

7.5 Signs, Advertising Lights and Devices

- a. General Provisions: Signs, advertising lights and devices shall be governed by the following provisions and such other regulations as may be hereafter established in the furtherance or clarification thereof.
 1. This Ordinance shall not apply to any display of directional signs, street name signs, or other signs which have been authorized and erected by a governmental body or to on site private instructional signs less than four (4) square feet in areas intended to aid persons on private parcels of land.
 2. Signs are prohibited within the public right-of-way except that the City Council may grant a special permit for temporary signs and decorations to be placed on a right-of-way for a period of time not to exceed ninety (90) days, subject to the laws of Minnesota.
 3. Illuminated flashing signs shall not be permitted within any zoning district.
 4. One (1) name plate sign per lot in the "B-1", "B-2", "B-3" and Industrial Districts pertaining to a permitted use may be erected not to exceed thirty percent (30%) of the authorized aggregate square footage of advertising sign space for such lot.
 5. For the purpose of selling or leasing property, a sign or signs not in excess of twenty-five (25) square feet of sign may be placed within the front yard of such property to be sold or leased. Such sign or signs shall not be less than fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line unless flat against the structure. Failure to remove said sign within ten (10) days of sale or lease of property and to maintain said sign shall be considered a violation of this ordinance.
 6. For the purpose of selling or promoting a residential project of six (6) or more dwelling units, a sign not to exceed one hundred (100) square feet may be erected upon the project site and maintained until each of the units has been rented or leased.
 7. The area within the frame shall be used to calculate the square footage except that the width of a frame exceeding twelve (12) inches shall constitute advertising space, or should such letters or graphics be mounted directly on a wall or fascia or in such a way as to be without a frame, the dimensions for calculating the square footage shall be the area extending six (6) inches

beyond the periphery formed around such letters or graphics in a plane figure bounded by straight lines connecting the outermost points thereof, and each surface utilized to display a message or to attract attention shall be measured as a separate sign, and symbols, flags, pictures, wording, figures or other forms of graphics painted on or attached to windows, walls, awnings, free standing structures, suspended by balloons or kites or on persons, animals, or vehicles shall be considered as a sign to be included in calculating the overall square footage.

8. Signs existing on the effective date of this ordinance which do not conform to the regulations set forth in this ordinance are a non-confirming use or structure and as such shall be under the regulations set forth in the ordinance Section 4.3.
 9. The top of any such sign, including its superstructure, if any, shall be no higher than six (6) feet above the roof of the building to which such sign may be attached or thirty-five (35) feet above ground level, whichever height is less; except that the height of any name plate sign which is attached to or an integral part of a functional structure, such as a water tower, smoke stack, radio or TV transmitting tower, beacon or similar structure, shall be no higher than such structure.
 10. Signs, including any superstructure, standing or erected free of any building or other structure, shall not exceed an overall height of twenty-five (25) feet from ground level.
- b. Signs in "R" Districts: Within the "R" District the following signs are permitted:
1. One (1) double surfaced name plate sign for each dwelling which shall not exceed one (1) square foot in area per surface. Such sign may indicate the name of occupant and address.
 2. One (1) double surface name plate sign for each dwelling group of six (6) or more units, which shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area per surface. Such sign may indicate the names and addresses of the buildings or project, or may be a directory for occupants or state any combination of the above information.
 3. One (1) double surfaced name plate sign for each permitted use other than residential which shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in area per surface plus one-half square foot per surface for each one foot of set back greater than twenty (20) feet.

4. Symbols, statues, sculptures and integrated architectural features on non-residential buildings may be illuminated by floodlights, provided the direct source of lights is not visible from the public right-of-way or adjacent residential property.
- c. Signs in "B-1" Districts: Within the "B-1" District, name plate signs or business signs are permitted subject to the following regulations:
1. Within the "B-1" Business District, the aggregate square footage of sign per lot shall not exceed the sum of three (3) square feet per front foot of building, with the least width of the lot fronting on a public right-of-way, fifty (or more) feet in width being the front for applying this ordinance, plus one (1) square foot for each foot of side yard abutting along a public right-of-way fifty (50) feet or more in width.
 2. No individual sign shall exceed two hundred and fifty (250) square feet in area except as provided in Section 7.5a6.
- d. Signs in the "B-2" and "I" Districts: Within the "B-2" and "I" Districts, name plate signs, business signs are permitted, subject to the following regulations:
1. The aggregate square footage of sign space per lot shall not exceed the sum of four (4) square feet per front foot of building, plus two (2) square feet per front foot of property not occupied by a building, plus one (1) square foot for each foot of public right-of-way other than the front fifty (50) feet or more in width abutting the lot, plus a ten (10) percent increase in permitted sign space for each fifteen (15) feet the sign is set back of the front yard, up to a 100 percent increase.
 2. The least width of such a corner lot shall be the front for purposes of this ordinance.
 3. A part of the aggregate square footage up to one hundred (100) square feet may be used for an advertising sign where the sign is not the principal use.
- e. Signs in the "B-3" Business District: Within the "B-3" District, nameplate signs, business, and directional signs are permitted, subject to the following regulations:

1. Within the "B-3" District, the aggregate square footage of sign per lot shall not exceed the sum of two (2) square feet per front foot of building, plus one (1) square foot of lot width (the least lot width shall prevail).
2. No individual sign shall exceed one hundred eighty (180) square feet in area or the criteria of 7.5(a) (6) of this ordinance, the lesser square footage shall prevail.
3. The least width of a corner lot shall be the front for purposes of this ordinance or as determined by the Zoning Officer.