304(g), grade mounding.
- b. *Ground signs:* No part of the sign face or the sign support structure of a ground sign shall be more than four (4) feet above grade level, subject to the provisions of section 734-204(g), grade mounding.

(3) Minimum setbacks, front.

- a. The minimum setback for freestanding identification pole or pylon signs shall be ten (10) feet from the existing street right-of-way line, provided, however, the provisions of subsection (a)(3)c. below shall also be met.
- b. The maximum setback for freestanding identification ground signs shall be zero (0) feet from the existing street right-of-way line, provided, however, the provisions of subsection (a)(3)c. below shall also be met.
- c. No freestanding identification sign shall be erected within any area designated by the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County as required for right-of-way for a public street unless the owner of such sign provides a written commitment to the Department of Metropolitan Development to relocate such sign out of the right-of-way at his or her expense upon the acquisition of the property by the applicable governmental agency for transportation purposes and shall waive all claims to damages or compensation by reason of the existence or relocation of the sign.

(4) Minimum setbacks, side and rear. If illuminated, no freestanding identification sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line. *Exception:* This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:

- a. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district.
 - b. The illuminated sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.
- (5) **Maximum sign area.** The sign surface area of a freestanding identification sign shall not exceed one (1) square foot in sign surface area for each lineal foot of that lot's street frontage (to which the sign is oriented). In no case, however, shall the maximum sign surface area exceed one hundred (100) square feet.
- (6) **Number of signs.** One (1) freestanding identification sign shall be allowed for each frontage on a separate street. *Exceptions:*
- a. *Extensive frontage.* Where a lot has in excess of three hundred (300) feet of street frontage on the same street, one (1) additional freestanding identification sign shall be allowed for each additional three hundred (300) feet of street frontage on that street. Such additional signs shall be subject to all other provisions of this chapter. In no event shall an additional freestanding identification sign, as permitted in this section, be located any closer than three hundred (300) feet to any other freestanding identification sign on the same lot (refer to Diagram 15).
 - b. *Corner lots.* On corner lots, the maximum number and square footage of freestanding identification signs shall be permitted for each street frontage. Such maximum allowances, however, shall not be transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) street to another.

(b) Regulations for building identification signs.

(1) Lower level building identification signs. Signs located on:

- The first twenty-six (26) feet of building height; or
 - The actual building height, whichever is lesser (measured from grade), shall be considered lower level building identification signs and shall conform to the following regulations.
- a. **Maximum size for lower level building identification signs.** The maximum sign surface area for lower level building identification signs shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the facade as noted in the formula below:
- Maximum permitted sign surface area = 20% (A × B)
- A = Twenty-six (26) feet or the height of the building, whichever is lesser.
- B = Width of the facade (measured in feet) on which the sign is to be placed.
- (The application of this provision is illustrated in Diagram 17).
- b. **Number of lower level building identification signs.** One (1) sign for each basement, grade level or second story occupant of the building shall be permitted. *Exception:* Buildings in which a single tenant occupies the entire basement, grade level or second story leasable space, or a leasable space with two hundred (200) or more linear feet of street frontage, may have an additional lower level building identification sign on that street frontage only. Provided, the maximum sign surface area permitted for that facade, as noted in subsection (b)(1)a.1. above shall not be exceeded for the total number of lower level building identification signs.
 - c. **Location of lower level building identification signs.** Lower level wall signs shall be located only on facades that front on a street.
 - d. **Lower level building identification signs on corner lots or lots that have multiple street frontages.** On buildings having more than one (1) street frontage, the maximum allowable square footage of lower level building identification signs shall be permitted for each building frontage. Such

maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) building to another nor from one (1) occupancy to another occupancy.

- e. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* If illuminated, no building identification sign facing the side or rear lot line of an abutting lot zoned as a dwelling district shall be located within fifty (50) feet of such side or rear lot line. *Exception:* This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - 1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a dwelling district; or
 - 2. The illuminated sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.

(2) Upper level building identification signs. Signs located on a building facade above twenty-six (26) feet in height, measured from grade, shall be considered upper level building identification signs and shall conform to the following regulations:

- a. *Placement.* Upper level building identification signs shall be located on a facade above a height of twenty-six (26) feet, measured from the grade level.
- b. *Maximum size for upper level building identification signs.* The maximum sign surface area for upper level building identification signs shall not exceed ten (10) percent of the facade as noted in the formula below:

Maximum permitted sign surface area = 10% (A × B).

A = height of building (measured from grade, in feet). This figure shall be reduced by subtracting the first twenty-six (26) feet in height of the building, measured from grade level.

B = width of the facade (measured in feet) on which the sign is to be placed.

(The application of this provision is illustrated in Diagram 17).

- c. *Number of upper level building identification signs.* One (1) sign for each facade of the building shall be permitted, provided the maximum sign surface area permitted for that facade, as noted in subsection (b)(1)a.1. above is not exceeded. These signs may identify either the name of the building or a tenant of that building.
- d. *Location of upper level building identification signs.* Upper level building identification signs shall be located on any facade or architectural elevation of the building. Provided, however, that on buildings having upper level building identification signs on more than one (1) facade, the maximum allowance for a facade is not transferable either in whole or in part from one (1) building to another nor from one (1) occupancy to another occupancy.

(3) Wall signs. Wall signs shall be of individual letter construction in the CBD-1 and CBD-3 Districts. Where construction materials/methods of buildings would pose practical difficulties for the erection of individual letter wall signs, raceways can be used on which the individual letters can be mounted.

(4) Roof signs. Roof signs shall not be permitted in any CBD district. *Exception:* Signs that are painted on, or otherwise attached flat and directly to, the roof structure, and that do not extend vertically from the roof structure, shall be permitted on public buildings (those buildings owned, operated, controlled or under some jurisdiction of a unit of federal, state or local government). Signs permitted under this exception shall be regulated as upper level business signs for purposes of sign surface area and number.

(5) Roof-integral signs.

- a. *Where permitted.* Roof integral signs shall be permitted in the CBD-2, CBD-3 and CBD-S Districts.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* Same as section 734-303(b)(1).
- c. *Number of signs.* One (1) roof-integral sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or tenant space (if an integrated center), subject to the provisions of section 734-303(b)(1)b.
- d. *Distance from side or rear lot line when abutting a dwelling district.* An illuminated roof-integral sign shall not be permitted within fifty (50) feet of a side or rear lot line of an abutting lot line zoned as a dwelling district when such sign faces such side or rear lot line. *Exception:* This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 1. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as dwelling district.
 2. The illuminated roof-integral sign is visibly obstructed from the dwelling district.

(6) Projecting signs.

- a. *Where permitted.* Projecting signs shall be permitted in any CBD district, except in the CBD-1 District on lots that front Monument Circle. Projecting signs shall be permitted as lower level signs only for basement, grade level or second story occupants of the building.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* The sign surface area of a projecting sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet.
- c. *Number of signs and placement.* One (1) projecting sign shall be permitted per tenant space, to be placed on the building facade from which the tenant gains direct access into their business.
- d. Maximum projection from a building and minimum front setback.
 1. No projecting sign or sign structure shall extend more than eight (8) feet from or beyond its supporting building. *Exception:* A projecting sign or sign structure shall not extend more than three (3) feet from or beyond its supporting building when such sign or structure is located on and oriented toward East or West Market Street between Capitol Avenue and Alabama Street.
 2. The horizontal projection of any projecting sign may extend to a point not closer than two (2) feet from an imaginary perpendicular vertical plane at the street pavement line, curb or outside edge of the sidewalk. Refer to Diagram 11 for illustrative guides to these provisions.
- e. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of a projecting sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.

(7) Awning or canopy signs. Awning or canopy signs shall be permitted in any CBD district subject to the regulations of section 734-400, awning and canopy sign regulations. *Exception:* An awning or canopy sign or sign structure shall not extend more than three (3) feet from or beyond its supporting building when such sign or structure is located on and oriented toward East or West Market Street between Capitol Avenue and Alabama Street.**(8) Marquee signs.** Marquee signs shall be permitted in any CBD district subject to the regulations of section 734-401, marquee sign regulations. *Exception:* A marquee sign or sign structure shall not extend more than three (3) feet from or beyond its supporting building when such sign or structure is located on and oriented toward East or West Market Street between Capitol Avenue and Alabama Street.**(9) Suspended signs.**

- a. *Where permitted.* Suspended signs shall be permitted in any CBD district.
- b. *Maximum sign area.* The maximum sign surface area for a suspended sign shall not exceed five (5) square feet.

c. *Number of signs.* One (1) suspended sign shall be permitted per each building facade (if a single use) or grade level tenant space (if an integrated center).

d. *Clearance from grade.* All portions of any suspended sign or sign structure shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.

Refer to Diagram 13 for illustrative guides to these provisions.

(c) Regulations for incidental signs.

Incidental signs shall be permitted in any CBD district subject to the regulations of section 734-303(c), incidental signs.

(d) Window signs.

(1) *Where permitted.* Window signs shall be permitted in any CBD District.

(2) *Maximum sign area.* The sign copy area of window signs shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the window surface area on which it is placed or through which it is viewed, however, in no case shall the sign copy area exceed one hundred (100) square feet.

The sign surface area of window signs shall be calculated separately from the calculation of other signs and shall not be included in the total area of other signs permitted.

The administrator, upon request by the applicant, shall have the power to modify the requirements of this provision and approve alternatives for those requirements as long as the alternative plan is appropriate for the site and its surroundings and is compatible and consistent with the intent of the stated standards. Such modification shall be noted on the alternative plan, stamped approved by the administrator and become a part of the requirements for the improvement location permit. Under no circumstances, however, shall the administrator modify the content of a sign.

(e) Special regulations for promotional banners.

Temporary promotional banners, located on permanent banner poles or on street light standards structurally modified to accommodate banners, erected by or sanctioned by the City of Indianapolis, shall be permitted in the CBD-1, CBD-2, CBD-3 and CBD-S Districts. Only such banners promoting community activities, cultural or sports programs important to the city's image or economy; or not-for-profit organizations serving the community shall be permitted under this provision. Individual promotional banners may be displayed for a maximum of thirty (30) days. Banners shall not exceed thirty (30) inches wide and eighty-five (85) inches long. A banner program, indicating location of permanent banner poles or street light standards and size of promotional banners to be displayed, shall be submitted for regional center review and approval. The banner program shall also be submitted to the division of inspections of the department of code enforcement for its review and approval, if banner poles are proposed to be located within the public right-of-way. Once a banner program has been approved, individual temporary banners shall not require additional approval. Any changes to the banner program, however, shall require the appropriate agency review and approval. An ILP shall not be required if the provisions noted above are satisfied.

(G.O. 1, 2000, §§ 1I, 1J; G.O. 2, 2002, § 17; G.O. 96, 2009)

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Sec. 734-306. Off-premises (outdoor advertising) signs.

(a) **General regulations.** The following regulations shall pertain to off-premises signs (also known as outdoor advertising signs) in all districts where permitted by section 734-306, Table 3.06-D: Also, refer to section 734-403(c), signs on freeways and expressways, for additional requirements.

(1) **Proportional regulations.** The size of an outdoor advertising sign on a lot shall not exceed the size specified in the following table:

TABLE 3.60-A	
Lot Size (in square feet)	Maximum Sign Dimensions (vertical by horizontal)
Up to 10,000	6 ft. by 12 ft.
10,000+--20,000	12 ft. by 12 ft.
20,000+--43,560	12 ft. by 25 ft.
43,560+	10.5 ft. by 36 ft.* or 12 ft. by 50 ft. or 14 ft. by 48 ft.*

Note:* plus extensions as defined in section 734-501.

Extensions. Elements of an outdoor advertising sign may be permitted to extend beyond the horizontal or vertical sign edge. The maximum length of an extension shall not be greater than four feet beyond the top edge of the sign and one foot along all other sign edges. The maximum width of an extension shall not be greater than forty-five (45) percent of the linear length of the horizontal or vertical dimension of the outdoor advertising sign (See Extension Table 3.60-B below and refer to Extension Diagram 35).

TABLE 3.60-B EXTENSIONS				
Sign Size (Feet)	Maximum Extension Length (Top)(Feet)	Maximum Extension Length (Sides and Bottom) (Feet)	Sign Dimension (Feet)	Extension Width (Feet)
10.5 by 36	4	1	10.5 36	4.725 16.2
14 by 48	4	1	14 48	6.3 21.6

- (2) **Outdoor advertising sign size.** The face of an outdoor advertising sign shall not be greater than fourteen (14) feet in vertical dimension nor greater than fifty (50) feet in horizontal dimension, except where specifically regulated by section 734-403 and shall not contain more than two (2) advertising signs per facing.
- (3) **Flashing, intermittent or moving lights.** No advertising sign shall be permitted which contains, includes, or is illuminated by a flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights.
- (4) **Animation.** No advertising sign shall be permitted which has animated or moving images.

- (5) [Advertising sign]. Advertising sign faces consisting of three or less panels that rotate to present a single fixed display at a time, commonly known as Tri-vision signs, are permitted, provided that the rotation of one display to another is no more frequent than every fifteen (15) seconds.
- (6) **Video, LED, (light emitting diode), LCD (liquid crystal display) or electrically powered.** No advertising sign shall be permitted which displays video or emitting graphics.
- (7) **Distance between outdoor advertising signs.** Except as otherwise provided for signs in the protected areas along highways, freeways and expressways (see section 734-403), the minimum distance between outdoor advertising signs shall be as specified below. The applications of these provisions are illustrated in Diagrams 18 and 19:
- Radial spacing between outdoor advertising signs. In no event shall any point of an outdoor advertising sign or sign structure be closer than one thousand (1,000) feet from any point of any other outdoor advertising sign or sign structure.
- (8) **Outdoor advertising signs adjacent to protected districts.** In no event shall any point of an outdoor advertising sign be closer than three hundred (300) feet from a protected district. For the purposes of this section, a protected district shall include any dwelling district, parks district, university quarter district, SU-1 (church) district or SU-2 (school) district. (The applications of these provisions are illustrated in Diagram 20.)
- (9) **Outdoor advertising signs inside I-465.** No portion of an outdoor advertising sign shall be erected or otherwise located within six hundred sixty (660) feet of the right-of-way of a freeway or expressway, as herein defined, located within the entire area circumscribed by the interior right-of-way line of the Outer Belt Freeway commonly identified as I-465. (The application of these provisions is illustrated in Diagram 21.)
- (10) **Signs on freeways and expressways.** In addition to the requirements of this section, outdoor advertising signs shall further comply with section 734-403 when located on freeways and expressways.
- (11) **Roof top outdoor advertising signs.** Roof top outdoor advertising signs shall not be permitted in any zoning district.
- (12) **Advertising sign on or appurtenant to buildings.** Advertising signs shall not be located on, above or below any portion of principal buildings (as defined in section 734-501).
- (13) **Outdoor advertising sign setback.** Signs or sign structures shall be set back in accordance with the building setback lines required by the applicable zoning district. Advertising signs shall not be eligible for setback averaging exceptions. (See Setback Table 3.60 - C below).

TABLE 3.60-C SETBACK			
Zoning District	Freeways	Primary/Secondary	Collector/Local Streets
Commercial Districts	60 feet	10 feet from proposed R.O.W.	10 feet from proposed R.O.W.
Industrial Urban Districts	60 feet	30' from proposed R.O.W.	20' from proposed R.O.W.
Industrial Suburban Districts	60 feet	30' from proposed R.O.W.	50' from proposed R.O.W.

- (14) **Maximum and minimum height** of outdoor advertising signs and sign structures.
- The maximum height of signs and sign structures shall not exceed forty (40) feet above grade level at the base of such sign or sign structure.
 - No outdoor advertising sign or sign structure (except for the supports, building, structure or column) shall be at its lowest point less than nine (9) feet above grade level. Ground signs, where permitted, shall not exceed four (4) feet in height above grade level.

(15) **Construction of outdoor advertising signs.** The supports, uprights, bracing and framework of an outdoor advertising sign shall be of steel construction.

(16) **Districts permitted and allowable square footage.** (Refer to Table 3.60 - D.)

TABLE 3.60-D DISTRICTS PERMITTED								
Zoning Classification	Dwelling	Commercial				Industrial	Special Use	CBD/RC
District	All Districts	C-1, C-2	C-3, C-3C	C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-ID	C-S	All Districts	All Districts	All Districts
Maximum Square Footage	NP	NP	378*	672*	NP	672*	NP	NP
Key/Note: NP: Not Permitted •Extensions available if requirements met •Advertising signs shall not be permitted in HP-1 Districts								

(G. O. 111, 2003, § 1)

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ARTICLE IV. SPECIAL PROVISIONS**Sec. 734-400. Awning and canopy sign regulations**

(a) Awnings and canopies on which signs are placed, both nonilluminated and illuminated, shall comply with the requirements of this section in addition to all other provisions of this chapter.

- (1) Awning or canopy signs shall be permitted as specified in the permitted sign types lists, section 734-500, Tables A--D.
- (2) Illuminated awning or canopy signs shall be located at least six hundred (600) feet from a protected district, as defined in section 734-501. The method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7). Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - a. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district; or
 - b. The illuminated awning or canopy is visibly obstructed from the protected district.
- (3) The total area of an awning or canopy on which sign content or copy is placed shall not exceed the maximum surface area limits as set forth for wall signs as noted in section 734-303(b)(1)a. of this chapter.
- (4) The total sign content or copy area of awning or canopy signs shall not exceed forty-five (45) percent of the area of the awning or canopy on which it is placed (refer to Diagram 22).
- (5) The computation of the sign copy area of the awning or canopy sign shall be limited only to the area of the awning or canopy which contains the graphics or sign (refer to Diagram 22).
- (6) Awnings and canopies on which signs have been placed shall further comply with the following:
 - a. *Awnings:*
 1. When the width of all awnings along the direction of a particular building facade is ten (10) feet or less, the horizontal projection of such awnings shall not exceed six (6) feet from the facade of any supporting building (refer to Diagram 22). The vertical distance from the top to the bottom of such awnings shall not exceed six (6) feet, including any valance (refer to Diagram 22).
 2. When the width of all awnings along the direction of a particular building facade exceeds ten (10) feet, the horizontal projection of such awnings shall not exceed four (4) feet from the facade of any supporting building (refer to Diagram 22). The vertical distance from the top to the bottom of such awnings shall not exceed four (4) feet, including any valance (refer to Diagram 22).
 3. The horizontal projection of any awning may extend to a point not closer than two (2) feet from any street curb, pavement edge, or edge of an interior access drive.
 - b. *Canopies:*
 1. The maximum width of any canopy shall be ten (10) feet (refer to Diagram 23).
 2. The horizontal projection of any canopy may extend to a point not closer than two (2) feet from any street curb, pavement edge, or edge of an interior access drive (refer to Diagram 23).
 3. The outer column support shall be located in the outer one-third (1/3) of the walk area (refer to Diagram 23).
 4. In no case shall the minimum distance between the entry and the column support be less than four (4) feet.

5. The vertical distance from the top to the bottom of the canopy shall not exceed an average of four (4) feet, including any valance. The highest point of the canopy shall not be higher than four (4) feet above the door opening or sixteen (16) feet above grade, whichever is less (refer to Diagram 23).
6. Canopies shall not be spaced closer than twenty (20) feet from each other, measured from center line to center line (refer to Diagram 23).
- (7) All portions of any awning or canopy, excluding the column supports for a canopy, shall be not less than nine (9) feet above the finished grade (refer to Diagram 22 and 23). Exception: An awning or canopy valance shall be not less than eight (8) feet above the finished grade.

Sec. 734-401. Marquee sign regulations

- (a) Marquees on which signs are placed, both nonilluminated and illuminated, shall comply with the following regulations:
- (1) Marquee signs shall be permitted as specified in the permitted sign types lists, section 734-500, Tables A--D.
 - (2) Illuminated marquee signs shall be located at least six hundred (600) feet from a protected district, as defined in section 734-501. The method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7). Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - a. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district; or
 - b. The illuminated awning or canopy is visibly obstructed from the protected district.
 - (3) The total combined area of signs on a marquee shall not exceed the square footage limits as set forth for wall signs.
 - (4) The total sign area of marquee signs shall not exceed seventy-five (75) percent of the area of the marquee on which it is placed.
 - (5) The computation of the sign copy area of the marquee sign shall be limited to the area of the marquee which contains the graphics or sign.
 - (6) Marquees on which signs have been placed shall further comply with the following:
 - a. When the width of a marquee along the direction of a particular building facade is ten (10) feet or less, the horizontal projection of such marquees shall not exceed six (6) feet from the facade of any supporting building (refer to Diagram 24).
 - b. When the width of a marquee along the direction of a particular building facade exceeds ten (10) feet, the horizontal projection of such marquees shall not exceed four (4) feet from the facade of any supporting building (refer to Diagram 24).
 - c. The vertical distance from the top to the bottom of such marquees shall not exceed six (6) feet, including any valance (refer to Diagram 24).
 - d. The horizontal projection of any marquee may extend to a point not closer than two (2) feet from any street curb, pavement edge, or edge of an interior access drive (refer to Diagram 24).

Sec. 734-402. Gasoline service station/convenience market signs

The following additional standards shall apply to gasoline service stations and those convenience markets selling gasoline.

(a) *Identification signs.* Identification signs shall comply with the following standards:

- (1) *Pole or pylon sign.* One (1) pole or pylon sign, which may contain pricing information, shall be permitted per street frontage. The maximum height and area of such signs is regulated by section 734-303, Tables 3.00-A and B. However, no pole or pylon sign shall be permitted where a ground sign exists on a particular frontage.
- (2) *Ground sign.* One (1) ground sign, not to exceed twenty (20) square feet per each street frontage, shall be permitted in the required landscape area of the property. The ground sign shall be permitted to indicate the services, prices, products, and the announcement of incentives. Such signs are to be installed as stationary, fixed structures, not subject to being dislodged by high winds, and not as portable or temporary structures. However, no ground sign shall be permitted where a pole or pylon sign exists on a particular frontage. Ground identification signs shall not be prohibited from containing pricing information.
- (3) *Wall signs.* Wall signs shall be permitted on a lot as specified in section 734-303(b).
- (4) *Service area canopy signs.* Signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the particular facade area of the canopy on which it is located. This calculation shall not include the open area beneath the face of the service area canopy (refer to Diagram 25).
- (5) *Pump island signs.* Signs on pump islands shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet. Four-sided pump island signs shall be permitted only if two (2) sides, or more, contain government/federal warning signs (or are left blank). The calculation of the sign area for pump island signs shall be the calculation of the area of a single face of the sign. Any sign required by law on pump islands shall not be calculated in computing the pump island sign area (refer to Diagram 25). Pump island signs shall be permitted only if spandrel signs are not used on site.
- (6) *Reserved.*
- (7) *Spandrel signs.* Signs shall be permitted on spandrels if there are no pump island signs on site. The spandrel sign area shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the spandrel's structural area (refer to Diagram 25).

(b) *Incidental signs.* Each incidental sign is to be located at the point to which the sign is directed. Only one (1) sign for each subject shall be permitted (see section 734-303(c) for additional provisions).

