SIGN REGULATIONS IN GENERAL

§ 151.060 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

BUILDING FACADE. The portion of any exterior elevation of a building extended from grade to the top of the parapet wall or eaves and the entire width of the building elevation, and which may also be referred to as the BUILDING FACE.

COPY AREA. The sum of the area of the words or numbers included in the sign copy, inclusive of logos, trademarks or other advertising symbols, but exclusive of pictorials, supergraphics or purely decorative, non-advertising displays.

DISPLAY AREA. The total area upon which a sign copy may be placed in computing the total display area of a sign, mathematical closest to the extremities of the sign, excluding any structural members or embellishments, shall be used.

EMBELLISHMENT. An addition to the display area on which a continuation of an advertising message may be placed. Such addition shall not be a continuous border which would constitute an increase in the display area. Standard bases and standard trim shall not be considered EMBELLISHMENTS.

SIGN. A structure, including the frame and supports of such containing any printed text, pictorial representation, emblem or other object, and which is used to identify, instruct, attract, guide or advertise. (1989 Code, • 10-35) (Ord. 105, passed 8-13-1981)

§ 151.061 USES OF SIGNS; MAJOR CATEGORIES.

For the purpose of this subchapter, uses of signs shall be identified as follows:

(A) Commemorative, historical or memorial signs. A sign, marker or plaque erected by an authorized body for purposes of identifying a commemoration, designated historical landmark or memorial;

(B) Development sign. A temporary construction sign denoting the architect, engineer, contractor, subcontractor, financier or sponsor of a development and designating the future occupant or use of the development;

(C) Directional sign. A sign of eight square feet or less containing information relative to the location, distance to, entrance and exit from structures, sites or land use activities;

(D) Institutional bulletin. A sign of any governmental agency, religious group, hospital or school, located on the premises and bearing only information, related to the activities conducted on the premises, persons involved or other such information;
(E) **On-premises identification sign.** A sign which identifies or advertises the profession, land use activity, individual, product or service occupying or available on the premises;

(F) **Outdoor advertising sign.** An off-premises sign which directs attention to businesses, products, services or establishments not usually conducted on the premises on which the sign is located and which, for the purposes of this chapter, shall be considered a principal use;

(G) **Public information sign.** A sign containing emergency or legal notices and regulatory information, erected by a unit of government or any of its agencies or departments;

(H) **Real estate sign.** A sign advertising the fact that the premises on which it is located is for sale, lease or rent; and

(I) **Temporary sign.** A display, informational sign, banner or other advertising device with or without a structural frame, not permanently attached to a building, structure or the ground, and intended for a limited period of display, including decorative displays for holidays.


§ 151.062  **STRUCTURAL TYPES OF SIGNS.**

For purposes of this subchapter, signs shall be classified according to their structural type:

(A) **Fascia sign.** A single-face sign which is in any manner attached or affixed to an exterior wall of a building or structure or mounted above or below a canopy and which projects not more than 18 inches from and does not extend more than six inches above the parapet line, eaves or building facade. Individual letters, in addition to the "box type" sign, may also be installed as a fascia sign;

(B) **Flashing sign.** An illuminated sign on which the artificial light is not maintained stationary or constant in intensity or color;

(C) **Freestanding sign.** A sign supported by one or more uprights, poles, columns or braces placed in or upon the ground surface and not attached to any building or structure;

(D) **Illuminated signs.** A sign illuminated by gas, electricity or other artificial light, including reflective or phosphorescent light;

(E) **Marquee or canopy sign.** A sign attached or applied above or below a marquee, canopy, awning or other rooflike structure;

(F) **Mobile sign.** A sign permanently mounted on a chassis and parked on the premises, usually on a temporary basis;

(G) **Multi-face sign.** A sign, more than one side of which is visible. A V-TYPE SIGN shall be considered a multi-face sign, provided the least angle of intersection does not exceed 90 degrees;

(H) **Portable sign.** A multi-face sign, other than a mobile sign, not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or the ground;

(I) **Projecting sign.** A multi-face sign, end-mounted to an exterior wall of a building or structure
and which projects out from the wall more than 18 inches;

(J) *Roof-mount sign.* A sign erected wholly upon or over a roof of any building; and

(K) *Single-face sign.* A sign, only one side of which is visible.