(c) *Other signs*

- (1) No pennants or other similar attracting or advertising devices shall be permitted except as noted in section 734-201(r).
- (2) *Operator identification sign.* One (1) operator identification sign shall be permitted. Such sign shall be located on the building only with a maximum dimension of six (6) square feet.
- (3) *Signs on fences.* Where a fence is required to be installed to screen the use from a protected district, no signs shall be permitted to be attached to or form an integral part of such fence.
- (4) *Perimeter pole signs.* Signs placed on perimeter light poles or other structures or that are not expressly permitted in this section shall be strictly prohibited.

(d) *Window signs.* Window signs shall be permitted provided they do not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the window area on which it is placed or through which it is viewed. The sign surface area of window signs shall be calculated separately from the calculation of other signs and shall not be included in the total area of other signs permitted.

(G.O. 1, 2000, §§ 1K, 1L)

Sec. 734-403. Signs on freeways and expressways.

All signs within six hundred sixty (660) feet of the right-of-way of freeways and expressways, as shown on the Official Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, as adopted by the Metropolitan Development Commission, shall comply with the requirements of this section in addition to all other provisions of this chapter.

- (a) *Permitted signs.* Unless prohibited by local, state or federal law, erection or maintenance of the following signs shall be permitted in protected areas, as defined in section 734-501:
- (1) *Official signs.* Directional or other official signs or notices erected and maintained by public officers or agencies pursuant to and in accordance with direction or authorization contained in local, state, or federal law, for the purpose of carrying out an official duty or responsibility.
 - (2) *On-premises (business) signs.* However, not more than one (1) freestanding identification sign shall be permitted to be located on each premises.
 - (3) *Off-premises (advertising) signs.*
- (b) *General provisions.* No off-premises signs shall be permitted to be erected or maintained in any manner inconsistent with the following:
- (1) *Flashing, intermittent or moving lights.* No sign shall be permitted which contains, includes, or is illuminated by a flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights.
 - (2) *Animation .* No sign shall be permitted which moves or has any animated or moving parts.
 - (3) *Rotating, louvered (Vertical and or Horizontally), moving or other elements.* Advertising signs with rotating, louvered (vertical and/or horizontally), moving parts or elements shall not be permitted.
 - (4) *Video, LED (light emitting diode), LCD (liquid crystal display) or electrically powered.* No sign shall be permitted which displays video or emitting graphics.
 - (5) *Measurement of distance.*
 - a. The distance from the edge of a right-of-way shall be measured horizontally along a line normal or perpendicular to the center line of the freeway or expressway.
 - b. All dimensions parallel to the alignment of the freeway or expressway shall be measured along the center line of the freeway or expressway between two (2) vertical planes which are normal or perpendicular to and intersect the center line of the freeway or expressway, and which pass through the termini of the measured distance.
- (c) *Regulations for off-premises (advertising) signs.*
- (1) *Off-premises signs within informational sites.* If the Indiana Department of Transportation (IDOT) constructs an informational site (as defined in section 734-501), on the freeway system in Marion County, control over off-premises signs within such site shall be the responsibility of that Department.
 - (2) *Off-premises signs outside of informational sites.*
 - a. The erection or maintenance of the following signs shall be permitted within protected areas outside of informational sites: off-premises signs which are located within six hundred sixty (660) feet of a freeway or expressway, as herein defined.
 - b. The erection or maintenance of off-premises signs permitted under paragraph a. of this subsection shall not be permitted in any manner inconsistent with the following:

1. *Sign spacing:* Subject to the other provisions of this subsection (c), within protected areas adjacent to freeway or expressway rights-of-way, no part of any off-premise sign structure shall be located within one thousand five hundred (1,500) feet of any other off-premises sign structure located adjacent to said freeway or expressway. Said one thousand five hundred (1,500) feet distance shall be measured linearly along the centerline of the freeway or expressway. (The application of this provision is illustrated in Diagrams 26 and 27).
2. *Maximum sign dimensions:* The maximum size of any sign shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet in vertical dimension and forty-eight (48) feet in horizontal dimension. (Plus extensions as defined in section 734-501.)
3. *Sign setback:* Signs shall not be located closer than sixty (60) feet to the right-of-way of the freeway or expressway.
4. *Sign clearance:* Signs shall not be less than nine (9) feet above grade level at the lowest point, except for the supporting structure.
5. *Maximum sign height:* The maximum height of signs and sign structures shall not exceed forty (40) feet above grade level at the base of such sign structure.
6. *Entrance or exit roadway limitation:* Signs shall not be permitted in protected areas adjacent to any freeway or expressway right-of-way upon any part of the width of which is constructed an entrance or exit roadway. No sign shall be permitted within five hundred (500) feet from the point of intersection between the traveled way of such entrance or exit roadway and the main traveled way of the freeway or expressway. Said five hundred (500) feet distance shall be measured to the nearest point of the intersection of the traveled way of the entrance or exit roadway and the main-traveled way of the freeway or expressway (Refer to Diagram 26).

(G.O. 111, 2003, § 2)

Sec. 734-404. Rotating signs.

Rotating signs, as defined in section 734-501, shall comply with the requirements of this section in addition to all other provisions of this chapter.

- (a) *Districts permitted.* Rotating signs shall be permitted as a freestanding identification pole or pylon sign in the C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-ID and C-S Commercial Districts, as well as any industrial district.
- (b) *Additional development standards for rotating signs in permitted commercial and industrial districts.*
 - (1) A rotating sign shall be permitted on corner lots only and shall be the only freestanding identification sign permitted on the lot.
 - (2) A rotating sign shall be located at least six hundred (600) feet from a protected district, as defined in section 734-501. This method of measurement shall be taken from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7). Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - a. A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district; or
 - b. The rotating sign is visibly obstructed from the protected district.
 - (3) A rotating sign shall not rotate at a rate of more than six (6) revolutions per minute.

Sec. 734-405. Electronic variable message signs (EVMS).

Electronic variable message signs (EVMS), as defined in section 734-501, shall comply with the requirements of this section in addition to all other provisions of this chapter.

- (a) *Districts permitted.* Electronic variable message signs shall be permitted as a component of a sign in the C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-ID and C-S Commercial Districts, as well as in any industrial district.
- (b) *Additional development standards for EVMS in permitted commercial and industrial districts.*
 - (1) *Where permitted.* EVMS shall be permitted as a component of a sign for any freestanding use or integrated center.
 - (2) *Permitted sign types.* EVMS shall be permitted as a component of any pole, ground or pylon sign for freestanding uses or integrated centers. In addition, freestanding uses shall also be permitted EVMS as a component of wall signs.
 - (3) *Amount of a sign that can contain an EVMS.* The portion of a sign dedicated for an EVMS shall not exceed forty (40) percent of the sign size.
 - (4) *Distance separation from a protected district.* No sign containing an EVMS as a component shall be located within six hundred (600) feet of any protected district, measured from the leading edge of the sign to the zoning line of the protected district (refer to Diagram 7). Exceptions: This provision shall not apply if it can be determined that:
 - (5) A commercial or industrial use, legally established by permanent variance or lawful nonconforming use, exists upon adjoining property or abutting frontage property, although zoned as a protected district; or
 - (6) The EVMS is visibly obstructed from the protected district.
 - (7) *Distance separation from a signalized intersection of a street designated as a thoroughfare in the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County.* No sign containing an EVMS as a component shall be located within one hundred twenty-five (125) feet of any signalized intersection of two (2) or more streets if any of these streets is designated as a thoroughfare in the Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, Indiana. The distance shall be measured from the point where the existing right-of-way lines of the intersecting streets meet. In a case where a round or cut property corner exists, this measurement shall be taken from the point of the intersection of the existing rights-of-way lines, as extended. The distance shall be measured along the right-of-way line from the point of intersection (refer to Diagram 29).
- (c) *Performance standards for EVMS.*
 - (1) EVMS shall not display any copy or message that moves, appears to move or flashes or otherwise turn any illumination on and off more frequently than 15 seconds.
 - (2) Display of copy or message shall last at least fifteen (15) seconds.
 - (3) EVMS shall contain a default design that freezes the sign in a dark or blank position if a malfunction occurs.
 - (4) Light intensity of the EVMS shall not cause glare. The sign shall be equipped with adjustable light sensors capable of adjusting light intensity according to ambient light levels (i.e., day and night). If the light intensity of the EVMS is glaring, the Department shall notify the owner or owner's representative and the light intensity shall be corrected within 24 hours of notification to the owner or owner's representative. Owner shall maintain at all times current notification contact information with the City of Indianapolis' Department of Metropolitan Development, Department of Code Enforcement, and their successors.

(G.O. 4, 2011)

Sec. 734-406. Time and temperature displays.

Time and temperature displays, as defined in section 734-501, shall comply with the requirements of this section in addition to all other provisions of this chapter.

- (a) *Districts permitted.* Time and temperature displays shall be permitted in any commercial, industrial, central business, and hospital districts.
- (b) *Where permitted.* Time and temperature displays shall be permitted as either a component of a sign or as an independent sign for any freestanding use or integrated center.
- (c) *Permitted sign types.* A time and temperature display shall be permitted as a pole, pylon, ground, wall, projecting, roof-integral or window sign. If a time or temperature display is utilized as an independent sign (not a component of an identification sign), then such sign shall be regulated based upon its sign type relative to number, area, height, setback, clearance and projection permitted for identification signs. The area of a time and temperature display, if utilized as a component of an identification sign, shall count in the maximum sign area for that identification sign.

Sec. 734-501. Construction of language and definitions.

(a) Construction of language. The language of this chapter shall be interpreted in accordance with the following regulations:

- (1) The particular shall control the general.
- (2) In the case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this chapter and any illustration or diagram, the text shall control.
- (3) The word "shall" is always mandatory and not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive.
- (4) Words used in the present tense shall include the future; and words used in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary.
- (5) A "building" or "structure" includes any part thereof.
- (6) The phrase "used for" includes "arranged for," "designed for," "intended for," "maintained for," or "occupied for."
- (7) Unless the context clearly indicates the contrary, where a regulation involves two (2) or more items, conditions, provisions, or events connected by the conjunction "and," "or," or "either . . . or," the conjunction shall be interpreted as follows:
 - a. "And" indicates that all the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events shall apply.
 - b. "Or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events may apply singly or in any combination.
 - c. "Either . . . or" indicates that all the connected items, conditions, provisions, or events shall apply singly but not in combination.

(b) Definitions. The words in the text or illustrations of this chapter shall be interpreted in accordance with the definitions set forth below. The illustrations and diagrams in this section provide graphic representation of the concept of a definition; the illustration or diagram is not to be construed or interpreted as a definition itself.

A-sign. A portable sign containing two (2) sign faces and whose framing is hinged at the apex at an angle less than forty-five (45) degrees (refer to Diagram 30).

Abandoned sign. Any sign or its supporting sign structure which remains without a message or whose display surface remains blank for a period of: a. one (1) year or more (for a sign or its supporting sign structure which conforms to this chapter at the time of adoption); or b. sixty (60) days (for a sign or its supporting sign structure which does not conform to the provisions of this chapter at the time of adoption); or any sign which pertains to a time, event or purpose which no longer applies, shall be deemed to have been abandoned.

Administrator. Administrator of the division of planning of the department of metropolitan development, or such division having jurisdiction, or their appointed representative.

Advertising sign. Any off-premises sign which directs attention to any business, profession, product, activity, commodity, or service that is offered, sold, or manufactured on property or premises other than that upon which the sign is located. Also known as an outdoor advertising sign.

Alley. Any public right-of-way which has been dedicated or deeded to and accepted by the public for public use as a secondary means of public access to a lot otherwise abutting upon a public street and not intended for traffic other than public services and circulation to and from such lot.

Animated sign. Any sign which includes movement or change of lighting to depict action or create motion, a special effect or a scene. For purposes of this chapter, any changeable copy sign on which the message changes more than eight (8) times per day shall be considered an animated sign.

Awning. A roof-like cover, often of fabric, metal, plastic, fiberglass or glass, designed and intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, and which is supported by and projects from a wall or roof of a structure over a window, walk, door, or the like.

Awning sign. A building sign or graphic printed on or in some fashion attached directly to the awning material.

Balloon sign. A temporary sign consisting of a bag made of light-weight material which is filled with a gas lighter than air and designed to rise or float in the atmosphere (refer to Diagram 30).

Banner. Any temporary sign of light-weight fabric or similar material mounted to a pole or a building at one (1) or more edges by a permanent frame. Flags of any government or political subdivision shall not be considered banners (refer to Diagram 30).

Beacon. Any light with one (1) or more beams directed into the atmosphere or directed at one (1) or more points not on the same lot as the light source. Also, any light with one (1) or more beams that rotate or move.

Building. Any structure designed or intended for the support, enclosure, shelter, or protection of persons, animals, or property of any kind, having a permanent roof supported by columns or walls.

Building identification sign. Any identification sign attached to any part of a building.

Building marker. Any building identification sign indicating the name of a building, the date of erection and incidental information about its construction and which is cut into a masonry surface or made of bronze or other permanent material.

Business sign. See identification sign.

Canopy. A roof-like cover, often of fabric, metal, plastic, fiberglass or glass, on a support which is supported in total or in part from the ground, providing shelter over, for example, a doorway, outside walk or parking area.

Canopy sign. Any sign that is part of or attached to a canopy, made of fabric, plastic, or structural protective cover over a door, entrance, or window. A canopy sign is not a marquee and is different from service area canopy signs.

Centerline of the highway. A line equidistant from the edges of the existing right-of-way separating the main-traveled ways of a divided interstate highway, freeway, expressway, or the centerline of the main-traveled way of a nondivided interstate highway, freeway or expressway.

Changeable copy sign. A sign or portion thereof with characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged electronically or nonelectronically without altering the face or the surface of the sign. The message copy of a changeable copy sign can be changed manually in the field, through the use of changeable letters, numbers, symbols and similar characters, changeable pictorial panels or through the use of rotating panels and other similar devices which are not controlled through remote electronic or electric techniques. A sign on which the message changes more than eight (8) times per day shall be considered an animated sign and not a changeable copy sign for purposes of this chapter.

Clearance. The distance measured from the bottom of a sign face which is elevated above grade and the grade below (refer to Diagram 33).

Collector street. See street, collector.

Commercial message. Any sign wording, logo, or other representation that, directly or indirectly, names, advertises, or calls attention to a business, product, service, or other commercial activity.

Construction sign. Any temporary sign which identifies and announces the construction activity on the property by the owner or construction company.

Convenience market. A retail establishment selling a limited number of food items, such as sandwiches, snacks, staple groceries, lottery tickets, household items, and food items prepared on the premises, including reheating, which can be immediately consumed. Such establishments may also provide a facility where gasoline and other motor fuels are stored and subsequently dispensed by use of fixed, approved dispensing equipment by customers of the establishment on a self-service basis.

Corner lot. See lot, corner.

Directional sign. Any incidental sign which serves solely to designate the location or direction of any place or area and, as such, shall be located on the same lot as such place or area.

Directory signs. Any incidental sign which identifies the businesses in an integrated center, in whole or in part, usually with a listing or a graphic representation of some or all of the tenants in the center, and is located in the interior of such center.

Double-faced sign. A sign consisting of two (2) parallel faces supported by a single structure.

Driveway. Access for vehicular movement to egress/ingress between the right-of-way of private or public streets and the required building setback line (refer to Diagram 34).

Electronic variable message sign (EVMS). A sign, or component of a sign, such as an electrically or electronically controlled message center, where the characters, letters, or illustrations can be changed or rearranged either in the field, or from a remote location, without physically altering the face or the surface of the sign.

Entrance roadway. Any public street or turning roadway, including acceleration lanes, by which traffic may enter the main-traveled way of an interstate highway, freeway or expressway from the general street system within Marion County, irrespective of whether traffic may also leave the main-traveled way by such street or turning roadway.

Erect. Activity of constructing, building, raising, assembling, placing, affixing, attaching, creating, or any other way of bringing into being or establishing.

Exit roadway. Any public street or turning roadway, including deceleration lanes, by which traffic may leave the main-traveled way of an interstate highway, freeway or expressway to reach the general street system within Marion County, irrespective of whether traffic may also enter the main-traveled way by such street or turning roadway.

Extension. Any vertical or horizontal embellishments to an advertising sign designed as a part of, and integrally incorporated into, the announcement, declaration, device, demonstration or insignia used as a part of such sign (refer to Diagram 35).

Far-side. A location immediately across an intersection based upon the direction of travel of motorized vehicles in the adjoining traffic lane (Refer to Diagram 38).

Flag. Any fabric or similar light-weight material attached at one (1) end of the material, usually to a staff or pole, so as to allow movement of the material by atmospheric changes and which contains distinctive colors, patterns, symbols, emblems, insignia, or other symbolic devices used to represent a government or political subdivision.

Flashing sign. A directly or indirectly illuminated sign which exhibits changing light, color or effect by any means, so as to provide intermittent illumination, or which includes the illusion of intermittent or flashing light by means of animation.

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

Freeway. See street, freeway.

Frontage. The line of contact of a property with the street right-of-way along a lot line. In the case of a corner lot having a rounded or cut property corner, from the intersection of the street right-of-way lines, as extended.

Garage sale sign. Any temporary sign which identifies and announces a garage, yard or similar sale.

Gasoline service station. Any building, land area or other premises or portion thereof, used or intended to be used for the retail dispensing or sales of vehicular fuels; which may include as an accessory use minor automotive repairs; the sale and installation of lubricants, tires, batteries; car washes; and similar

accessory uses. Such establishments shall provide a facility where gasoline and other motor fuels are stored and subsequently dispensed by use of fixed, approved dispensing equipment by customers or employees.

Glare or glaring. Lighting entering the eye directly from a light source or indirectly from reflective surfaces that causes visual discomfort or reduced visibility.

Governmental sign. Signs designed for control of, or to provide information to, traffic and other regulatory functions and signs of public service companies indicating danger and aids for service or safety which are erected by the order of a public officer in the performance of his/her public duty (see also public signs).

Grade. Grade shall be construed to be the lower of (1) existing grade prior to construction or (2) existing grade after construction, exclusive of any filling, berming, mounding, or excavating solely for the purpose of locating the sign (refer to Diagram 4).

Grade level use. Each use or occupant of what is typically known as the street, ground or first floor of a building.

Ground sign. Any freestanding sign constructed in or on the ground surface with its sign face extending downward to or near the ground surface and which is supported on a frame by one (1) or more uprights or braces (refer to Diagram 31).

Height, sign. The height of the sign shall be computed as the vertical distance measured from the base of the sign at grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign.

Home improvement sign. Any temporary sign which identifies and announces the construction company responsible for the home improvement of the property.

House number and name plates. Any sign which designates the name or the street address, using numbers or plates, of the person(s) occupying the premises.

Identification sign. Any sign which is limited to the name, address and number of a building, institution or person and to the activity carried on in the building or institution, or the occupancy of the person.

Illuminated sign. Any sign which contains an auxiliary design element designed to emanate artificial light internally or externally from the sign, including signs illuminated from the exterior by spotlights or other lighting apparatus directed upon the sign structure either from the ground or from a lighting fixture attached to the exterior of the sign structure.

Incidental sign. A sign, generally informational, that has a purpose secondary to the use of the lot on which it is located, such as "no parking," "entrance," "loading only," "telephone" and other similar directives. No sign with a commercial message legible from any position of the lot on which the sign is located shall be considered incidental.

Information site. An area or site established and maintained within or adjacent to the right-of-way of a highway on the interstate system by or under the supervision or control of a state highway department, wherein panels for the display of advertising and information signs may be erected and maintained.

Interior sign. Any sign not visible from the exterior of the building or structure and located within the interior of any building or structure, or within an enclosed lobby or court of any building.

Integrated center. An area of development (commercial, industrial, or any combination of commercial, industrial and residential uses) of one (1) or more lots, comprised of:

- (1) Two (2) or more individual, unrelated and separately operated uses in one (1) building sharing common-site facilities; or
- (2) One (1) or more buildings containing unrelated and separately operated uses occupying a common site, which utilize one (1) or a combination of common site facilities, such as driveway entrances, parking areas, driving lanes, signs, maintenance and similar common services; or
- (3) One (1) or more buildings containing unrelated and separately operated uses occupying individual sites, which are interrelated by the utilization of one (1) or a combination of common facilities, such as driveway entrances, public or private street network, parking areas, maintenance and other services.

Interstate highway. See street, freeway.

Legally established nonconforming sign. Any sign and its support structure lawfully erected prior to the effective date of the adoption of this chapter which fails to conform to the requirements of this chapter. A sign which was erected in accordance with a variance granted prior to the adoption of this chapter and which does not comply with this chapter shall be deemed to be a legal nonconforming sign. A sign which was unlawfully erected shall be deemed to be an illegal sign.

Legible. Capable of being read with certainty without visual aid by a person of normal visual acuity.

Logo. See trade name.

Lot. A tract of land designated by its owner(s) to be used or developed as a unit under single ownership or control. A lot may or may not coincide with a lot of record and may consist of:

- (1) A single lot of record;
- (2) A portion of a lot of record; or
- (3) A combination of complete lots of record, or complete lots of record and portions of lots of record, or of portions of lots of record.

For purpose of this definition, ownership includes:

- (1) The person(s) who holds either fee simple title to the property or is a life tenant as disclosed in the records of the township assessor;
- (2) A contract vendee;
- (3) A long-term lessee (but only if the lease has been recorded at the office of the county recorder and has at least twenty-five (25) years remaining before its expiration at the time of applying for a permit) (refer to Diagram 36).

Lot area. The area of a horizontal plane bounded on all sides by the front, rear, and side lot lines that is available for use or development and does not include any area lying within the right-of-way of any public or private street, alley or easement for surface access (ingress or egress) into the subject lot or adjoining lots.

Lot, corner. A lot abutting upon two (2) or more streets at their intersections, or upon two (2) parts of the same street forming an interior angle of less than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees (refer to Diagram 36).

Lot, through. A lot abutting two (2) parallel streets, or abutting two (2) streets which do not intersect at the boundaries of the lot.

Lot line. The legal boundary of a lot as recorded in the Office of the Marion County Recorder.

Lot line, front. The lot line(s) coinciding with the street rights-of-way; in the case of a corner lot, both lot lines coinciding with the street rights-of-way shall be considered front lot lines; or in the case of a through lot, the lot line which most closely parallels the primary entrance of the primary structure shall be considered the front lot line, or so declared by the Administrator.

Lot line, rear. A lot line which is opposite and most distant from the front lot line, or in the case of triangularly shaped lot, a line ten (10) feet in length within the lot, parallel to and at the maximum distance from the front lot line. However, in the case of a corner lot line, any lot line which intersects with a front lot line shall not be considered a rear lot line.

Lot line, side. Any lot line not designated as a front or rear lot line.

Lot of record. A lot which is part of a subdivision or a lot or a parcel described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been so recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Marion County, Indiana.

Maintain. To repair, service or refurbish a sign or structure or any part thereof, in an identical manner or change any identical component of the sign.

Main-traveled way. The traveled way of a highway on which through traffic is carried. In the case of a divided highway, the traveled way of each of the separated roadways for traffic in opposite directions is a main-traveled way. The term "main-traveled way" does not include such facilities as frontage roads, turning roadways or parking areas.

Marginal access street. See street, marginal access.

Marquee. Any permanent roof-like structure projecting beyond a building or extending along and projecting beyond the wall of a building, generally designed and constructed to provide protection from the weather.

Marquee sign. Any building sign painted, mounted, constructed or attached in any manner on a marquee (refer to Diagram 24).

Message center. A sign, component of a sign, which contains a changing message within the copy area which turns on and off or changes electrically or electronically for a specific period of time.

Model home sign. Any temporary sign which identifies and announces a model home.

Municipal bus bench. A seating structure caused to be erected, maintained and managed by Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation, or their successor, to provide temporary seating for people waiting to use or ride public transportation.

Municipal bus shelter. A roofed structure caused to be erected, maintained and managed by or on behalf of the Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation, or their successor, to provide temporary protection of people waiting to use or ride public transportation.

Municipal bus stop. A location designated by Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation or their successor, for people waiting to use or ride public transportation that is located next to a roadway served by an operational public transit route.

Mural. A design or representation painted, drawn or similarly applied on the exterior surface of a structure and which does not advertise a business, product, service or activity.

Noncommercial opinion sign. A sign which does not advertise products, goods, businesses, or services and which expresses an opinion or other point of view, such as, a political, religious, or other ideological sentiment or support or opposition to a candidate or proposition for a public election. A sign which meets the definition of an on-premise sign, an off-premise sign, and/or an advertising sign, shall not be considered a noncommercial opinion sign.

Off-premises sign. A sign which directs attention to a business, profession, commodity, or service offered on the property other than that on which the sign is located.

On-premises sign. A sign which directs attention to a business, profession, commodity, or service offered on the property on which the sign is located.

Outdoor advertising sign. Same as advertising sign.

Owner. Legal owner of property as officially recorded in the Office of the Marion County Recorder.

Parapet (wall). That portion of a building wall that rises above the roof level.

Pennant. Any sign of light-weight plastic, fabric, or other similar material, whether or not containing a message of any kind, which is suspended from a rope, wire, or string, usually in a series, and which is designed to move in the wind. Flags of any government or political subdivision shall not be considered pennants (refer to Diagram 30).

Permanent sign. A nontemporary sign designed and intended for long-term use.

Plaque, historic. See building marker

Pole sign. Any freestanding sign which has its supportive structure(s) anchored in the ground and which has a sign face elevated above ground level (refer to Diagram 31).

Portable sign. Any sign not permanently attached to the ground or other permanent structure, or a sign designed to be transported from place to place, including, but not limited to, signs transported by means of wheels; signs attached to A- or T-frames; menu and sandwich board signs; balloons used as signs; umbrellas used for advertising; and signs attached to or painted on vehicles parked and visible from the public right-of-way, unless such vehicle is used in the normal day-to-day operation of the business.

Principal building. The building in which is conducted the principal primary use of the lot. Lots with multiple principal uses may have multiple principal buildings, but storage buildings, garages, and other uses clearly accessory to the primary use shall not be considered principal buildings.

Projecting sign. Any sign which is affixed to a building or wall in such a manner that its leading edge extends more than eighteen (18) inches beyond the surface of such building or wall face (refer to Diagram 31).

Project sign (residential). A type of identification sign designed to identify a residential development permitted in the D-6, D-6II, D-7, D-8, D-9, D-10, D-11 or D-P dwelling districts.

Protected areas. All areas inside the boundaries of Marion County which are adjacent to and within six hundred sixty (660) feet of the edge of the right-of-way of all highways within the county. When a highway terminates at a county boundary which is not perpendicular or normal to the centerline of the highway, the term "protected areas" also refers to all areas inside the boundary of such county which are within six hundred sixty (660) feet of the edge of the right-of-way of the highway in the adjoining county.

Protected district. Specific classes of zoning districts which, because of their low intensity or the sensitive land uses permitted by them, require additional buffering and separation when abutted by certain more intense classifications of land use. A protected district shall include any dwelling district, hospital district, park district, university quarter district, SU-1 (church) district or SU-2 (school) district.

Public notice. Official notice posted by public officers or their representative in the performance of their duties.

Public signs. Any sign required or specifically authorized for a public purpose by any law, statute or ordinance which may be of any type, number, area, height above grade, location, illumination or animation, required by the law, statute or ordinance under which the signs are erected (see also governmental sign).

Public way. Any public street, alley, sidewalk or other public thoroughfare.

Pump island sign. Any sign either affixed directly to a gasoline pump or otherwise attached to the pump or pump island (refer to Diagram 25).

Pylon sign. Any freestanding sign anchored in the ground with its sign face extending upward from the ground surface and which has a height exceeding four (4) feet (refer to Diagram 31).

Real estate sign. Any temporary sign which announces the sale, rental, or lease of property by the owner or real estate company.

Residential sign. Any sign located in a district zoned for residential uses that contains no commercial messages except advertising for goods or services legally offered on the premises where the sign is located, if offering such service at such location conforms with all requirements of the zoning ordinance.

Right-of-way. Specific and particularly described land, property, or interest therein devoted to and subject to the lawful use, typically as a thoroughfare of passage for pedestrians, vehicles, or utilities as officially recorded by the Office of the Marion County Recorder.

Right-of-way, private. Specific and particularly described strip of privately held land, property, or interest therein devoted to and subject to use for general transportation purposes or conveyance of utilities whether or not in actual fact improved or actually used for such purposes, as officially recorded by the Office of the Marion County Recorder.

Right-of-way, proposed. Specific and particularly described land, property, or interest therein devoted to and subject to the lawful public use, typically as a thoroughfare of passage for pedestrians, vehicles, or utilities, as officially described in the Marion County Thoroughfare Plan as adopted and amended by the Metropolitan Development Commission.

Right-of-way, public. Specific and particularly described strip of land, property, or interest therein dedicated to and accepted by the municipality to be devoted to and subject to use by the general public for general transportation purposes or conveyance of utilities whether or not in actual fact improved or actually used for such purposes, as officially recorded by the Office of the Marion County Recorder.

Roof. The water-carrying surface of a building or structure, the structural makeup of which conforms to the roof structures, roof construction and roof covering sections of the Uniform Building Code.

Roof-integral sign. Any building sign erected or constructed as an integral or essentially integral part of a normal roof structure of any design, so that no part of the sign extends vertically above the roof (refer to Diagrams 10 and 31).

Roof line. The uppermost edge of the water-carrying surface of a building or structure.

Roof sign. Any building sign erected and constructed wholly on and over the roof of a building, supported by the roof structure, and extending vertically above the roof (refer to Diagram 31).

Rotating sign. Any sign or portion of a sign designed to revolve or move in a similar manner by means of electrical power.

Scenic area. An area of particular scenic interest or historical significance which is designated by or pursuant to local or state law as a scenic area.

Seasonal or holiday display. Any temporary display, such as Christmas decorations, used for a holiday and installed for a short, limited period of time.

Service area canopy. Any structural protective cover that is not enclosed on any of its four (4) sides and is provided for the service area designated for the dispensing or installation of gasoline, oil, antifreeze, headlights, wiper blades and other similar products and the performance of minor services for customers as related to such dispensing or installation.

Service area canopy sign. Any sign that is part of or attached to the service area canopy.

Service station, gasoline. See gasoline service station.

Setback. The minimum horizontal distance established by ordinance between a street right-of-way line or a lot line and the setback line (refer to Diagram 37).

Setback line. A line that establishes the minimum distance that a building, structure, sign, or portion thereof, can be located from a lot line or proposed right-of-way line (refer to Diagram 37).

Sign. Any structure, fixture, placard, announcement, declaration, device, demonstration or insignia used for direction, information, identification or to advertise or promote any business, product, goods, activity, services or any interests.

Sign area. The area of a sign face (which is also the sign area of a wall sign or other sign with only one (1) face). Sign area shall be computed by using the smallest square, rectangle, or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the writing, representation, emblem, or other display, together with any material or color forming an integral part of the background of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the backdrop or structure against which it is placed, but not including any supporting framework, bracing, or decorative fence or wall when such fence or wall otherwise meets zoning ordinance regulations and is clearly incidental to the display itself (refer to Diagrams 1 and 2).

Sign encroachment. The placement of any sign or sign support structure or the extension of any part of a sign or sign structure into a required yard, street right-of-way or alley right-of-way.

Sign face. The surface of the sign upon, against, or through which the message of the sign is exhibited.

Sign structure. Any structure including the supports, uprights, bracing and framework which supports or is capable of supporting any sign.

Sign type. A functional description of the use of an individual sign. Includes but is not limited to identification, incidental, residential and advertising.

Spandrel. A roof-like structure that covers the gasoline pump dispenser, serves as a second-tier canopy, is a lighting source for the dispensing area, serves to identify the gasoline pumps by numerical designation, and may display signage.

Spandrel sign. Any sign that is a part of or attached to the spandrel structure.

Street, collector. A street primarily designed and intended to carry vehicular traffic movement at moderate speeds (e.g., thirty-five (35) mph) between local streets and arterials with direct access to abutting property(ies).

Street, cul-de-sac. A street having only one (1) open end which is permanently terminated by a vehicle turnaround.

Street, expressway. A street so designated by the Official Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, as amended.

Street facade. Any separate external face of a building, including parapet walls and omitted wall lines, oriented to and facing a public or private street. Separate faces oriented in the same direction or within forty-five (45) degrees of one another are considered part of the same street facade.

Street, freeway. A street so designated by the Official Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, as amended.

Street, local. A street primarily designed and intended to carry low volumes of vehicular traffic movement at low speeds (e.g., twenty (20) to thirty (30) mph) within the immediate geographic area with direct access to abutting property(ies).

Street, marginal access. A local street with control of access auxiliary to and located on the side of an arterial, thoroughfare, expressway, or freeway for service to abutting property(ies).

Street, parkway. A street serving through vehicular traffic and equal to or more than five thousand two hundred eighty (5,280) feet in length, the adjoining land on one (1) or both sides of which is predominantly dedicated or used for park purposes, and shall conform to the comprehensive plan and thoroughfare plan.

Street, primary arterial. A street so designated by the Official Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, as amended.

Street, private. A privately held right-of-way, with the exception of alleys, essentially open to the sky and open for the purposes of vehicular and pedestrian travel affording access to abutting property, whether referred to as a street, road, expressway, arterial, thoroughfare, highway, or any other term commonly applied to a right-of-way for such purposes. A private street may be comprised of pavement, shoulders, curbs, sidewalks, parking space, and the like.

Street, public. A publicly dedicated, accepted and maintained right-of-way, with the exception of alleys, essentially open to the sky and open to the general public for the purposes of vehicular and pedestrian travel affording access to abutting property, whether referred to as a street, road, expressway, arterial, thoroughfare, highway, or any other term commonly applied to a public right-of-way for such purposes. A public street may be comprised of pavement, shoulders, gutters, curbs, sidewalks, parking space, and the like.

Street, secondary arterial. A street so designated by the Official Thoroughfare Plan for Marion County, as amended.

Structure. A combination or manipulation of materials to form a construction, erection, alteration or affixation for use, occupancy, or ornamentation, whether located or installed on, above, or below the surface of land or water.

Subdivision. The division of any parcel of land shown as a unit, as part of a unit or as contiguous units, on the last preceding transfer of ownership thereof, into two (2) or more parcels or lots, for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of transfer of ownership or building development.

Subdivision sign. A type of identification sign designed to identify a residential subdivision.

Suspended sign. Any building sign that is suspended from the underside of a horizontal plane surface and is connected to this surface (refer to Diagrams 13 and 32).

Symbols or insignias. Religious symbols, commemorative plaques of recognized historical agencies, or identification emblems of religious orders or historical agencies.

T-sign. A portable sign utilizing an inverted "T" style of framing structure to support the sign (refer to Diagram 30).

Temporary sign. Any sign or sign structure which is not permanently affixed or installed, and is intended to be displayed for a limited period only. Examples of such signs include, but are not limited to, the following: real estate, construction, special event, political, garage sale, home improvement/remodeling, model home and seasonal (holiday) signs.

Thoroughfare. A street primarily serving through vehicular traffic, including freeways, expressways, primary arterials, and secondary arterials.

Thoroughfare plan. The segment of the Comprehensive Plan for Marion County, Indiana, adopted by the Metropolitan Development Commission of Marion County, Indiana, pursuant to IC 36-7-4, that sets forth the location, alignment, dimensions, identification and classification of freeways, expressways, parkways, primary arterials, secondary arterials, or other public ways as a plan for the development, redevelopment, improvement, and extension and revision thereof.

Time and temperature displays. A limited function display which, through analogical or digital methods, electronically presents the time of day or the current temperature or one (1) other piece of information such as the Dow Jones average (either accrued total or change) in a nontraveling mode of operation. Displays which, through their configuration, are capable of presenting other electronic messages shall be considered electronic variable message signs.

Tombstone. Any cemetery marker or grave indicator.

Trade name. Any brand name, trademark, logo, distinctive symbol, or other similar device or thing used to identify a particular business, institution, activity, place, person, product or service.

Traveled way. The portion of a roadway for the movement of vehicles, exclusive of shoulders.

Turning. A connecting roadway for traffic turning between two (2) intersecting legs of an interchange, between two (2) interstate highways.

Valance. A vertically hanging or suspended fringe on an awning or canopy, often used as a decorative element.

Visible. Capable of being seen by a person of normal visual acuity (whether legible or not) without visual aid.

Visibly obstructed. The view of a sign which is blocked by a building or other man-made structure so as to be incapable of being seen from that line of sight.

Wall. Any structure which defines the exterior boundaries or courts of a building or structure and which has a slope of sixty (60) degrees or greater with the horizontal plane.

Wall sign. Any building sign attached parallel to, but within eighteen (18) inches of, a wall, painted on the wall surface of, or erected on an outside wall of any building or structure, which is supported by such wall or building with no more than fifty (50) percent of the sign structure extending above the wall, to a maximum extension of four (4) feet, and which displays only one (1) sign surface (refer to Diagram 32).

Wind sign. A sign of light-weight fabric or similar material attached at one (1) end to a pole or similar apparatus so as to swing freely, inflate and flutter by movement of the wind (refer to Diagram 30).

Window sign. Any sign that is placed: 1) inside of, and within two (2) feet of, a window; or 2) upon the window panes or glass, and is visible from the exterior of the window (refer to Diagram 32).

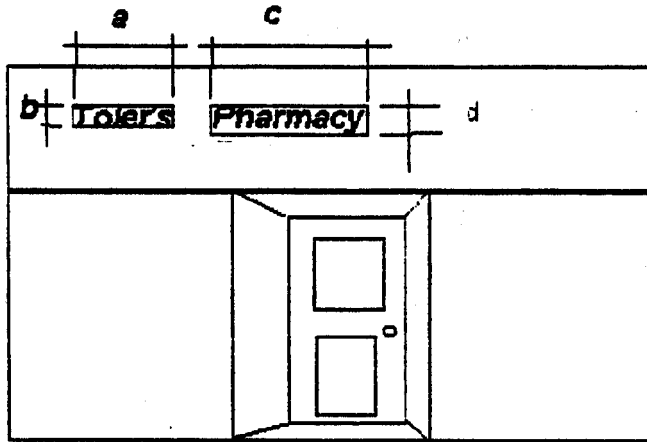
(G.O. 1, 2000, § 1M; G.O. 2, 2002, § 18; G.O. 4, 2011)

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Diagram 1

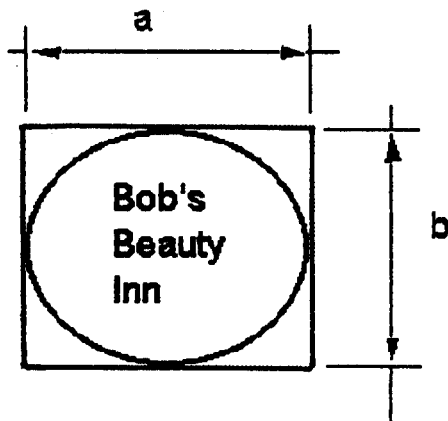
Computation of Area of Individual Sign



$$\text{Area of Copy} = a \times b + c \times d$$

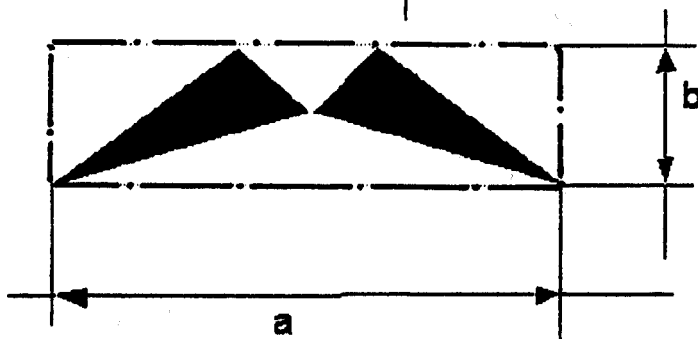
Area of Copy

The entire area within a single continuous perimeter composed of squares or rectangles, which encloses the extreme limits of the advertising message, announcement or decoration on a fascia or wall sign.



Area of Sign

The area of the largest single face of the sign within a perimeter which forms the outside shape including any frame, forms an integral part of the display, but excluding the necessary supports or uprights on which the sign may be placed. If the sign consists of more than one section or module, all areas will be calculated.



$$\text{SIGN AREA} = a \times b$$

Diagram 2

Computation of Area of Multifaced Signs

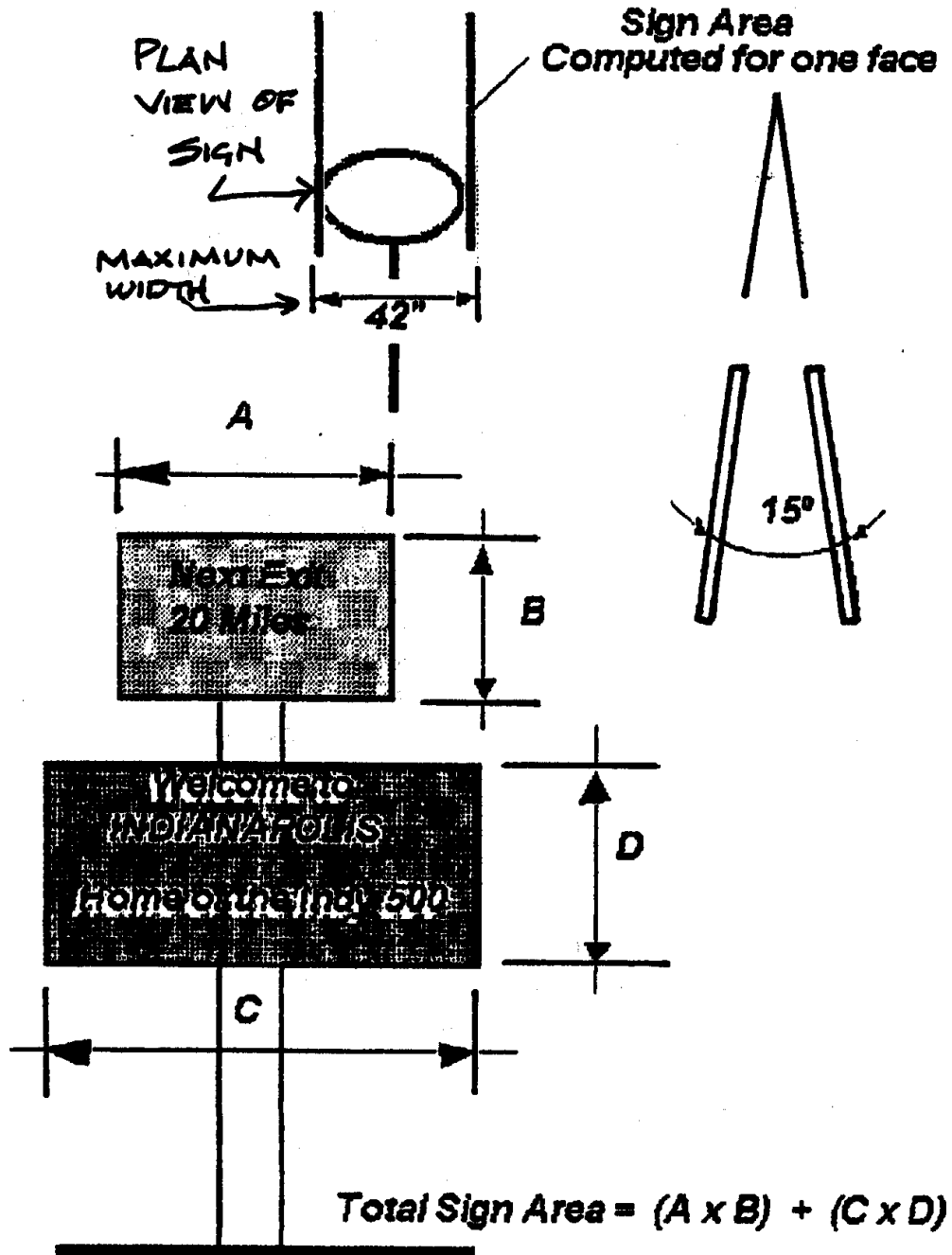


Diagram 3

Computation of Height

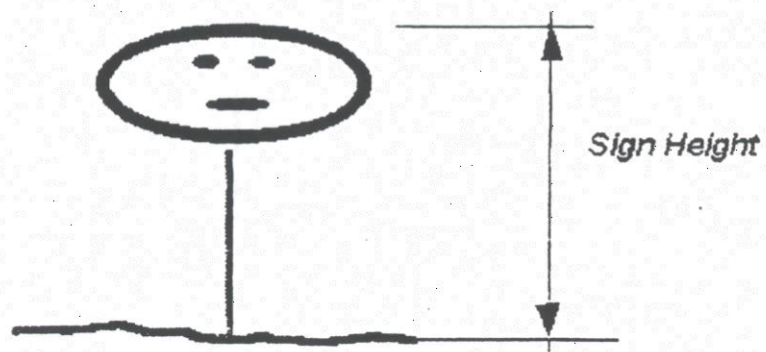
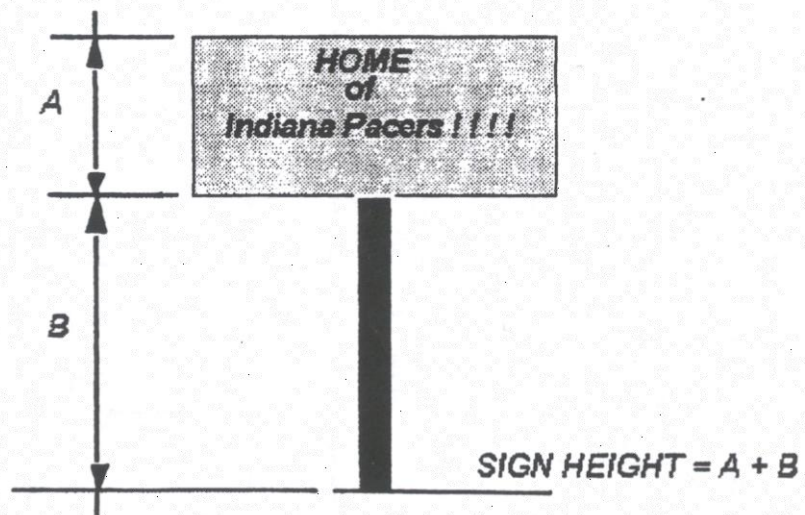
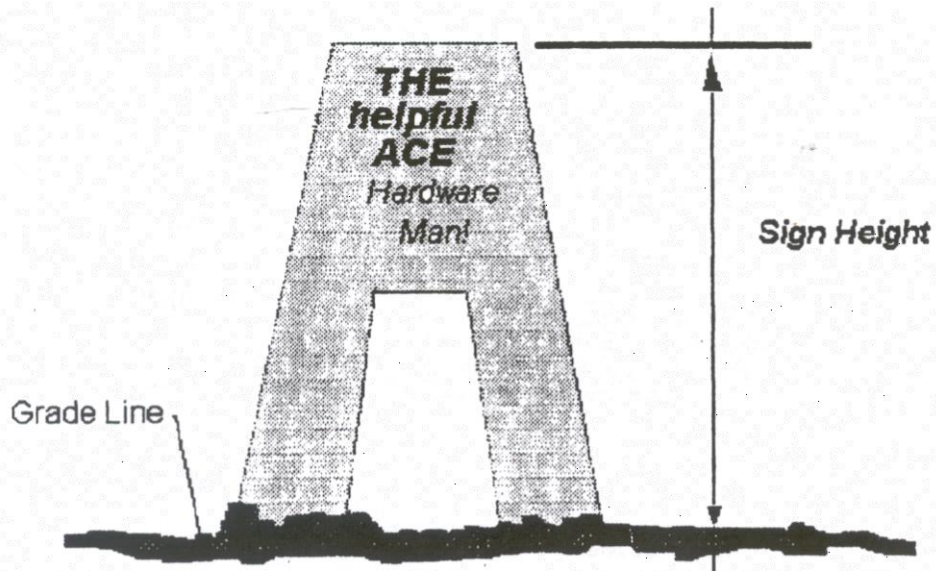