**SPECIFIC SIGN PROVISIONS**

§ 151.075 INTENT.

It is recognized that certain uses located in approximately zoned districts need and have a right to advertise through the use of sign displays. It is the intent of this subchapter to encourage creative and imaginative design and use of signs in order to create a more attractive economic and business climate. It is further the intent of this subchapter to foster and improve the economic vitality of the community by enhancing and protecting the physical appearance of the community. In order to accomplish this purpose, it is necessary to regulate the size, location, construction and manner of display of signs as set forth in this subchapter.

(1989 Code, § 10-38)

§ 151.076 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

(A) All signs, permanent and temporary, constructed, connected, operated and maintained in the town shall be constructed, connected, operated and maintained according to the specifications of the Building and Electrical Codes of the town.

(B) All signs shall be maintained in a good state of repair. Painted faces or structural members shall be repainted whenever peeling or fading occurs. Neon tubes, lamps, ballasts and transformers shall be kept in a good state of repair and safe condition. The town may order the removal of any sign which becomes a public hazard due to lack of maintenance or repair or which becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or otherwise unsafe.

(C) The following provisions shall apply to freestanding on-premises signs.

(1) The sign, pole or standard shall not extend beyond the property line or into the public right-of-way.

(2) Freestanding signs shall be designed so that all framework for the lateral support of the signs shall be contained within the body of the sign or within the structure to which it is attached and shall not be visible. Exposed guy wires, chains or other connections shall not be made a permanent part of the sign.

(3) (a) The maximum height of freestanding signs located along other than limited-access highways shall vary with the width of the lot on which the sign is located, as follows;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot Width</th>
<th>Maximum Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-50 feet</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
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</table>
(b) Along limited access highways, the maximum height of freestanding signs shall be 85 feet, subject to approval by the Town Council, provided that:

1. Such signs shall identify highway-oriented uses, such as automobile service stations, motels and restaurants, located within 2,000 feet of the centerline of the interchange; and

2. A variance may be granted by the Board permitting signs in excess of 85 feet where a physical obstruction exists which otherwise restrict the visibility of the sign, provided that in no case shall the visual height of the sign as viewed from the highway, exceed 85 feet above the grade of the highway.

(4) Freestanding signs which function as directional signs shall have a maximum height of four feet.

(D) The following provisions shall apply to marquee or canopy signs.

(1) One sign shall be permitted for each entrance to the building or structure to which the sign is attached.

(2) The display area of such signs shall not exceed eight square feet per sign face, except that individual letters or symbols painted, stenciled or otherwise applied to awnings and not exceeding three inches in height shall not be included in this provision.

(3) No sign shall extend beyond the outer edge of the marquee or roofed structure.

(4) There shall be at least a 12-foot clearance between the grade of the sidewalk and the lowest point of the sign.

(E) Projecting signs shall be permitted as follows.

(1) One projecting sign shall be permitted for each ground floor use in a building or structure.

(2) Where a use has such frontage on more than one street, there may be one projecting sign for each frontage, provided that only a sign computed for the frontage of a street shall face that street, or there may be one corner projecting sign, which shall be computed on the basis of one-half the frontage of the use on both streets.

(3) It is the intent of this division (E) to encourage, wherever it is feasible, the use of lateral supports that are contained within the framework of the sign frame. Where additional side bracing is required, guy wires and not chains, shall be used.

(4) The height of the projecting sign shall not exceed eight feet above the parapet wall of
the building, and the lowest point of the projecting sign shall be not less than ten feet above the grade.

(5) The projection of projecting signs shall be limited by the more restrictive of the following:

(a) No projecting sign shall project further than one-half the distance from the sign location to the nearest side building line; or

(b) The projection of projecting signs shall be limited to eight feet three inches.

(F) Roof-mount signs shall not be permitted, except where such signs appear to be architectural and integral part of the building and further provided that:

(1) All structural members shall be effectively hidden from view;

(2) The maximum height of such signs shall be six feet; and

(3) Such signs shall be on-premises signs only.