Diagram 4

Grade Mounding

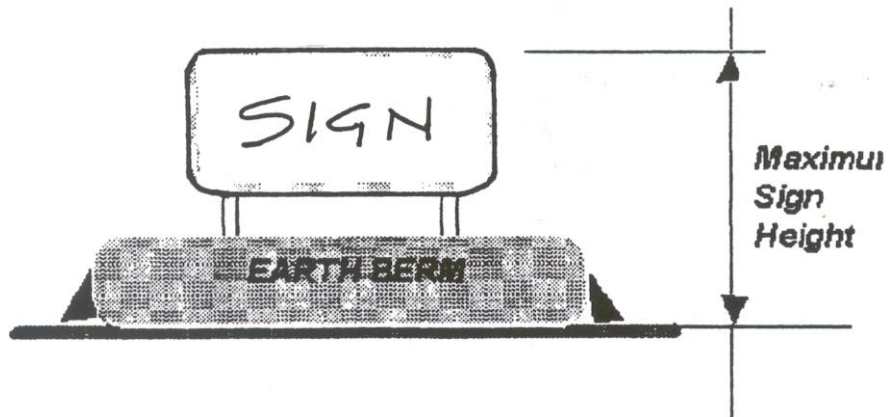


Diagram 5

Clear Sight Triangular Area

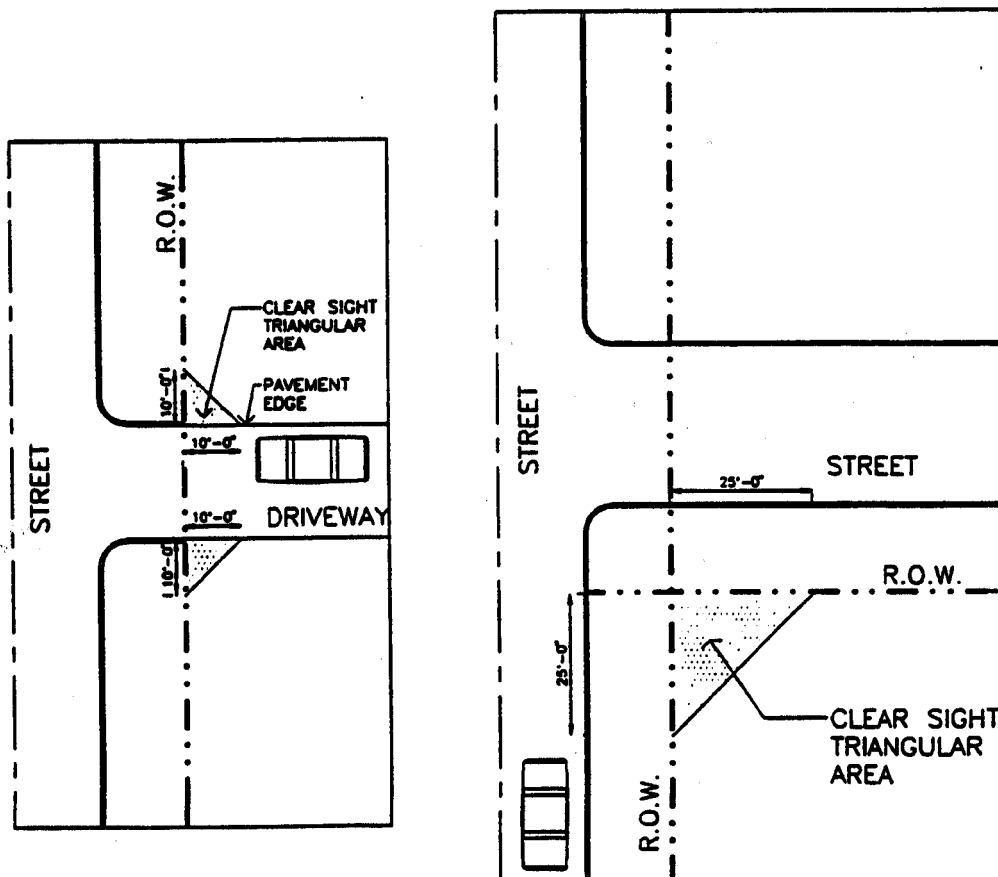
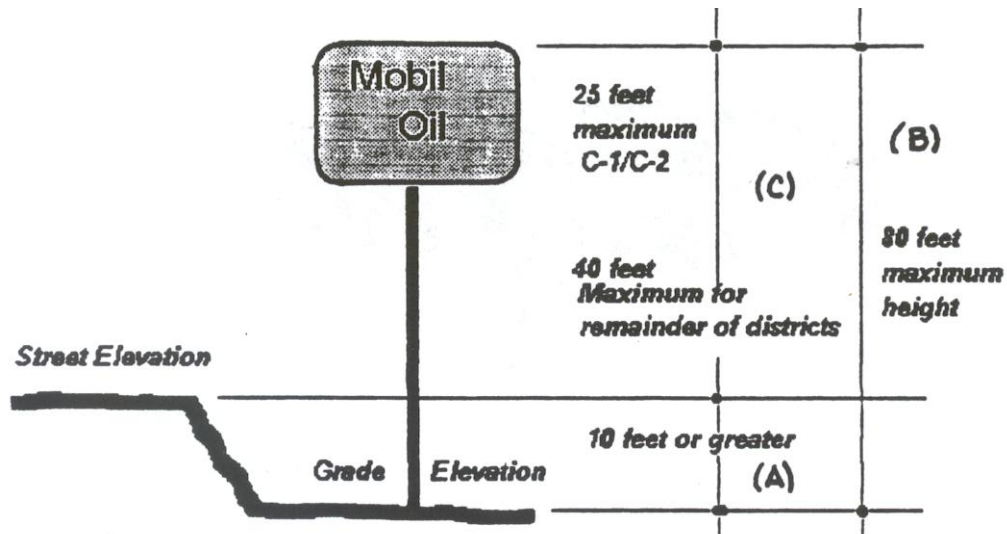


Diagram 6

Sign Height Exception



- (A) Must be 10 feet or greater.
- (B) Cannot exceed 80 feet.
- (C) Cannot exceed heights specified.

Diagram 7

Sign Separation from a Protected District

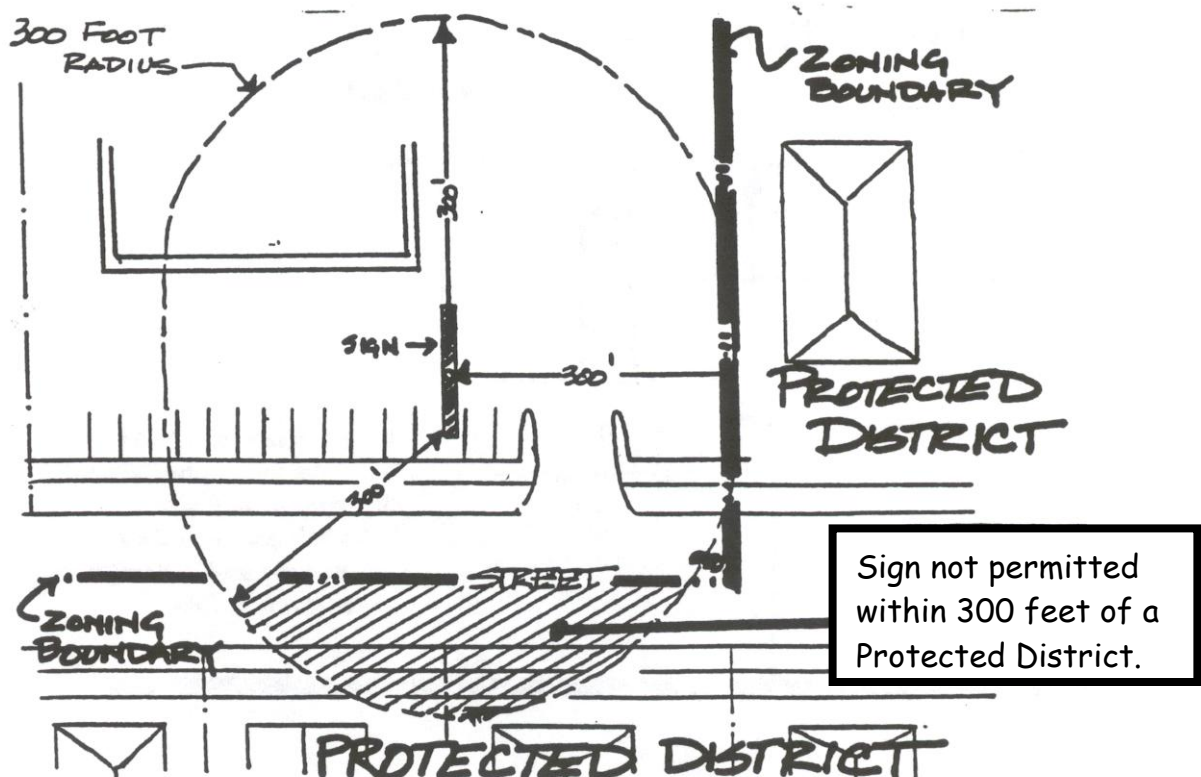


Diagram 8

Pole Sign

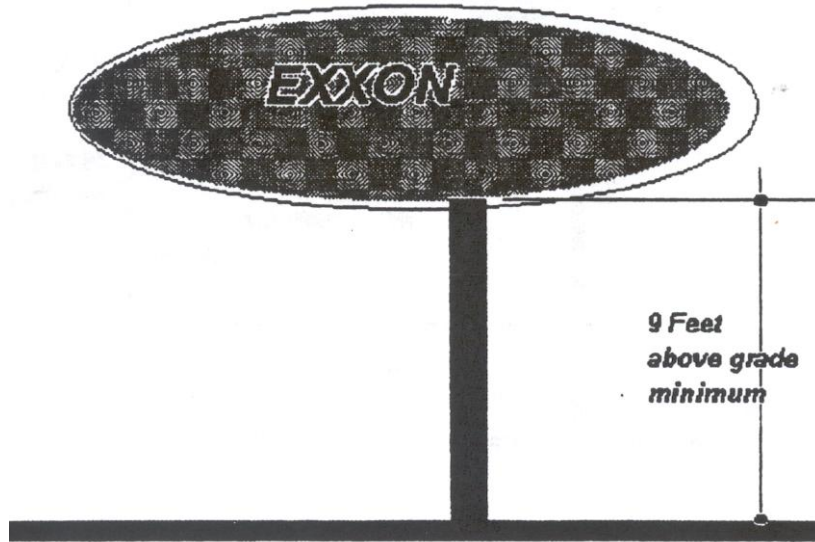


Diagram 9

Wall Sign

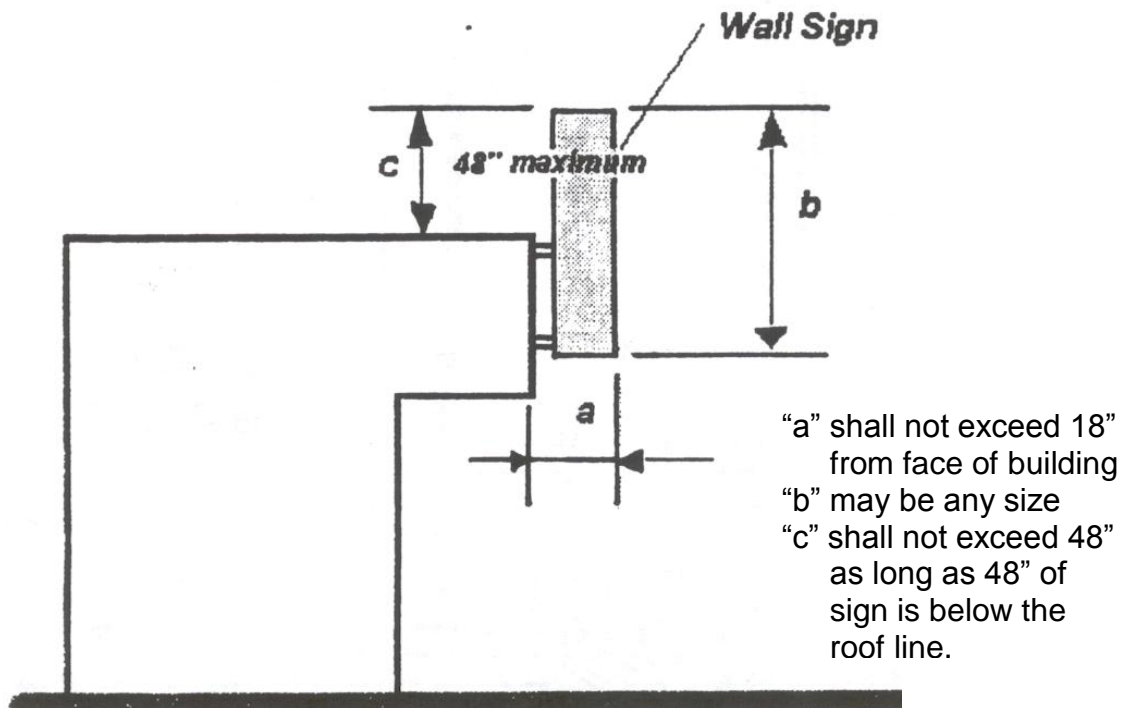


Diagram 10

Roof Integral Sign

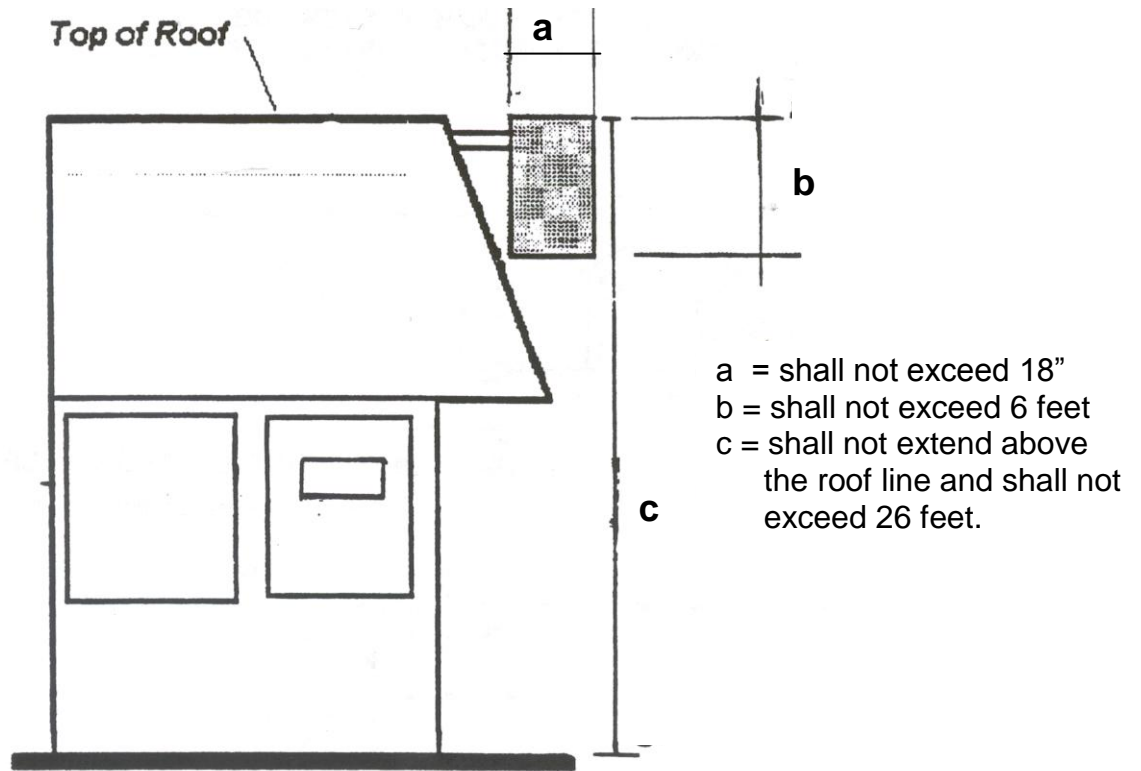
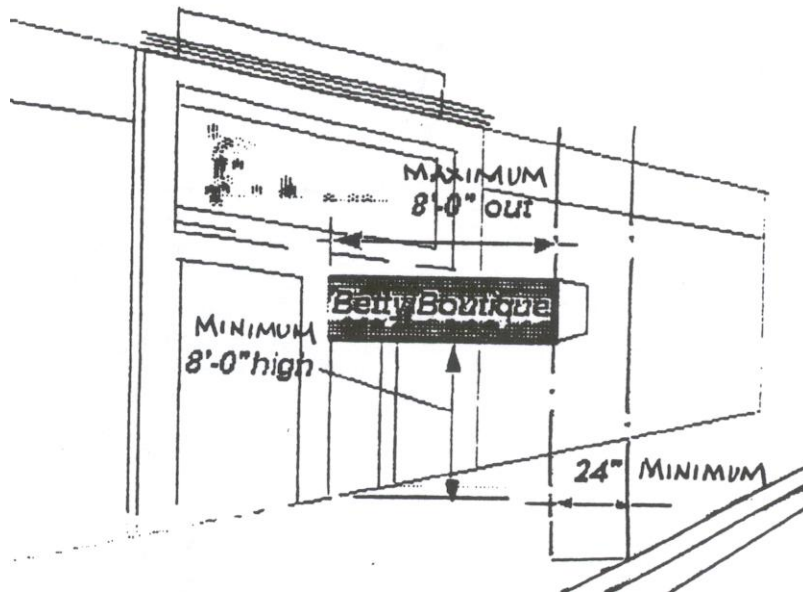


Diagram 11

Projecting Signs



Also applies to Marquees and Canopies

Diagram 12

Wall Signs / Maximum Wall Sign Area
(Dwelling and Special Zoning Districts)

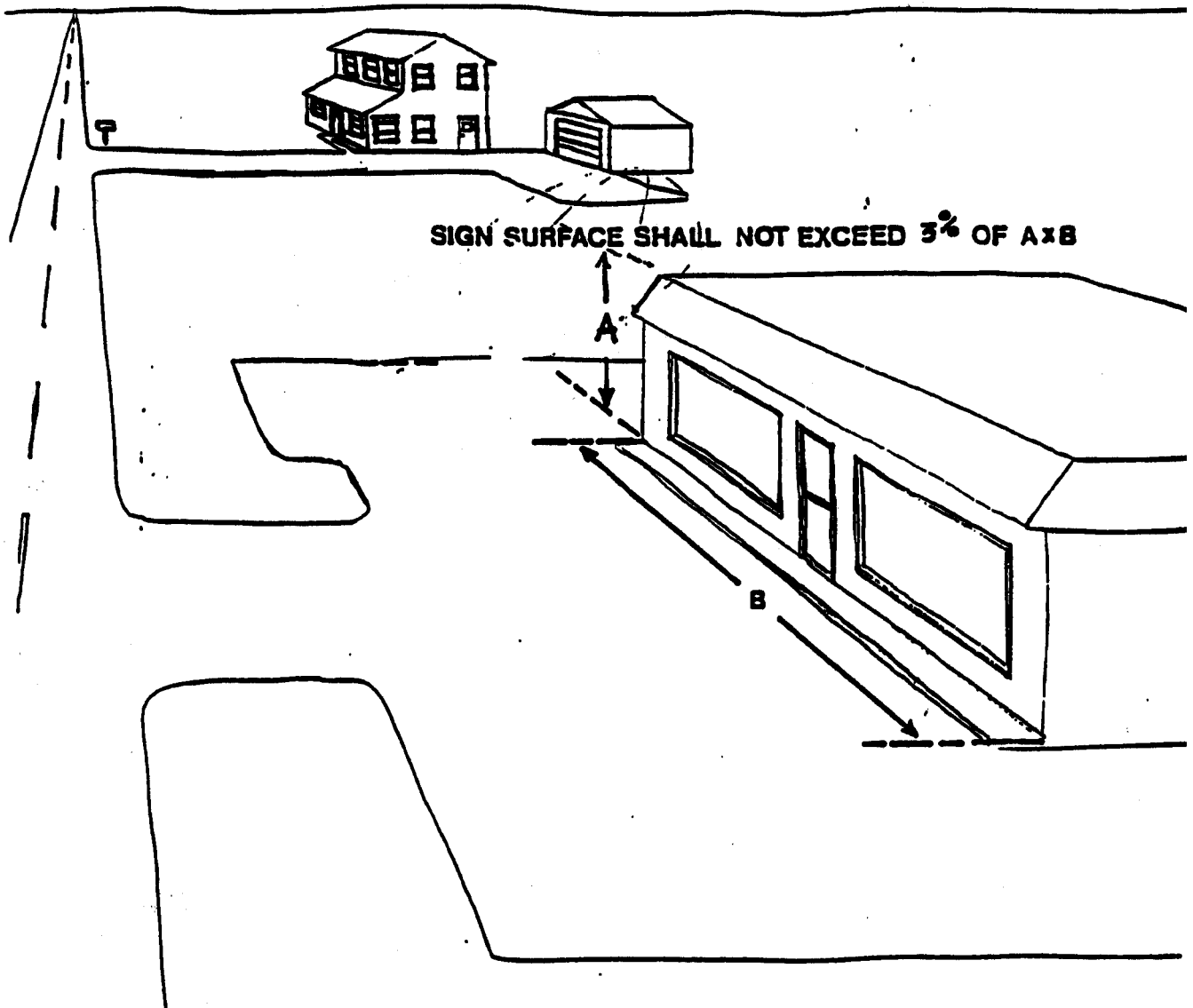


Diagram 13

Suspended Signs
Clearance from Grade

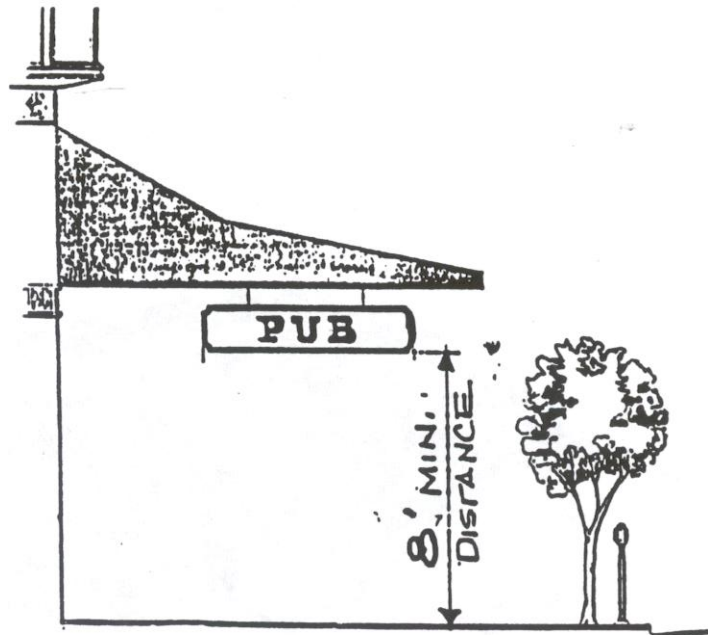


Diagram 14

Ground Sign
Maximum Sign Height

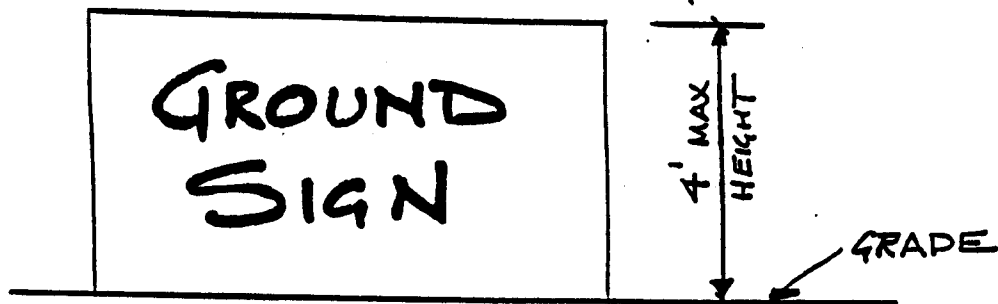
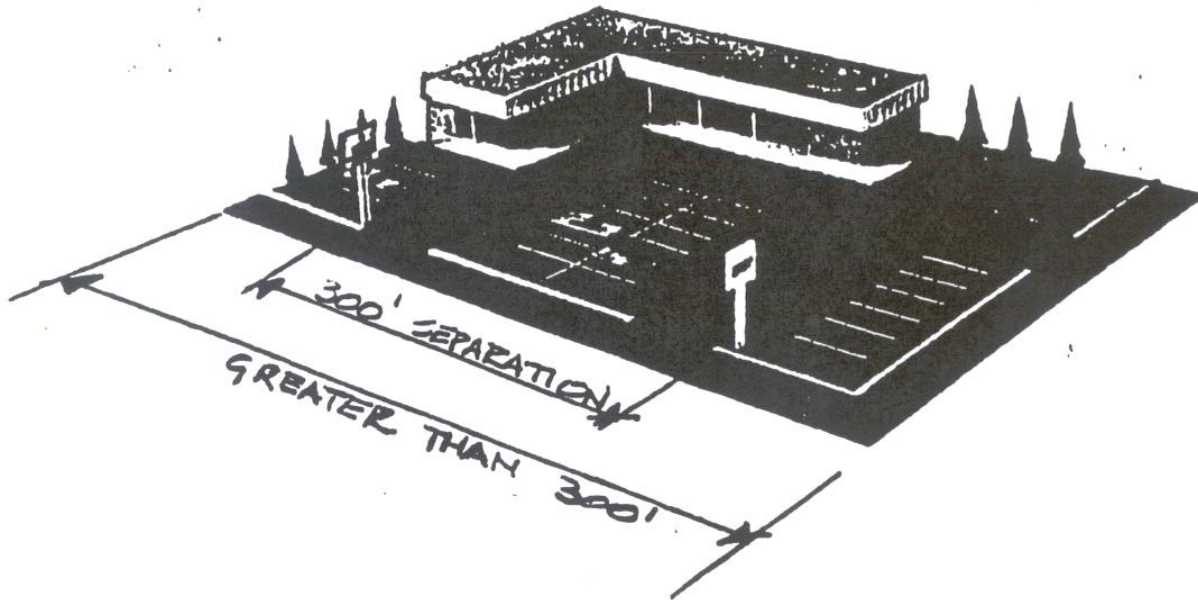


Diagram 15

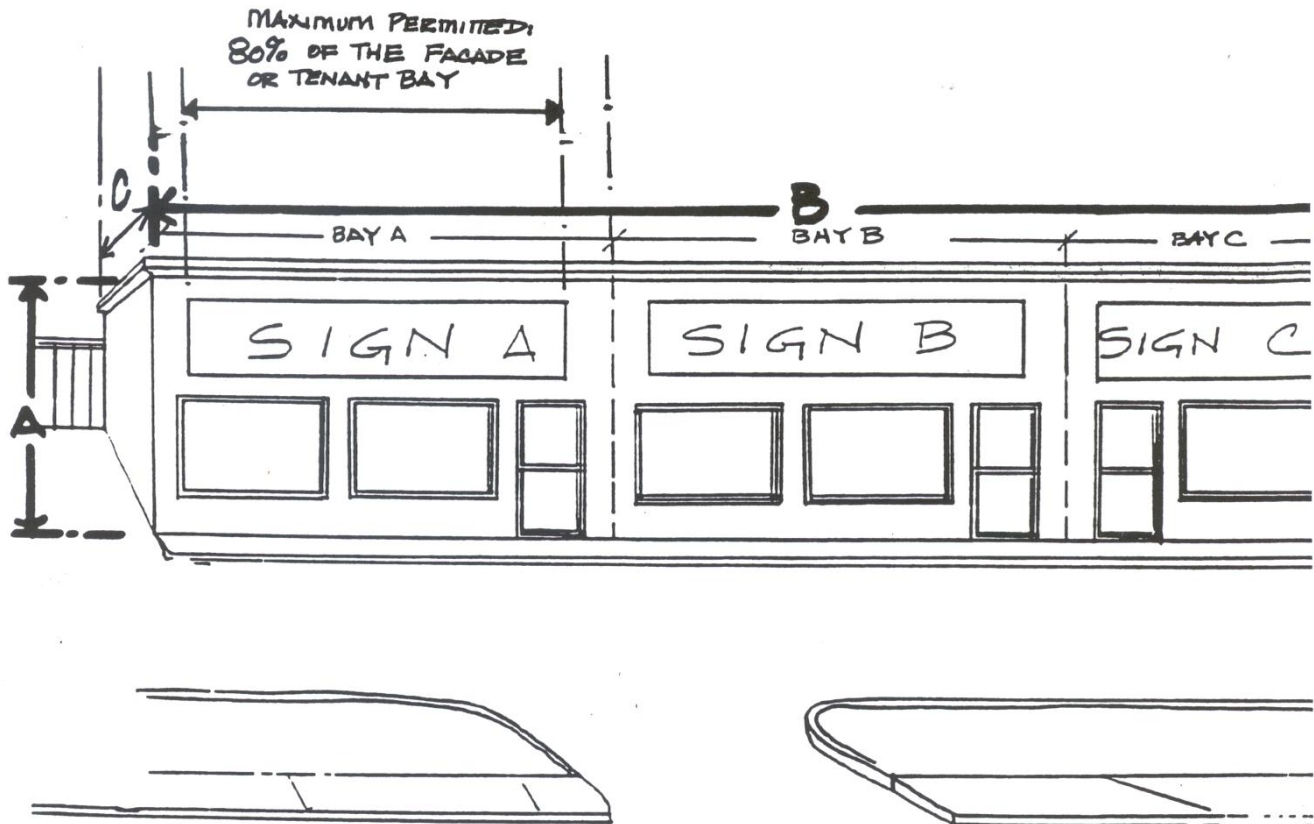
Number of Freestanding Identification Signs (Extensive Frontage)



Where a parcel has in excess of 300 feet of frontage, one additional freestanding sign may be erected for each additional 300 feet of street frontage in excess of the first 300 feet of street frontage abutting the developed portion of said parcel.

Diagram 16

Wall Signs Maximum Surface Area



Maximum Sign Permitted Surface Area

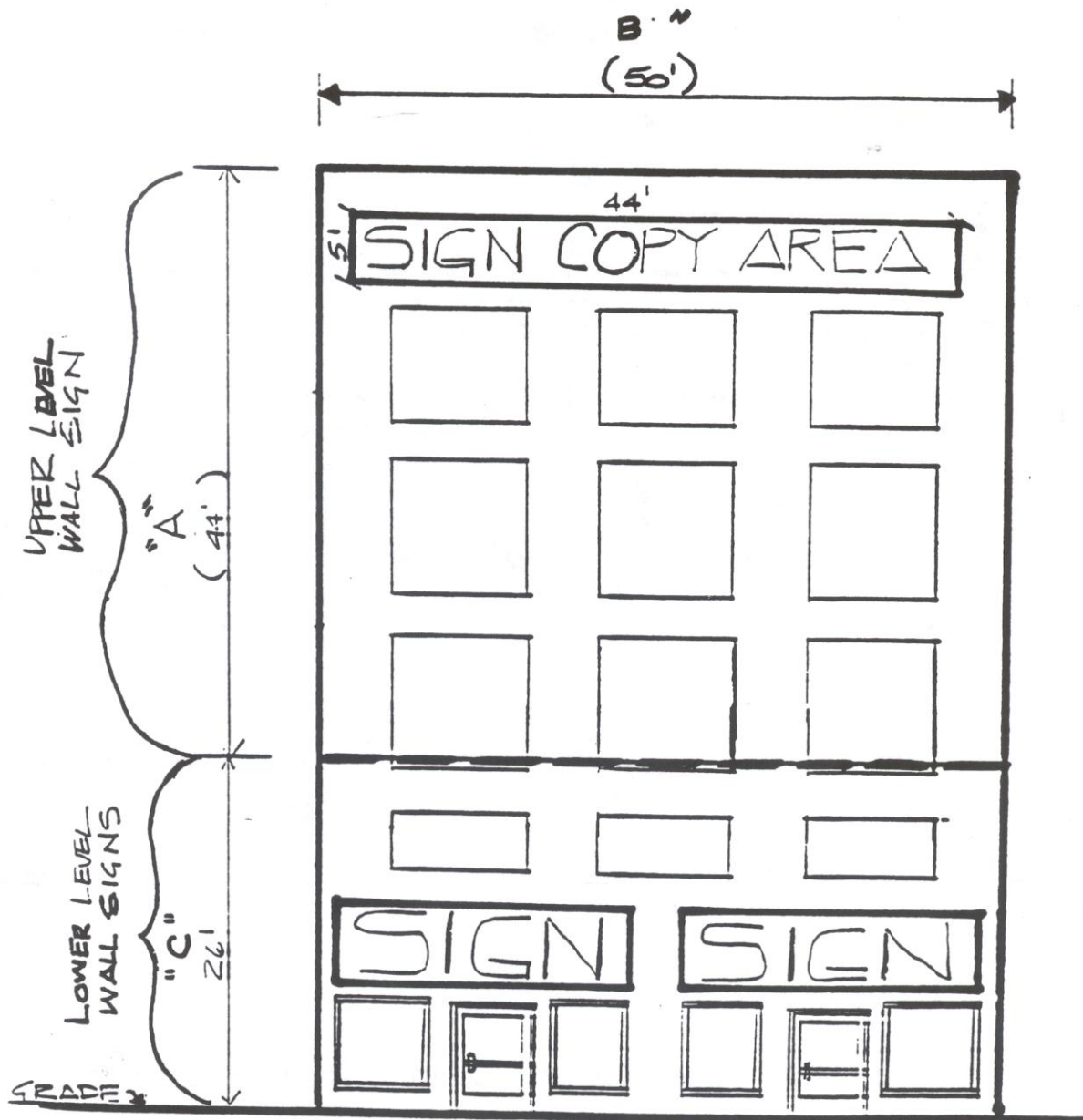
Front Façade = 20% (A x B)

Side Façade = 15% (A x C)

Rear Façade = 10% (A x B)

Diagram 17

Upper and Lower Level Wall Signs
(CBD Districts)



- 1) Upper Level = 44'(A) x 50'(B) or 2,200 sq. ft x 10% = 220 Sq. Ft. Sign Surface Area
Sign shown is 220 Sq. ft.
- 2) Lower Level = 26'(C) x 50'(B) or 1,300 sq. ft x 20% = 260 Sq. Ft. Sign Surface Area
Signs shown total 260 Sq. ft.

Diagrams 18 and 19

Measurement of Distance Between Advertising Signs Oriented Toward Different Streets; The Same Street; and Both Streets

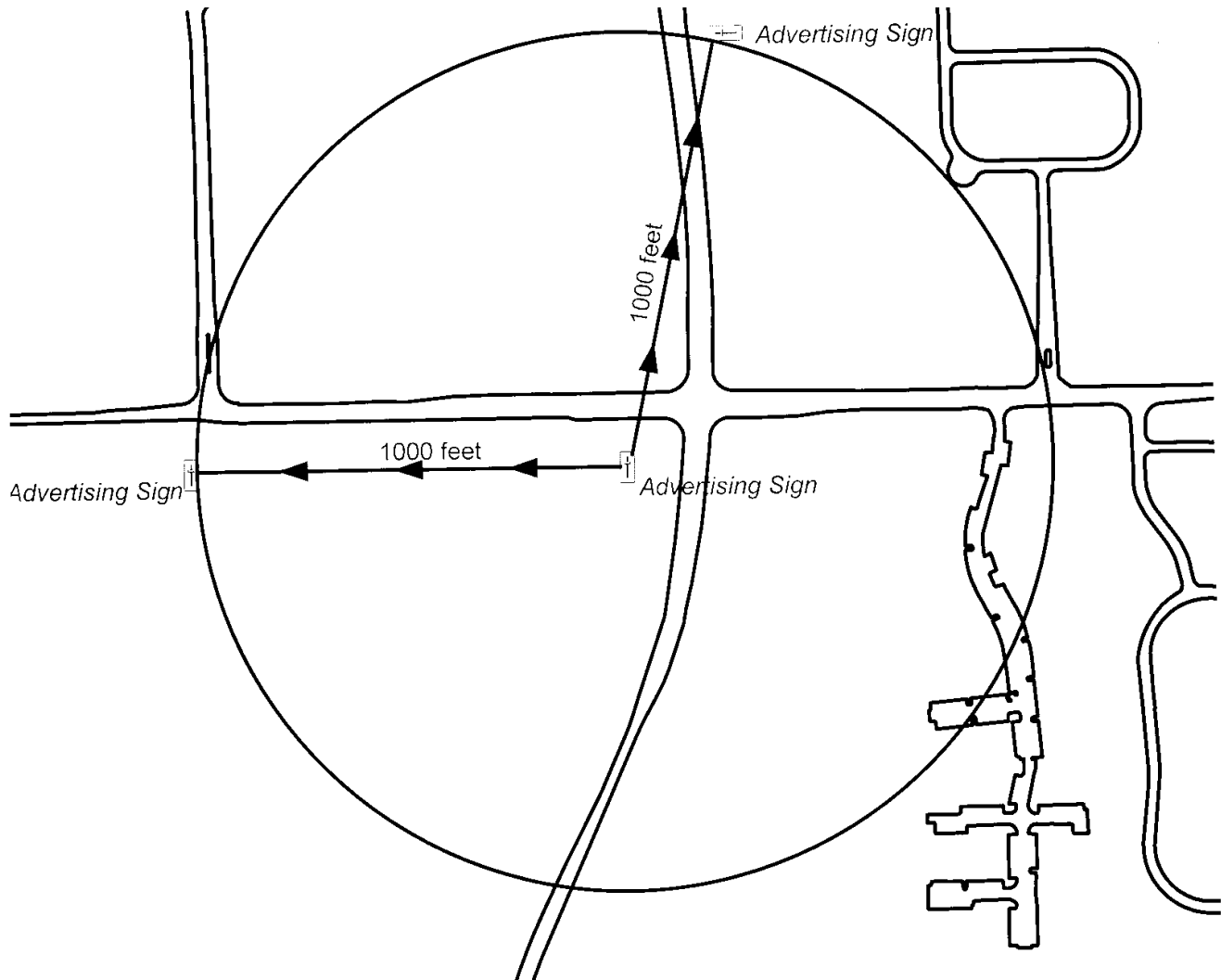


Diagram 20

Measurement of Distance Between
Advertising Signs and Protected Districts

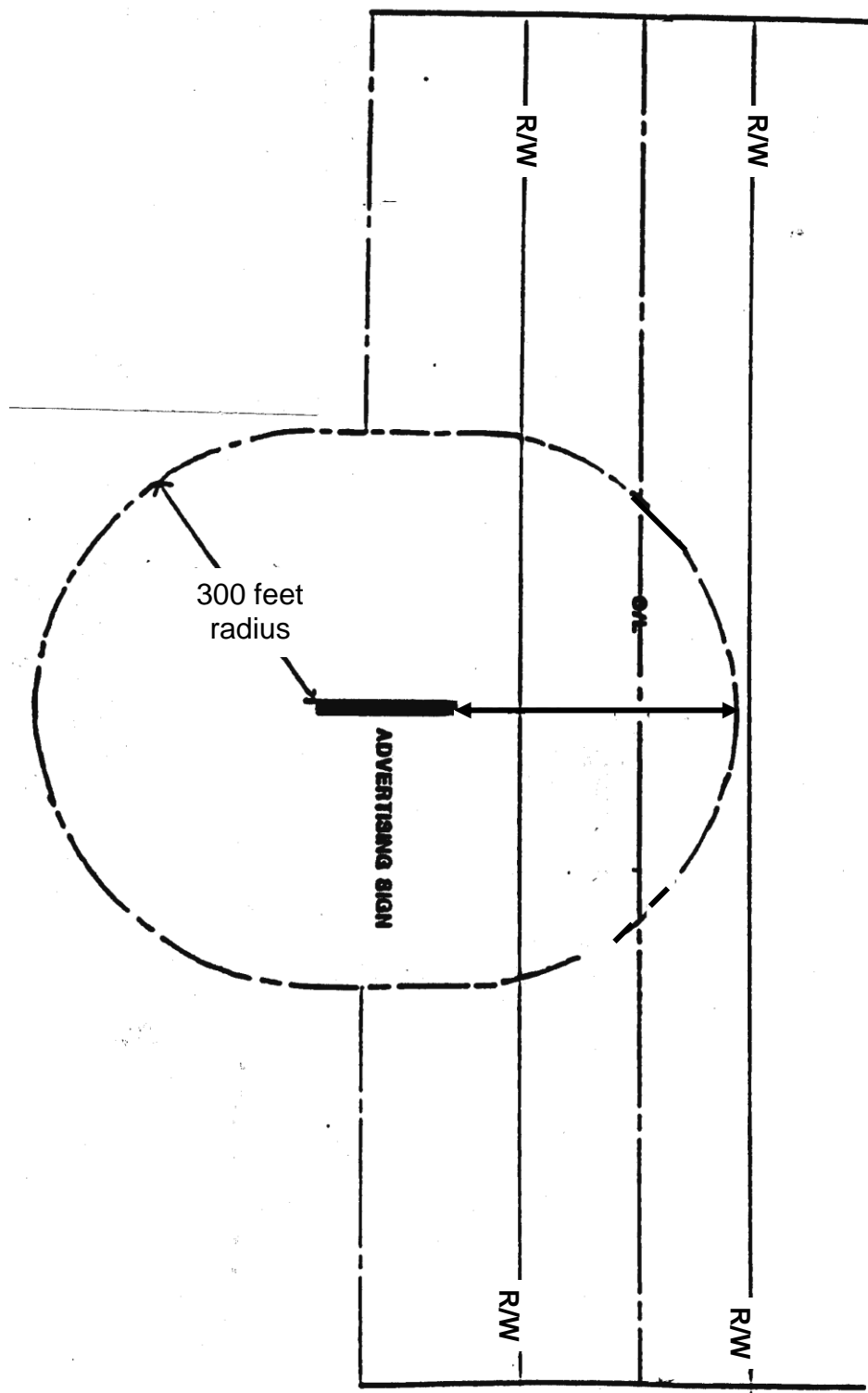
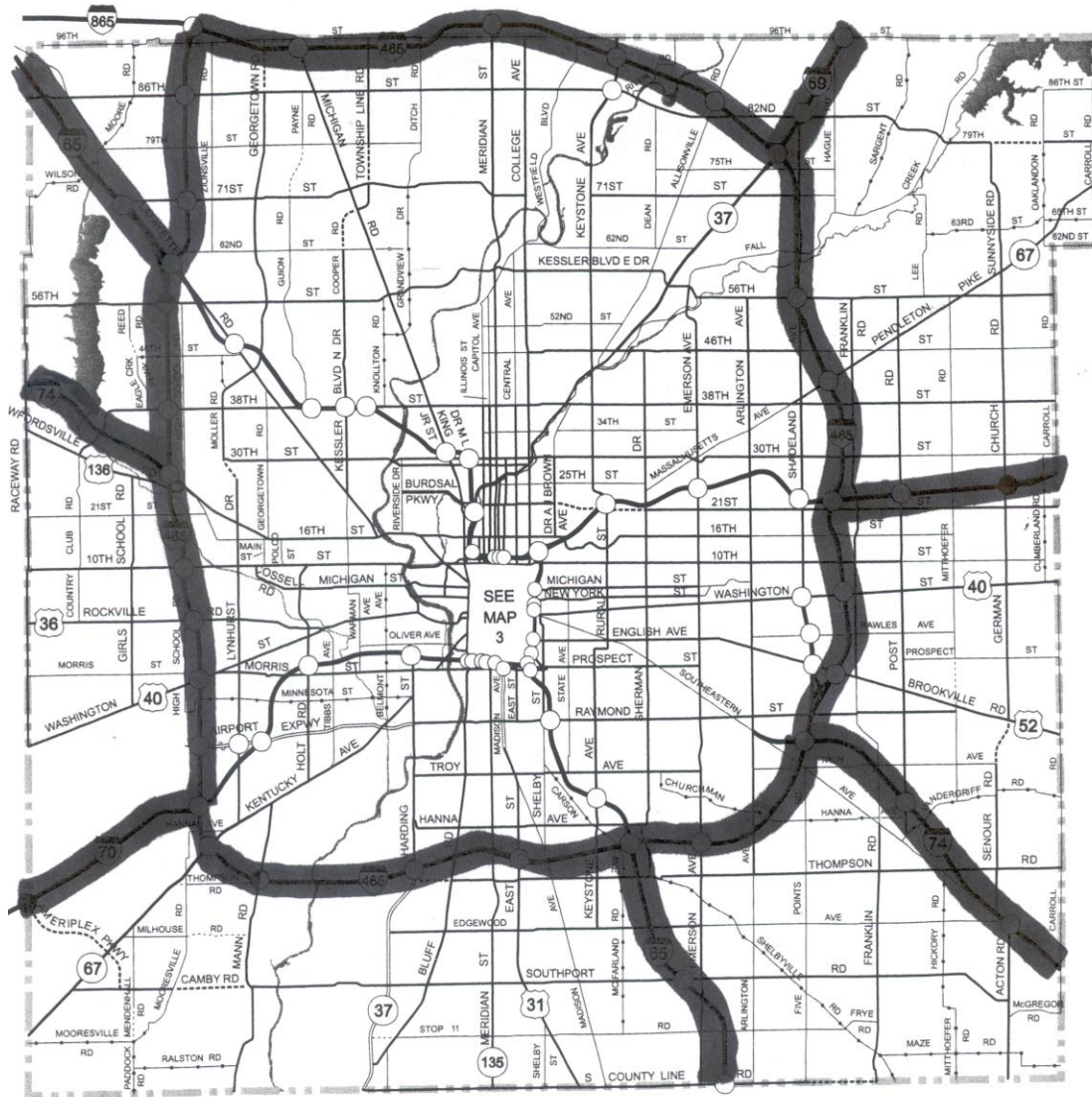