(G) Illuminated signs shall be illuminated only by direct or indirect lighting sources, provided that the beam from an indirect source shall be effectively concealed from view. Strobe lights shall not be permitted.

(H) Temporary signs shall be permitted, provided that:

(1) There shall not be more than one such sign per frontage;

(2) A temporary sign shall not exceed 50 square feet in display area; and

(3) Before displaying a temporary or portable sign on property owned or leased by the person or business seeking to display such a sign, that person or business must obtain a permit through the town by submitting an application for such a sign to the Zoning Commissioner or the town.

(a) The Zoning Commissioner shall review the application within ten working days of the receipt of such application. If approved, a fee of $10 shall be paid by the applicant to the Clerk-Treasurer of the town who will then issue the permit;

(b) Such permits shall be valid for a period of 30 consecutive days. No person or business who has received such a permit shall apply for another such permit for the same location for a period of 120 days after the expiration date of the last such permit issued;

(c) Such permits are not transferable; and

(d) Such permit showing the period of time during which the sign is permitted shall be posted in a conspicuous location within the business building or be considered in violation of this division; and

(e) Any person or business who displays a temporary or portable sign and fails to obtain a permit for such a sign in the manner described above may be liable for a fine not to exceed $50 per day, and that each day constitutes a separate offense, and may be denied temporary sign
privileges for a period not to exceed six months.

(4) A temporary sign shall be located a minimum of 20 feet from the right-of-way line, unless the distance between the right-of-way line and the building facade is insufficient to accommodate the 20-foot required setback. However, said sign shall not encroach upon or block any pedestrian right-of-way.

(5) Exposed lamps shall be covered with a sunshade. Lamps shall not exceed 25 watts and shall be of the incandescent type only.

(I) Permanent signs shall be permitted provided that:

(1) Before displaying a permanent sign on property owned or leased by the person or business seeking to display such a sign, that person or business must obtain a permit through the town by submitting an application for such a sign to the Zoning Commissioner of the town;

(2) The Zoning Commissioner shall, within ten-working days of the receipt of such application, approve or deny the application. If approved a fee of $50 shall be paid by the applicant to the Clerk-Treasurer of the town who will then issue the permit; and

(3) Such permits are not transferable.

§ 151.077  PERMITTED SIGNS.

(A) Business signs. Business signs and advertising devices are permitted subject to the following conditions.

   (1) No business sign or advertising sign shall be erected or relocated within 25 feet of any street or highway.

   (2) No advertising device shall be permitted within 100 feet of any residential district boundary line.

   (3) The gross area in square feet of all signs on a lot shall not exceed six times the lineal feet of frontage of such lot. However, the gross area of all advertising devices shall not exceed three times the lineal feet of frontage of such lot or one standard sign structure of maximum size, whichever is lesser.

   (4) No sign shall be mounted more than 18 inches from the face of the wall of any building or structure.

   (5) A business sign may be located on a building roof provided it is not higher than six feet above building height.

   (6) Any sign located within three feet of a driveway, parking area or within 50 feet of the intersection of two or more streets, shall have the lowest elevation of at least 12 feet above the curb level.

(B) Agricultural district.

   (1) Development signs, provided that:

      (a) Such signs shall be temporary and shall be displayed on the construction site only for the duration of the construction; and

      (b) The maximum display area of such signs shall be 100 square feet.

   (2) Directional signs;

   (3) Commemorative, historical and memorial signs, markers and plaques not exceeding six square feet in display area and containing no advertising material thereon;

   (4) Identification signs, denoting the names of occupants and/or professions, not exceeding one square foot in display area;

   (5) Identification signs for real estate development, provided that there shall not be more than one such sign, a maximum of 32 square feet in copy area, or two such signs, a maximum of 16 square feet each in copy area, and containing no advertising material, except the name and street address of the development, located at each of the principal entrances;

   (6) Institutional bulletins, not exceeding 32 square feet in copy area;

   (7) Public information signs;
(8) Real estate signs, provided that:

   (a) Such signs shall be located on a paint exposure form as permitted under the provisions of the town zoning regulations; and

   (b) A single non-flashing, non-illuminated identification sign, not exceeding 50 square feet in display area or projecting more than ten feet above the ground elevation shall be permitted.