Diagram 21

Outdoor Advertising Signs Inside I-465

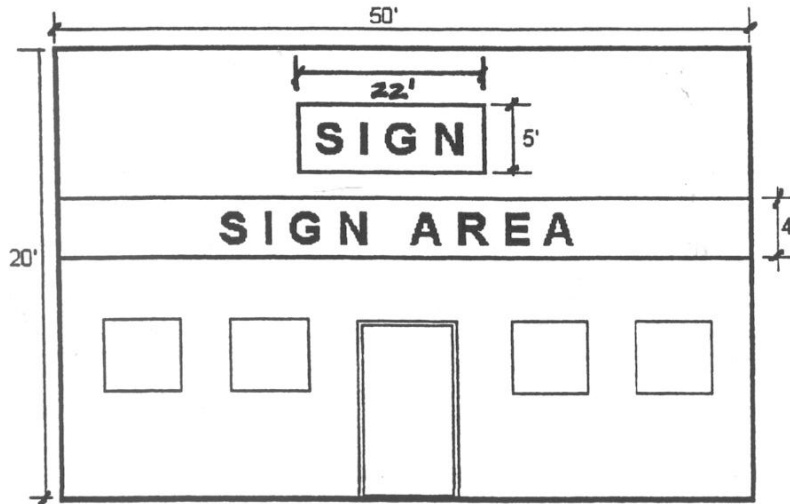


Outdoor Advertising Signs not permitted on Freeways inside of I-465

■ = Areas where such signs are permitted

Diagram 22

Awning Sign Calculation



1000 sq. ft. Façade (20 feet x 50 feet)
 20% of Façade = 200 sq. ft. (Awning is 50' x 4') or 200 sq. ft.
 45% of Awning can be copy = 90 sq. ft.
 Remaining sq. ft. for wall sign copy = 110 sq. ft.
 Wall sign above awning = 22' x 5' = 110 sq. ft.
Total Sign Copy Area = 200 sq. ft. (20% of façade)

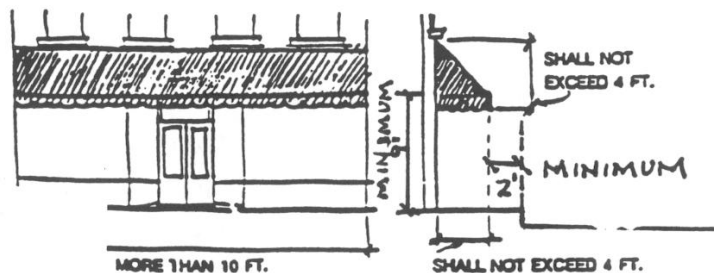
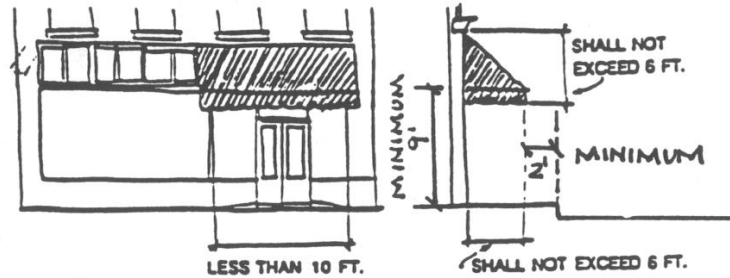
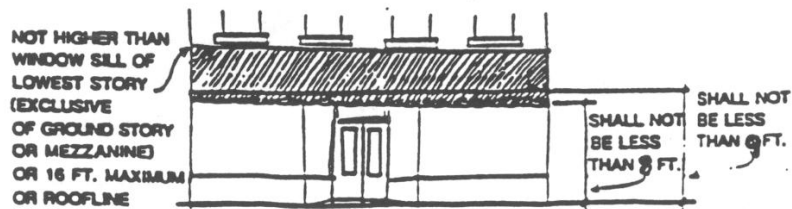


Diagram 23

Canopy Signs

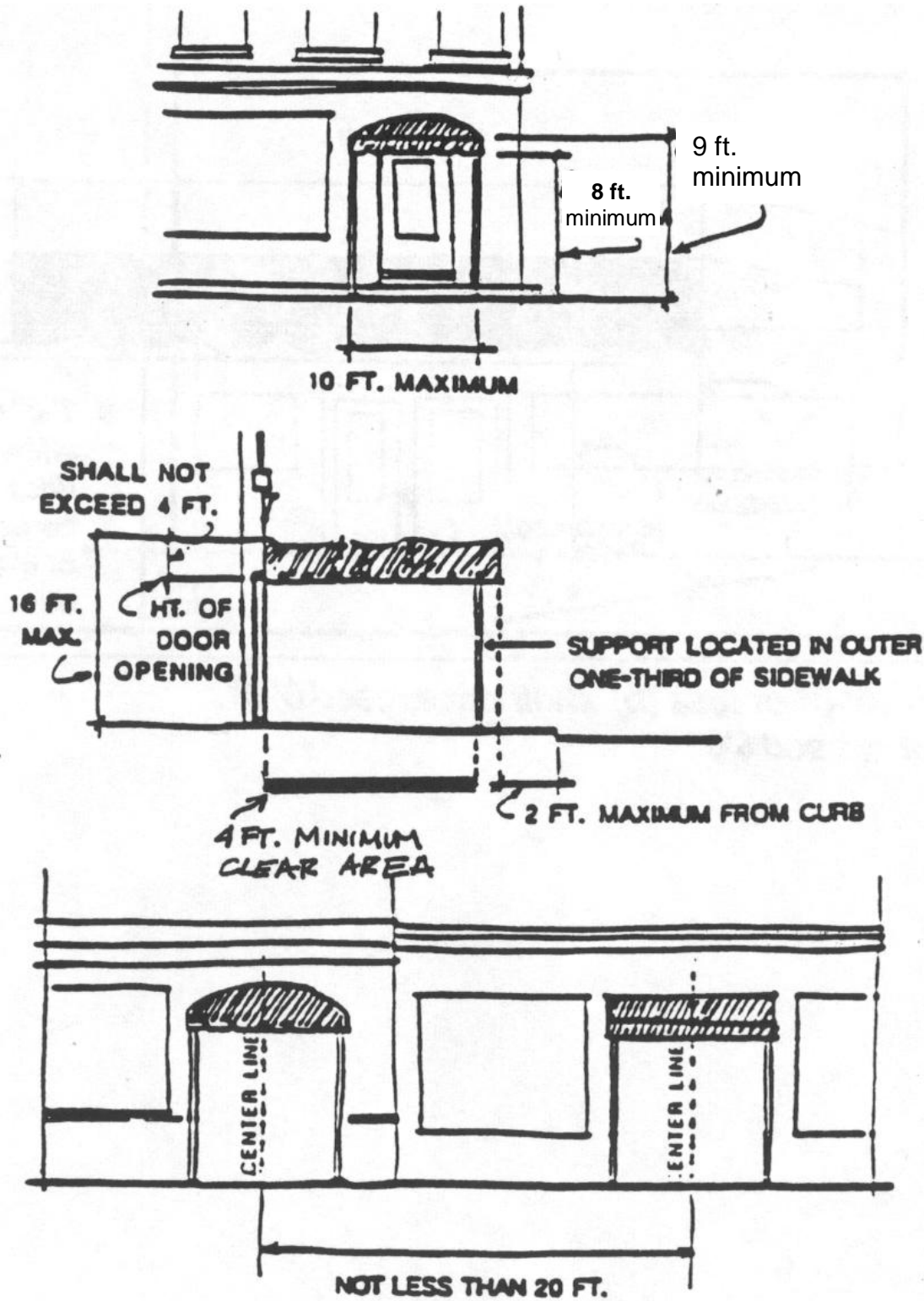
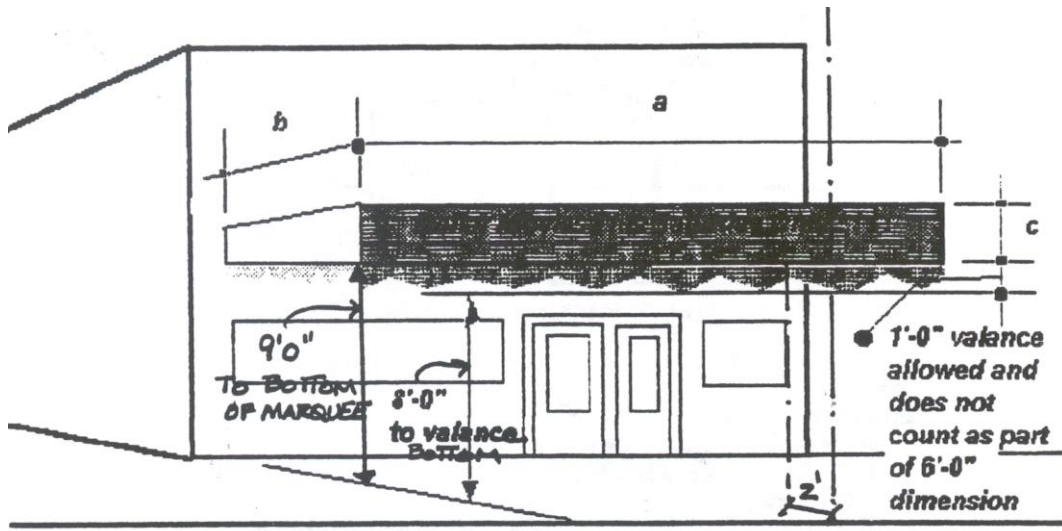


Diagram 24

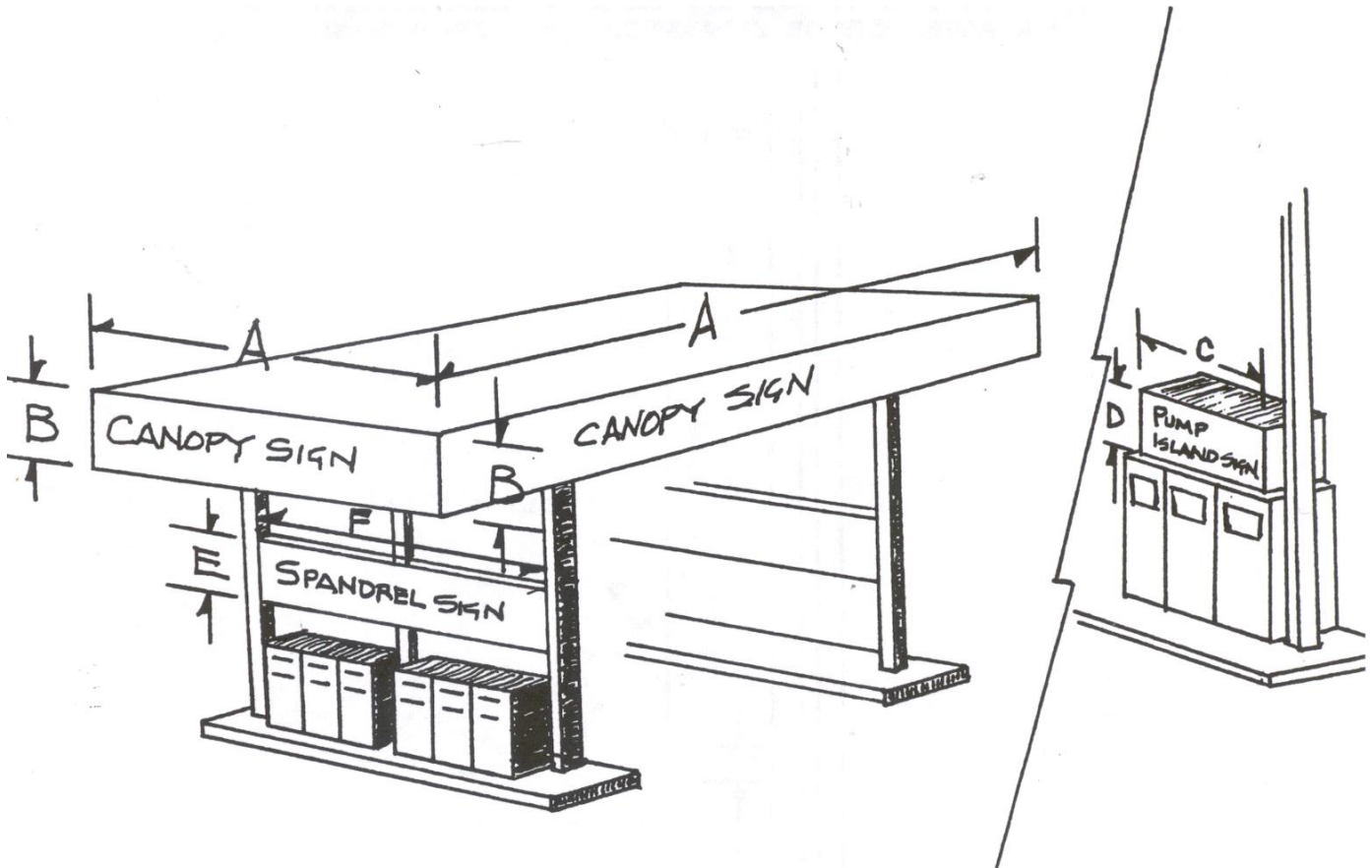
Marquee Signs



*When (a) is 10'-0" or less (b) shall not exceed 6'-0".
(c) shall not exceed 6'-0".*

Diagram 25

**Gasoline Service Station Convenience Market Signs
Canopy Signs; Pump Island Signs; Spandrel Signs**



Canopy Signs:

- Sign Area shall not exceed 25% the area of the individual façade of the canopy. Area of the particular canopy façade = $A \times B$.

Pump Island Signs:

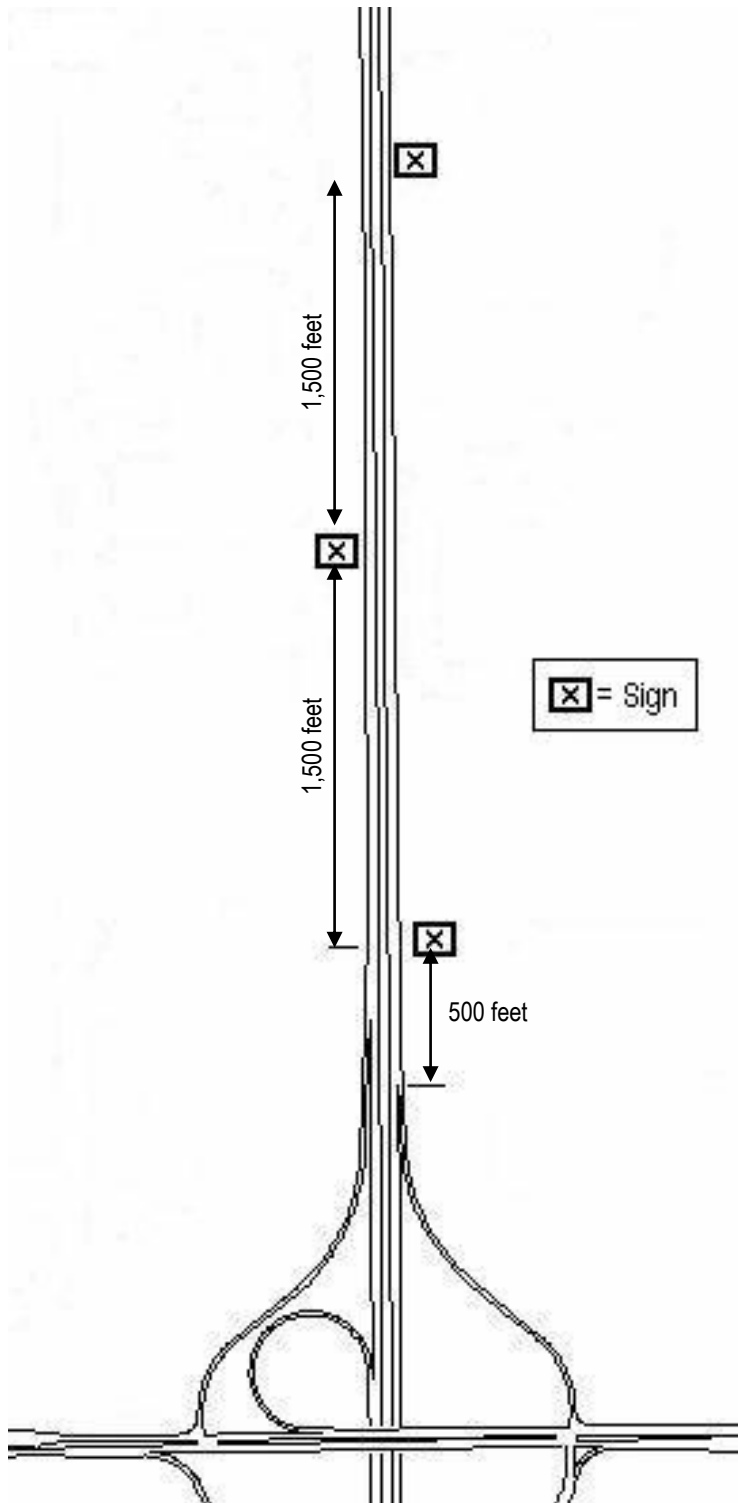
- Shall not exceed 16 square feet. Area of sign = $C \times D$
- Four-sided structure permitted only if two-sided contain:
 - 1) Government or federal warnings/information; or
 - 2) Are left blank.
- Shall not be permitted if spandrel sign are utilized.

Spandrel Signs:

- Shall not exceed 25% of the spandrel's structural area. Area of spandrel = $E \times F$.
- Shall not be permitted if pump island signs are utilized.

Diagram 26

Signs on Interstate Freeways and Expressways Measurement of Separation for Off-Premise Signs



The specified distances shall be measured to the nearest point of the intersection of the traveled way of the exit roadway and the main-traveled way of the Interstate Freeway or Expressway (refer to Diagram 34).

Diagram 27

Signs on Interstate Freeways and Expressways
Entrance Roadway Limitations

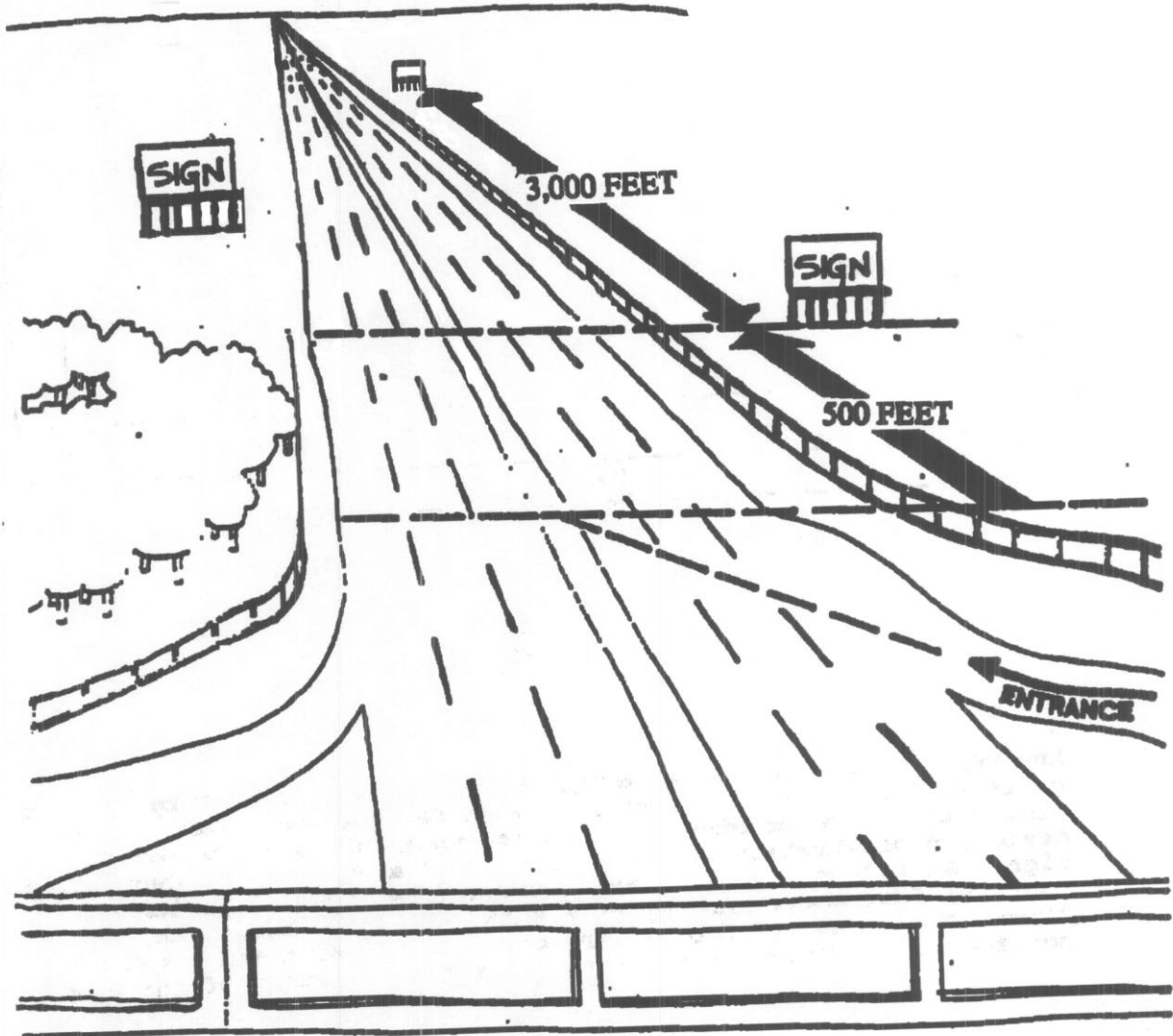


Diagram 28

Tall Signs at Freeway and Expressway Interchanges

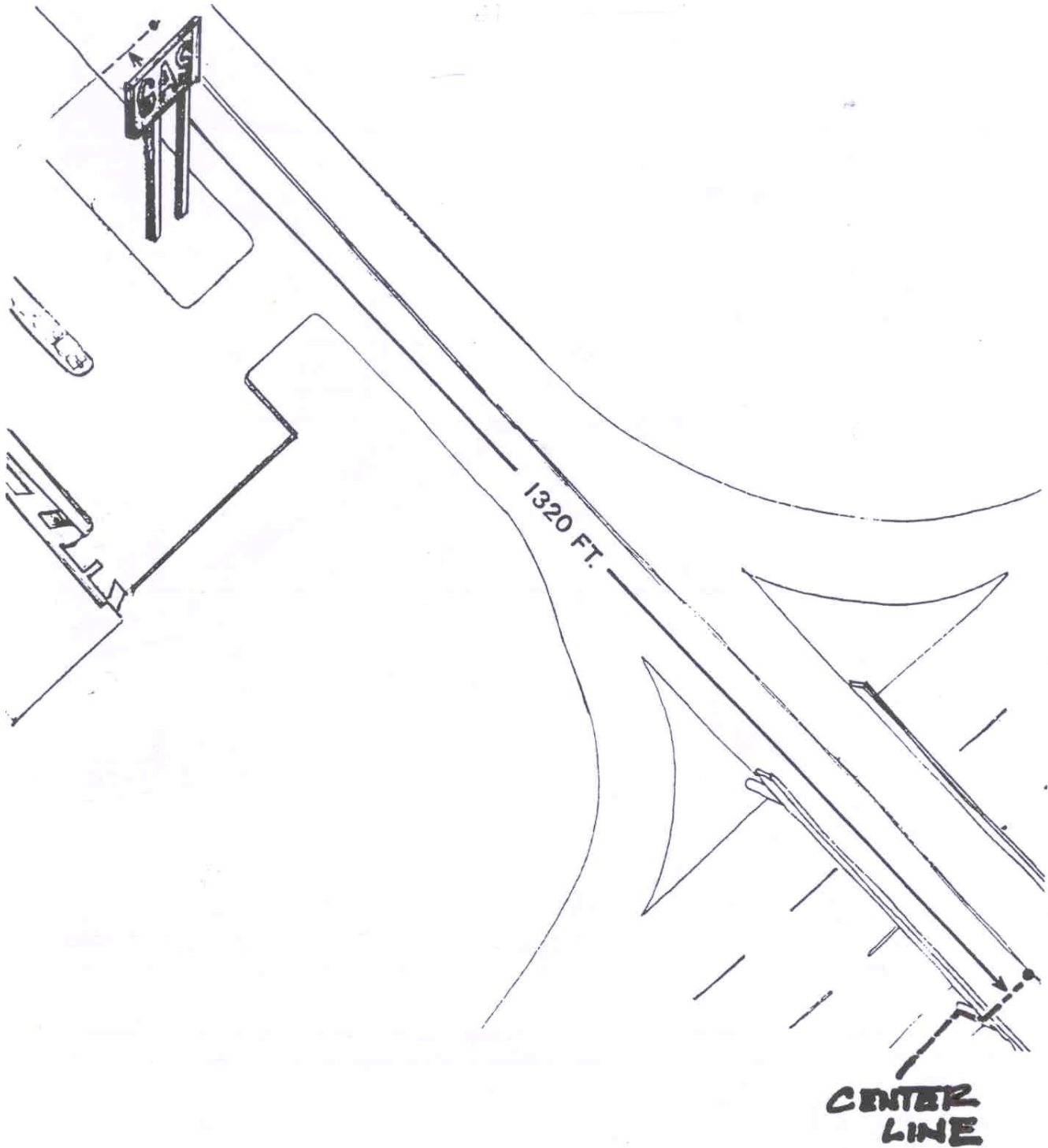


Diagram 29

Distance from Signalized Intersections
EVMS

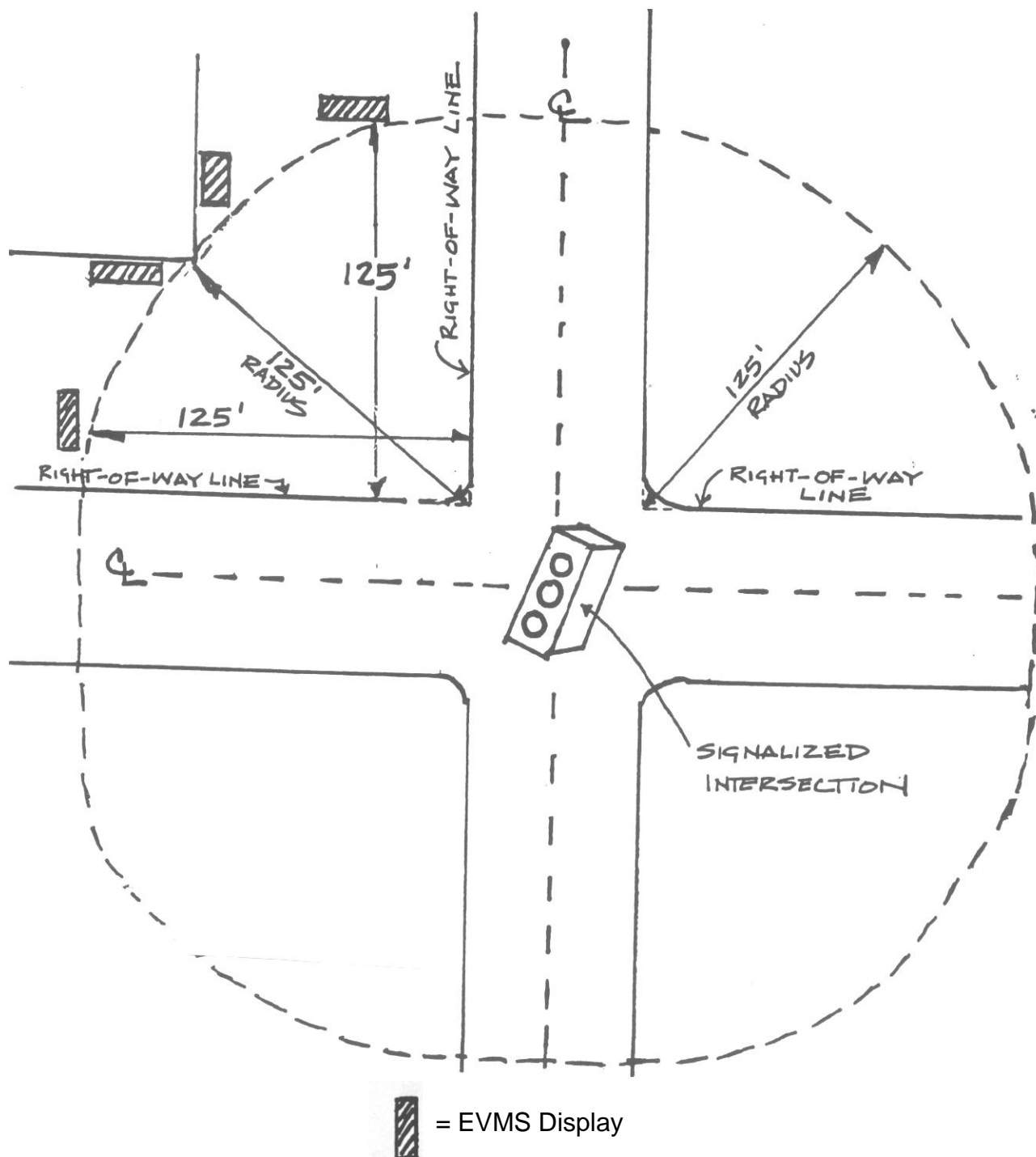
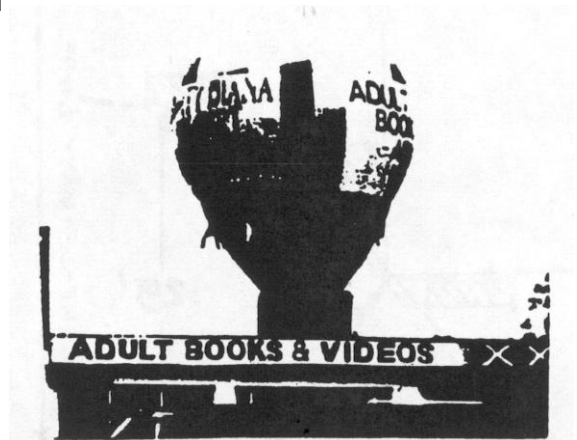


Diagram 30

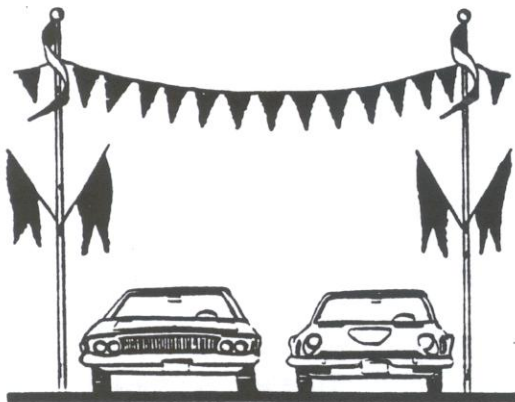
Sign Types I



A. A-Sign



B. Balloon Sign



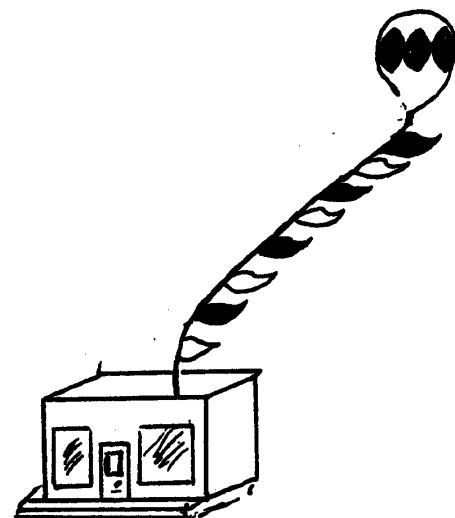
C. Pennants



D. Banner Sign



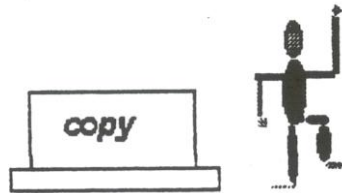
E. T-Sign



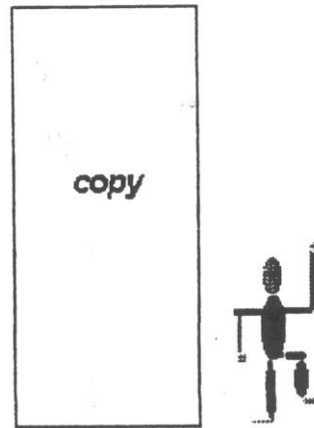
F. Wind Sign

Diagram 31

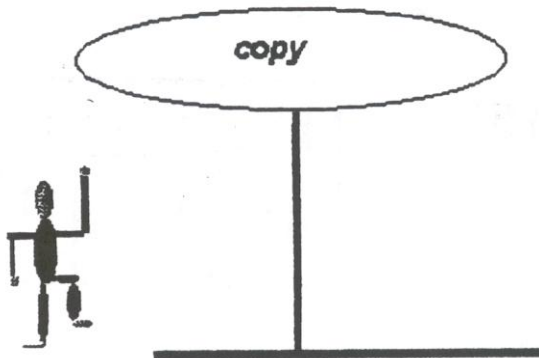
Sign Types II



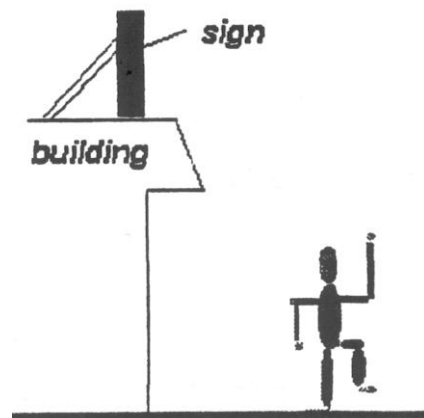
Type (a) Ground Sign



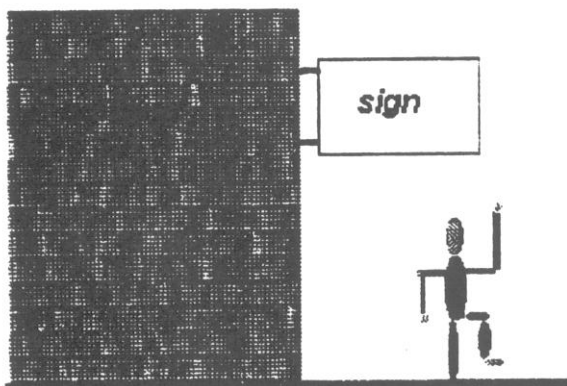
Type (d) Pylon Sign



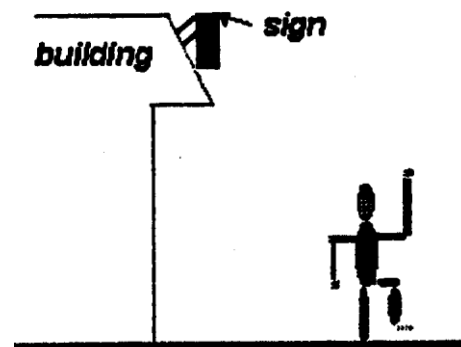
Type (b) Pole Sign



Type (e) Roof Sign



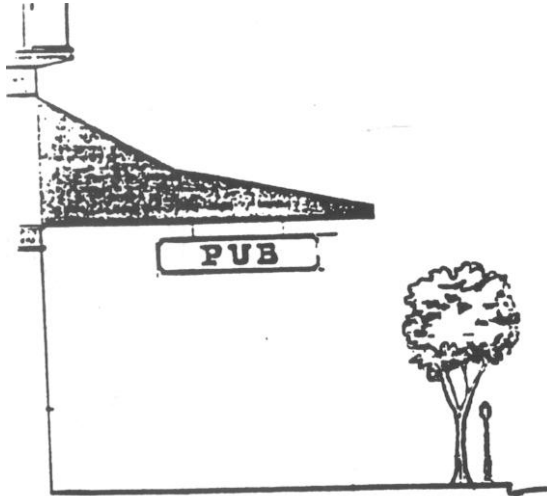
Type (c) Projecting Sign



Type (f) Roof-Integral Sign

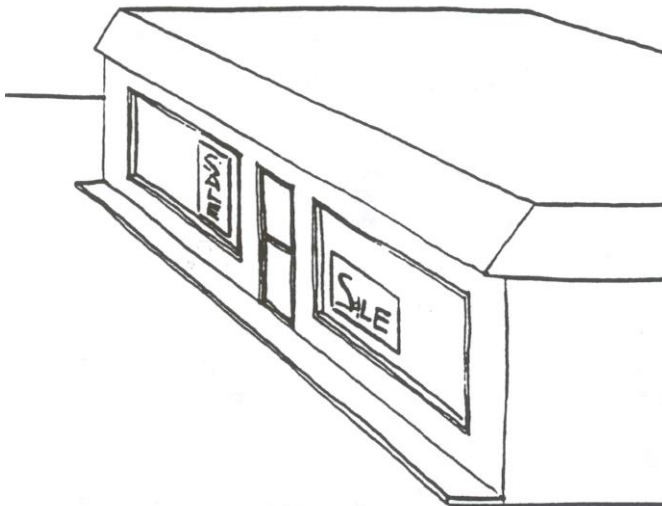
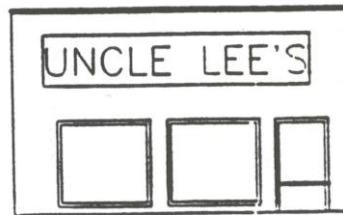
Diagram 32

Sign Types III



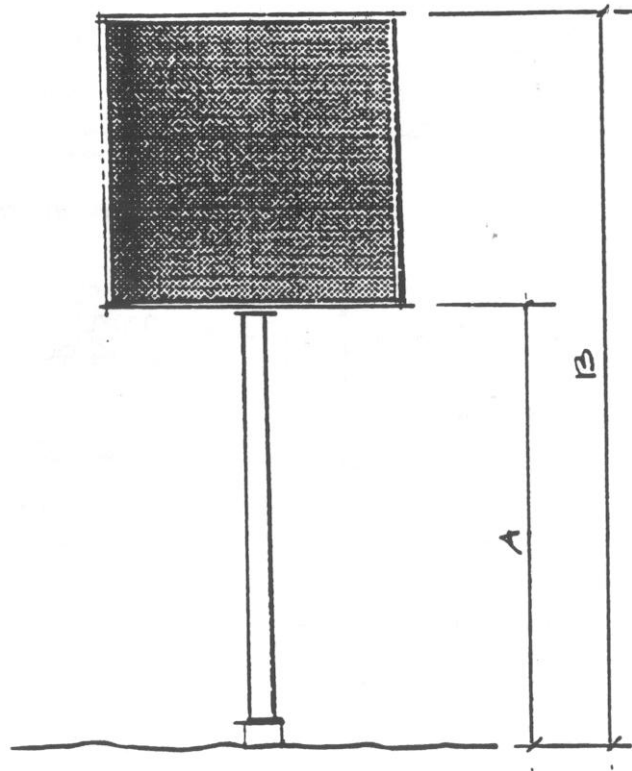
A. Suspended Sign

B. Wall Sign



C. Window Sign

Diagram 33
Sign Clearance



A - CLEARANCE
B - HEIGHT

Diagram 34

Driveways

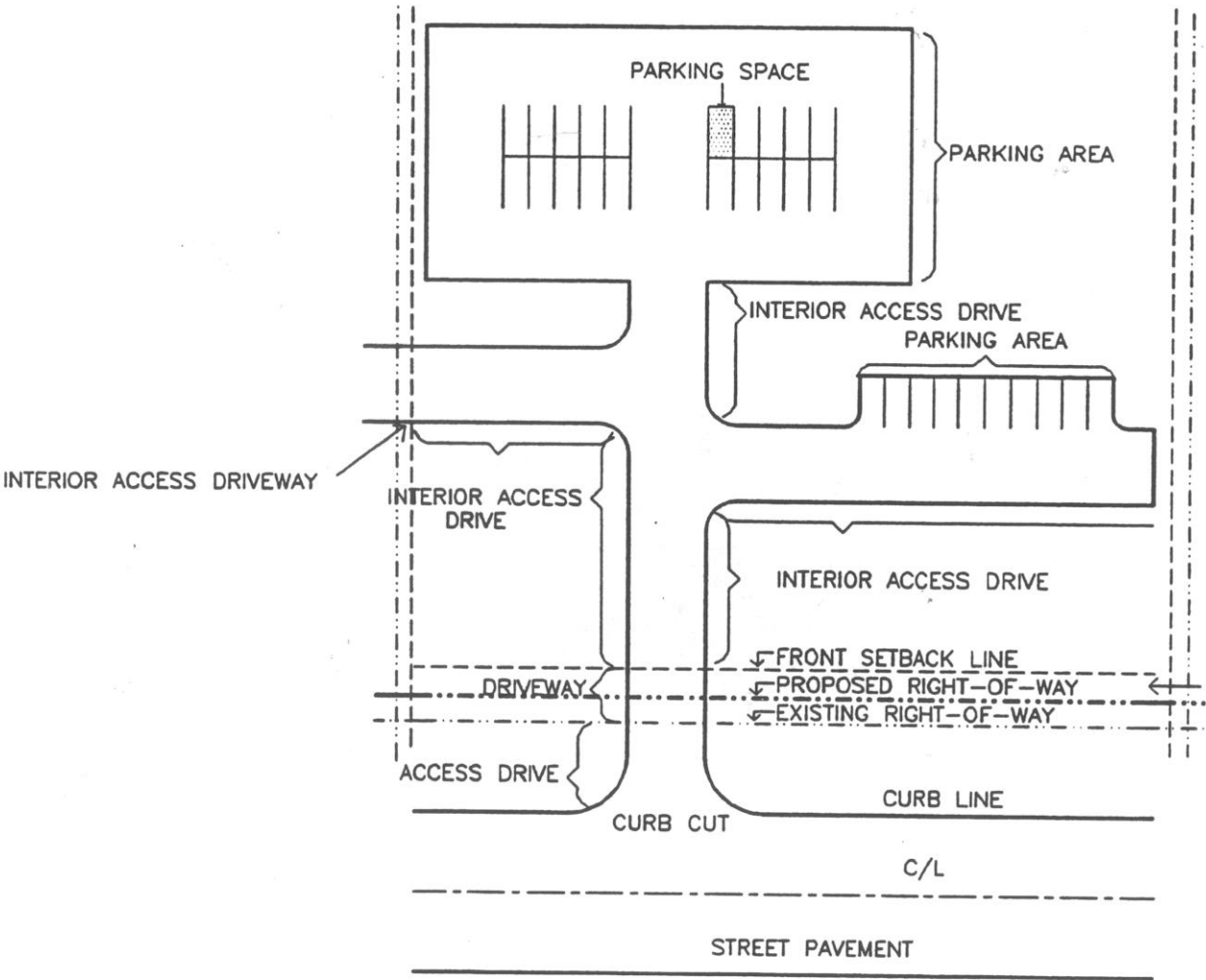
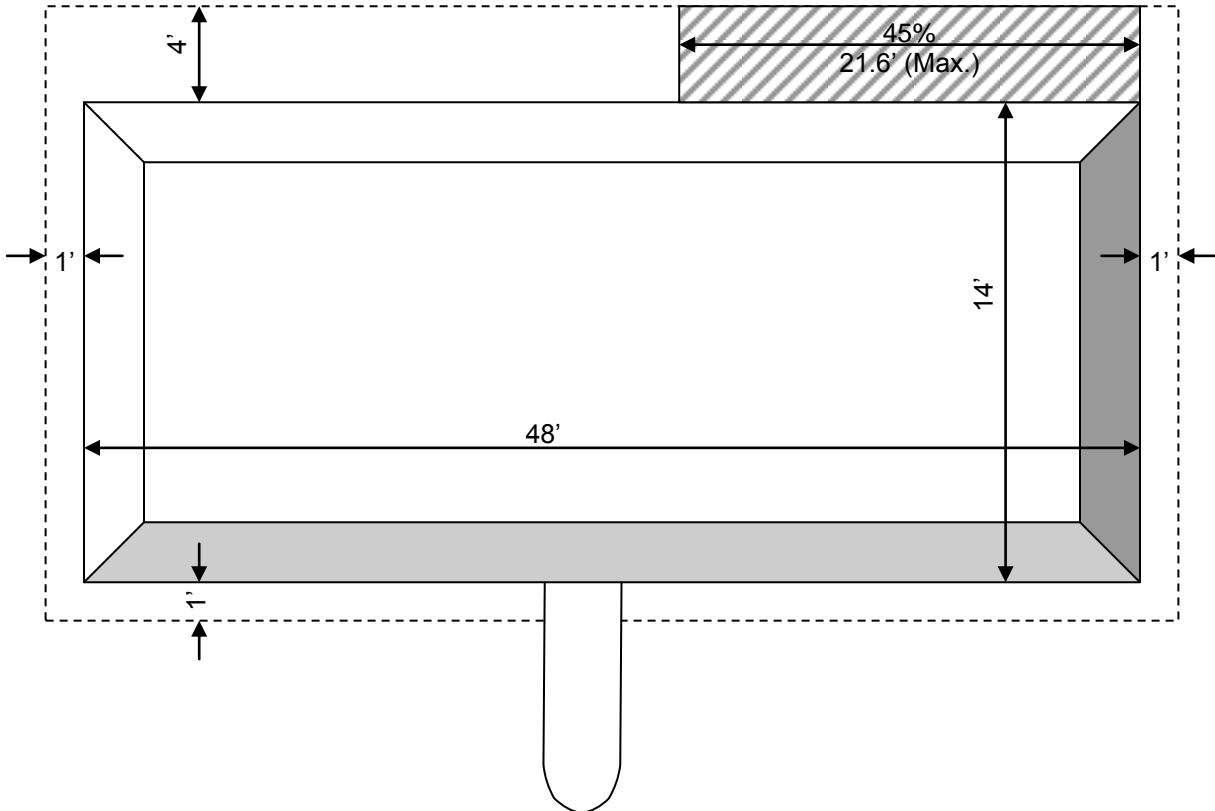


Diagram 35

Advertising Sign or Off-Premises Sign Extension



Any vertical or horizontal embellishment to a 10.5 foot by 36 foot or 14 foot by 48 foot advertising sign designed as a part of and integrally incorporated into the announcement, declaration, device, demonstration or insignia used as a part of an advertising sign. An extension shall have a maximum vertical dimension of four (4) feet above the top of a sign, a maximum horizontal dimension of one (1) foot to the sides of the sign and a maximum horizontal dimension of one (1) foot to the bottom of the sign.