(9) Seasonal decorations and displays, provided that such signs shall be temporary; and

(10) Signs for the purpose of outdoor testing of paints, provided that:

   (a) Such signs shall be located on a paint exposure form as permitted under the provisions of the town zoning regulations;

   (b) A single non-flashing, non-illuminated identification sign, not exceeding 50 square feet in display area or projecting more than ten feet above the ground elevation shall be permitted; and

   (c) The paint exposure panels shall not project more than eight feet above the ground elevation.

(C) Commercial districts.

   (1) All signs permitted in the A - Agricultural District, except signs for the purpose of outdoor testing of paints (division (B)(10) above) shall not be permitted in the C - Commercial District;

   (2) One freestanding sign to identify a planned commercial development, not exceeding 50 square feet in area. There may be one such sign per frontage;

   (3) All double face on-premises signs, including projecting and non-projecting, freestanding and building-mounted shall be limited in area as follows:

      (a) The total display area of all double face on-premises signs shall not exceed two square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage; and

      (b) In computing the display area, only the display area of one face of a double face sign shall be counted.

   (4) The copy area of a single face on-premises sign shall not be larger than 40% of the portion of the facade which is ten feet above the grade.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot Size (In Square Feet)</th>
<th>Maximum Sign Dimensions (Vertical by Horizontal)</th>
</tr>
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</table>
(b) **Outdoor advertising sign size.** The face of an outdoor advertising sign shall not be greater than 12 feet vertical dimension not greater than 50 feet in horizontal dimension, except where specifically regulated and shall not contain more than one advertising signs per face.

(c) **Distance between outdoor advertising signs.** Except as otherwise provided for signs in the protected areas along highways, freeways and expressways, the minimum distance between outdoor advertising signs shall be as specified below.

1. **Linear spacing between outdoor advertising signs.** The minimum distance between outdoor advertising signs located along and oriented towards the same public street shall be 2,640 feet subject to the following:

   a. The spacing requirement shall be applied regardless of whether the signs are on the same side of the street.

   b. The spacing requirement shall be applied continuously along a street to all signs oriented toward that street in either direction whether the signs are in the same block or are in different blocks separated by an intersecting street.

   c. For purposes of applying the spacing requirement to outdoor advertising signs, pole, wall, ground and projecting signs shall be treated the same.

2. **Radical spacing between outdoor advertising signs.** In no event shall any point of an outdoor advertising sign or sign structure be closer than 500 feet from any point of any other outdoor advertising sign or sign structure regardless of location or orientation.

3. **Method of measurement.** The method of measurement of the spacing between outdoor advertising signs oriented toward the same street shall be along the center line of the street to which the sign is oriented from the point the street’s center line closest to the leading edge of the sign.

(d) **Outdoor advertising signs adjacent to protected district.** No outdoor advertising sign shall be located within 250 feet of any protected district fronting on the same street to which the sign is oriented measured along the center line of the street to which the sign is oriented from the point in the street’s center line that is closest to the leading edge of the sign. In no case, however, shall any outdoor advertising sign be located within 250 feet of any protected district measure in any direction. For the purposes of this section, a protected district shall include any residential use.

(e) **Outdoor advertising signs along toll road.** No outdoor advertising sign shall be erected or otherwise located within 600 feet of the right-of-way of the Indiana Toll Road, so as to be oriented to traffic on such toll road.

(f) **Signs on freeways and expressways.** In addition to the requirements of this
section, outdoor advertising signs shall further comply with other provisions when located on freeways and expressways.

(g) **Rooftop outdoor advertising signs.** Rooftop outdoor advertising signs shall not be permitted in any zoning district.

(h) **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.

(i) **Maximum and minimum height of outdoor advertising signs and sign structures.**

   1. Maximum height of signs and sign structures shall not exceed 40 feet above grade level at the base of such sign or sign structure.

   2. No outdoor advertising sign or sign structure (except for the supports, building, structure or column) shall be at its lowest point less than nine feet above grade level. Ground signs, where permitted, shall not exceed four feet in height above grade level.