Diagram 36

Types of Lots Lot / Corner Lot

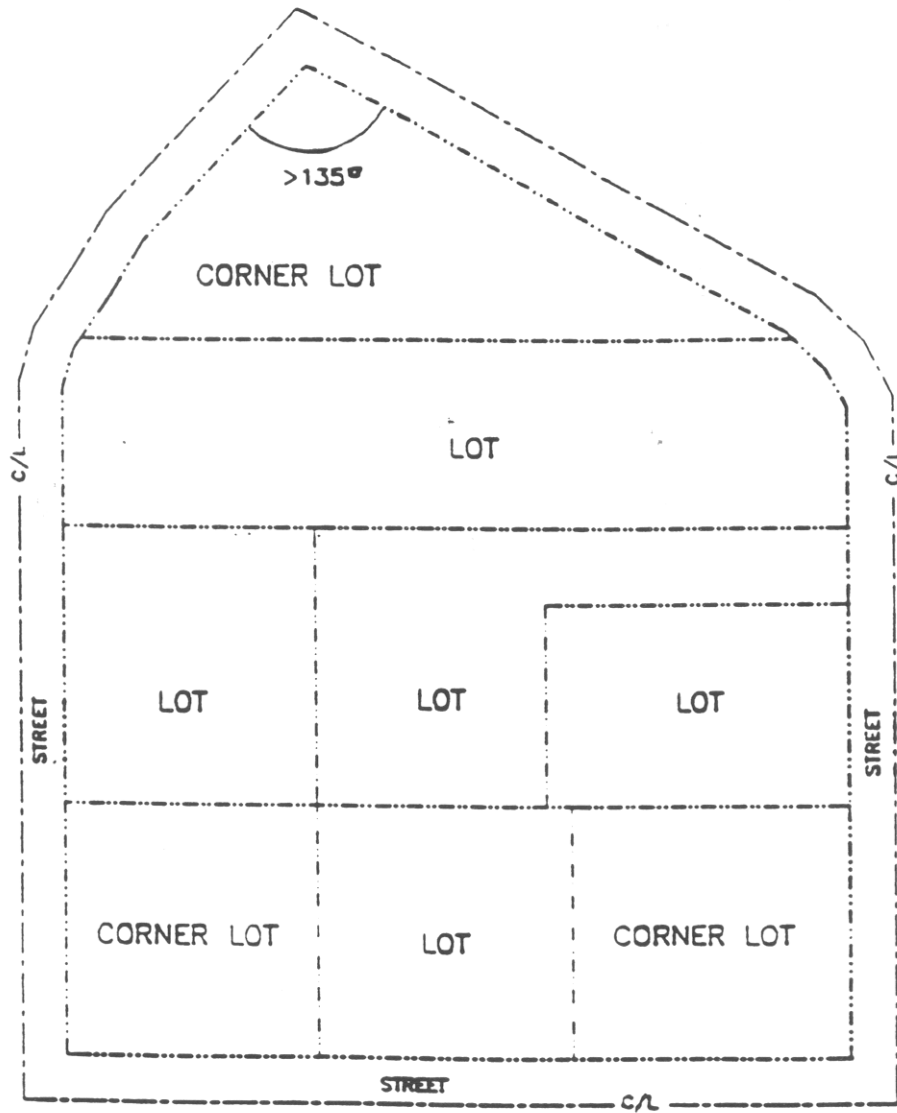


Diagram 37

Setback and Setback Line

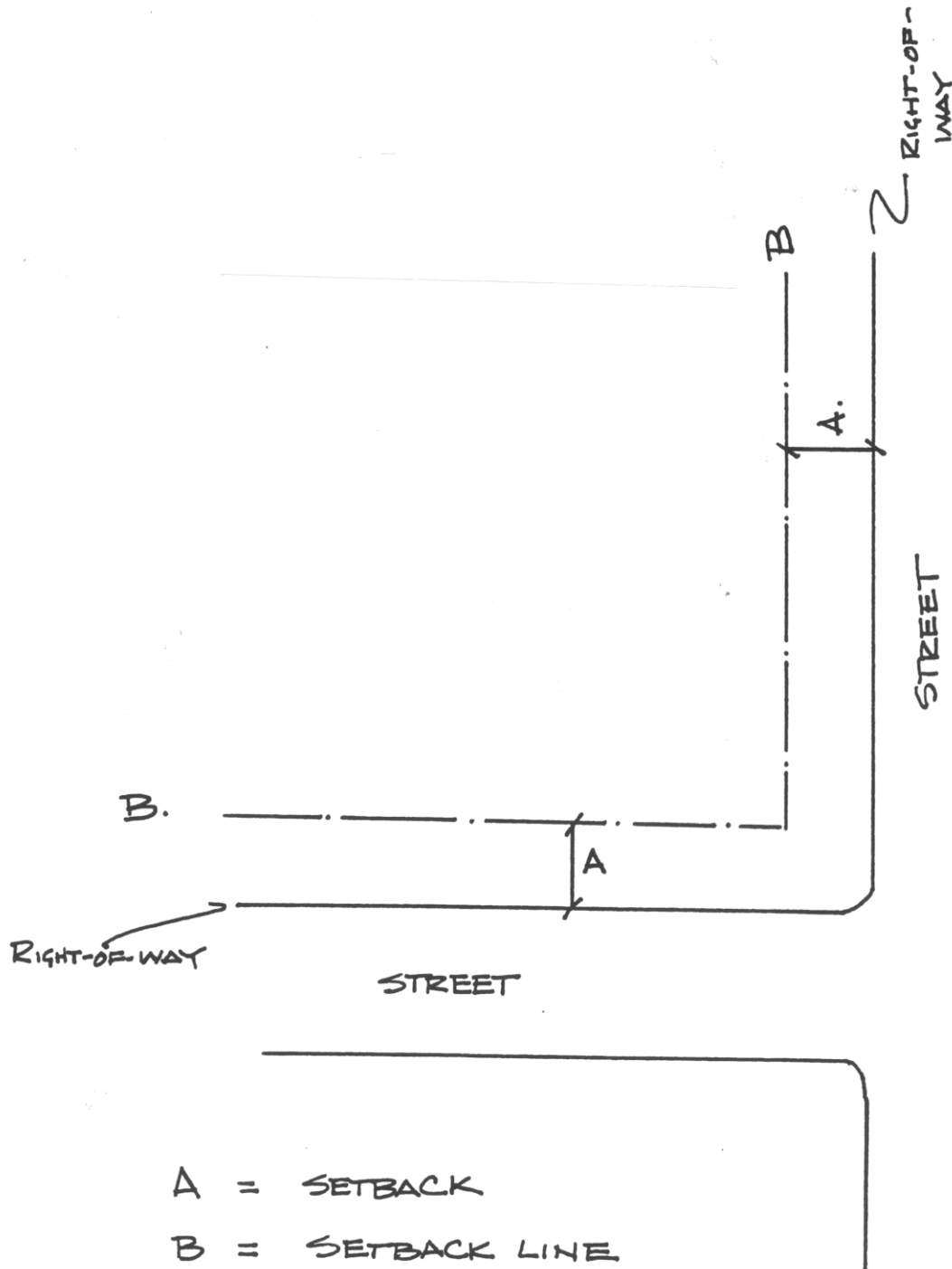


Diagram 38

Far-side of an intersection is illustrated with cross-hatching

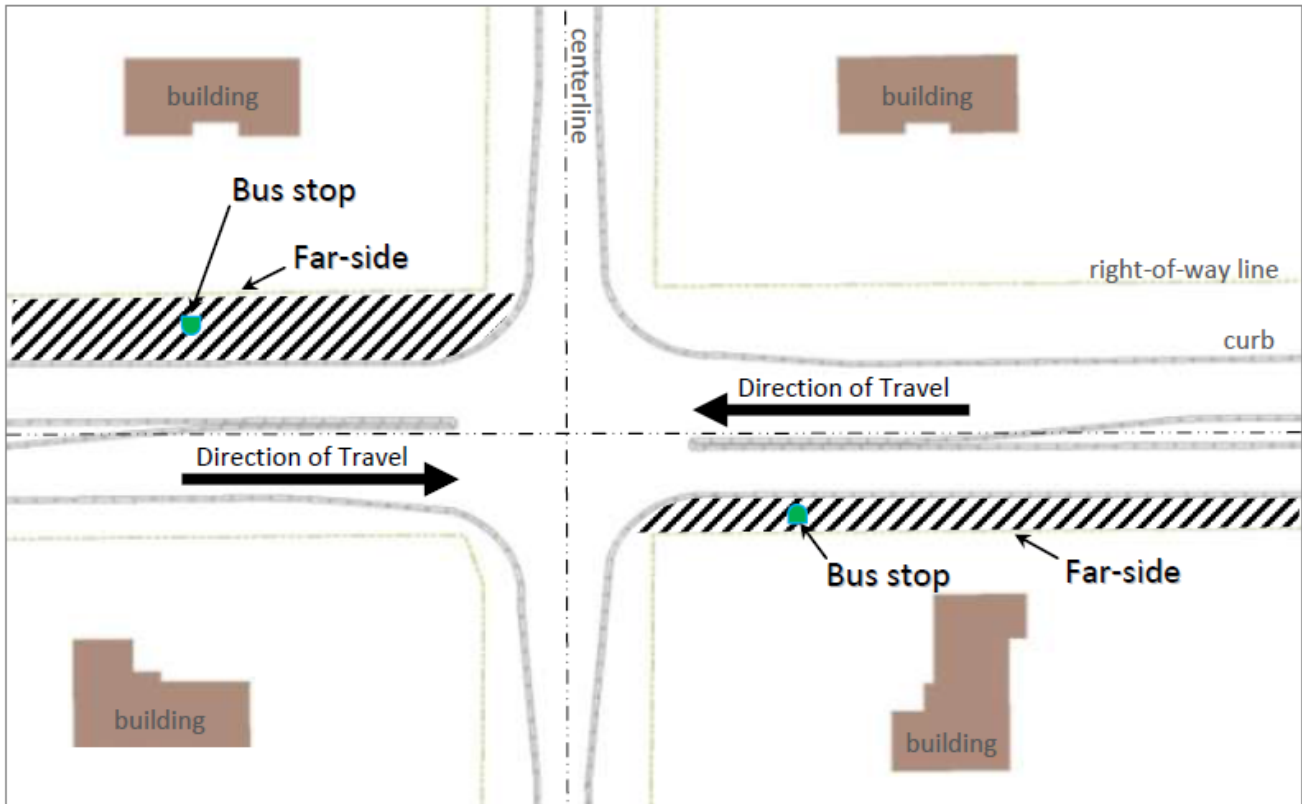

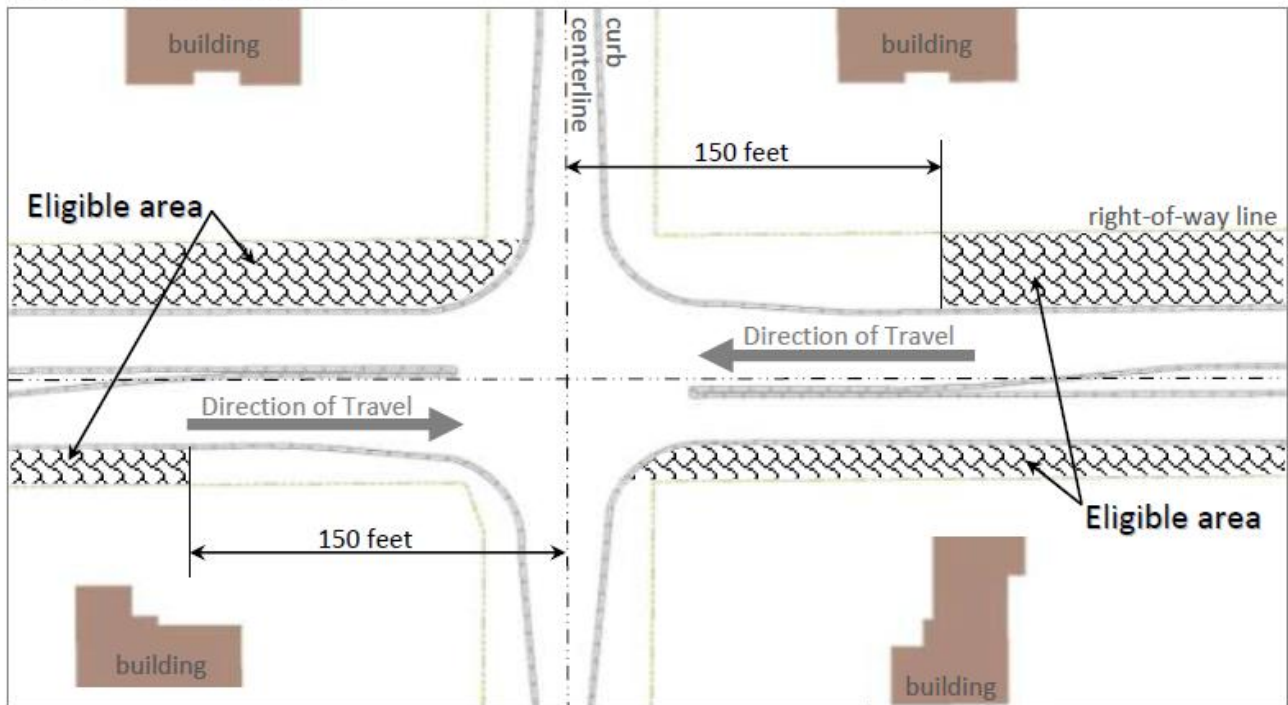


Diagram 39

Eligible locations of municipal bus shelter or bench with an advertising sign

Eligible areas are illustrated with the pattern: 

Two-way traffic situation



One-way traffic situation

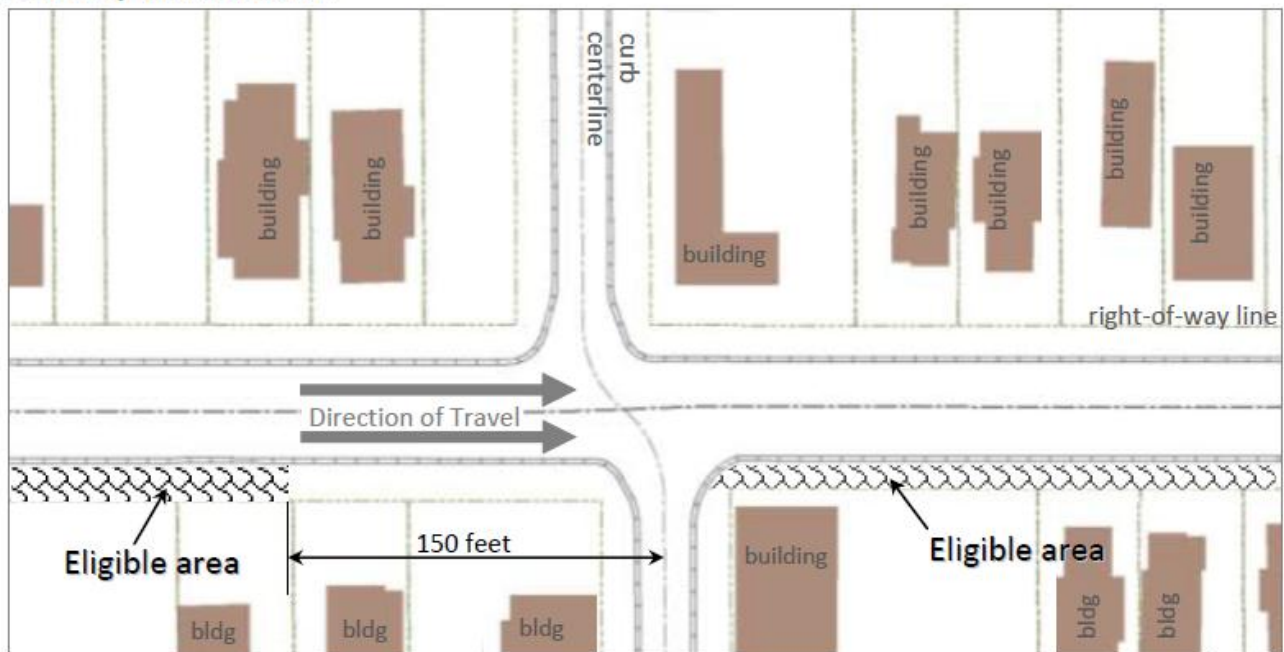


Diagram 40

Location of bus bench to municipal bus stop
Some portion of the bench must be within 12 feet of the sign location.

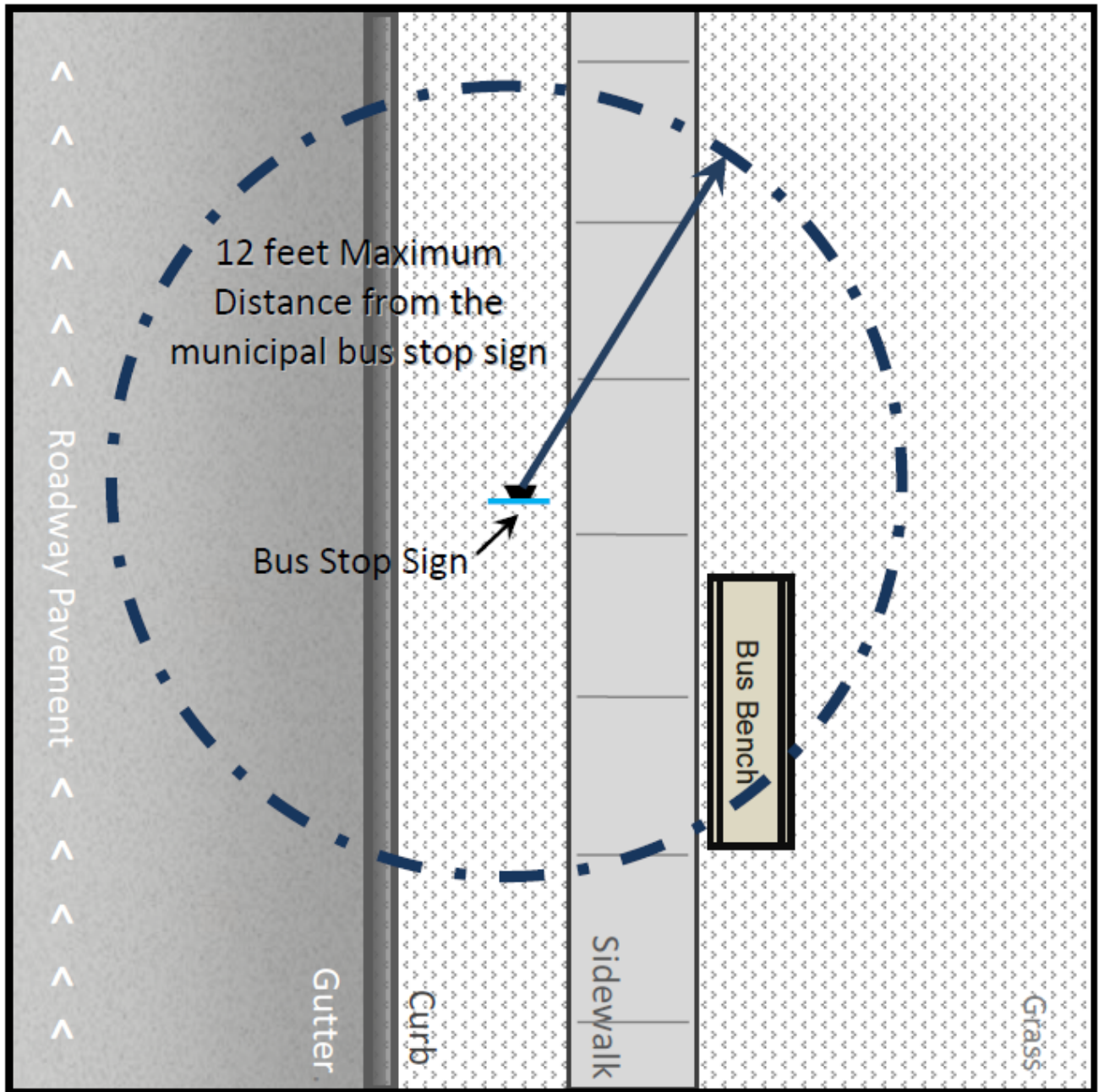


Diagram 41

Municipal bus bench measurements
Municipal bus shelter measurements