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

(k) **Maintenance and non-conformity.**

   1. All signs and sign structures shall be kept in repair and in proper state of preservation.

   2. Any signs remaining blank for more than 60 days shall be removed at the owner’s expense.

   (6) Directional signs shall be permitted, provided that:

   (a) There shall be a maximum of two such signs located at each curb cut; and

   (b) Such signs shall contain no advertising with the exception of the name of the use located on the premises.

(D) **Residential districts, signs permitted.**

   (1) Real estate sales signs shall be permitted;

   (2) Fascia signs provided that:

      (a) There shall be no more than one non-illuminated sign, a maximum of one foot by two foot in area, for home occupation only;

      (b) The sign shall be attached to the building facade; and

      (c) The Zoning Commissioner shall review the application within ten working days of the receipt of such application. If approved, a fee of $10 shall be paid by the applicant to the Clerk-Treasurer of the town.
(3) Garage sale, estate sale, rummage sale and auction sale signs and posters, provided that such signs/posters are erected no earlier than five days before the sale which they pertain, and further, that such signs are removed no later than three days after said sale;

(4) Political campaign signs as prescribed in 151.079(B)(9);

(5) Billboard signs presently existing; and

(6) No signs other than real estate sales signs shall be permitted.

§ 151.078 SIGNS NOT PERMITTED IN ANY DISTRICT.

(A) Banners, pennants and streamers shall not be permitted except:

(1) Flags and banners of the United States, the state or any other political entity, religious or fraternal organization; or

(2) Banners, pennants and streamers permitted under a temporary sign permit.

(B) Permanent window signs located above the ground floor level in a building for the purpose of being viewed from outside the building;

(C) Portable and mobile signs shall not be permitted, except under a temporary sign permit;

(D) Signs which are structurally unsafe, as determined by the Town Building Commissioner;

(E) Signs obstructing free ingress or egress from a required exit, or which prevent light or ventilation as required in local codes and ordinances;

(F) Signs which by reason of size, location, content, coloring or illumination, violate municipal and state highway standards;

(G) Signs bearing words, phrases, symbols, colors or characters which mislead interfere with or confuse traffic;

(H) Signs erected on or attached to any sidewalk, street or highway right-of-way, curb, curbstone, hydrant, lamp post, tree, barricade, temporary walkway, telephone, telegraph or electric light pole, public fence or on a fixture of the fire alarm or police systems except public information signs; and

(I) Signs which involve revolving or rotating beams of light.

§ 151.079 ADMINISTRATION.
(A) Generally. After the original effective date of this subchapter, no sign, permanent or temporary, shall be erected except in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, as authorized by the issuance of a sign permit or temporary sign permit.

(B) Sign permit not required. The following shall not require permits:

1. Ordinary maintenance and repair to existing signs, provided that such work does not affect the structure to a degree greater than 25% of the current replacement cost, exclusive of the structural support of the sign;

2. Change of copy on signs listing current or future programs and events taking place on the premises;

3. Seasonal decorations and displays, provided they conform to the provisions of this subchapter;

4. Real estate signs, provided they conform to the provisions of this subchapter;

5. Street signs erected by a subdivider or by the municipality for the purpose of street identification;

6. Public information signs;

7. Directional signs;

8. Rotation, repainting and posting of copy; and

9. (a) Political campaign signs and posters, other than those placed on outdoor advertising structures, provided that such signs are erected no earlier than 60 days before the election to which they pertain and, further, that such signs are removed no later than 15 days after said election.

(b) Political campaign signs and posters placed on outdoor advertising structures shall be governed in their size, location, permit requirements and the like, in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter relative to outdoor advertising signs.

(C) Application. Applications for a sign permit shall be made through the Town Zoning Commissioner and include the following information:

1. Location of the building, structure or land to or on which the sign is to be erected;

2. The dimensions of the sign and where applicable, the dimensions of the wall surface of the building to which it is to be attached;

3. The dimension of the sign’s structural members;

4. The proposed location of the sign in relation to the face of the building or to the lot lines of the property on which it is to be located, whichever is applicable;

5. Proof of licensing of the sign contractor to conduct business in the county; and
(6) Statements by the owner, in written form, that:

(a) The town shall be held harmless from any claims, damages, liabilities, losses, actions, suits or judgments which may be brought, presented or obtained against the town or its officials because of negligence of the sign hanger, contractor or his or her agents, or by reason of defects in the construction, or damages, resulting from the collapse or failure of any sign;

(b) The owner will guarantee removal of the sign when the use which it identifies, instructs, attracts, guides or advertises is terminated at that particular location;

(c) The owner shall maintain the sign by representing peeled surfaces and replacing inoperative components. Should the owner fail to maintain the sign as outlined herein within a reasonable time, the town shall remove the sign after first giving the owner of the sign 30-days written notice of its intent to do so. Said removal shall be at the cost of the owner of the sign.

(D) Procedure.

(1) The Zoning Commissioner, with the concurrence of the Town Council, shall review an application for a sign permit and issue such permit in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter or deny the application within 30-working days of its receipt.

(2) A sign permit shall become null and void unless work thereon is substantially underway within four months of the issuance of said permit, provided, however, that when a sign permit is issued in connection with a building permit for the site on which the sign is to be located, the sign permit shall run concurrent with the building permit. The holder of a sign permit may apply through the Zoning Commissioner for a three month extension on the permit within ten working days of the expiration date. A sign permit shall be renewed only once, after which time the permit shall be null and void.

(3) Temporary sign shall be issued a permit for a 30-day period. The holder of a temporary sign, however, before installing said sign on the property which he or she owns or leases, shall obtain a permit through the Town Council by submitting to the Town Council an application pursuant to the application procedures set forth herein together with a $10 permit fee.

(4) The applicant may appeal a decision of the Zoning Commissioner to deny a sign permit or temporary sign permit before the Town Council; provided, however, that the Town Council is empowered to overturn the decision of the Zoning Commissioner and issue the sign permit or temporary sign permit only in instances when the size, location, construction or manner of display of the proposed sign is wholly in conformance with the provisions of this subchapter.

(E) Variances. All variances shall be obtained as set out in § 151.045, as it may be amended from time to time, through the Area Board of Zoning Appeals.

(F) Other relief.

(1) The Town Council is not required and shall have no power or authority to hear and determine petitions for special uses and special exceptions to the terms of this subchapter which relate to signs and outdoor advertising.
(2) (a) Relief from other provisions of this subchapter may be sought by filing a petition with the Area Plan Commission staff for review and recommendation.

(b) Copies of all petitions filed with the Area Plan Commission shall be provided to the Clerk-Treasurer of the town.

(1989 Code, § 10-42) (Ord. 105, passed 8-13-1981; Ord. 159-90, passed 4-12-1990)

§ 151.080 INSPECTION.

(A) The Zoning Commissioner shall have the right of entry in order to inspect all signs for compliance with the provisions of local codes and ordinances.

(B) When any sign is not maintained in a good state of repair as provided in this subchapter, or when any sign becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or otherwise unsafe, the Zoning Commissioner shall send written notice to the owner of the sign to remove, change or alter the sign. If said sign is not so removed, changed or altered within ten working days, the Zoning Commissioner shall cause the sign to be removed at the expense of the owner of the sign.

(1989 Code, § 10-43) (Ord. 105, passed 8-13-1981; Ord. 159-90, passed 4-12-1990) Penalty, see § 151.999

§ 151.081 NONCONFORMING SIGNS.

(A) A sign in existence on or before the original effective date of this subchapter which does not conform with the provisions of this subchapter relative to size, location, construction or manner of display, but which did conform with the sign regulations in effect at the time the sign was erected, shall be deemed to be a legal nonconforming sign. All other signs which do not conform with said provisions of this subchapter shall be deemed to be illegal nonconforming signs.

(B) An illegal nonconforming sign shall be removed, changed or altered to conform with the provisions of this subchapter within six months.

(1989 Code, § 10-44) (Ord. 105, passed 8-13-1981) Penalty, see § 151.999

§ 151.082 PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTY EXCEPTION.

(A) The provision of this subchapter regulating signs shall not apply to lands and buildings which are publicly owned.

(B) The exclusion does not apply to lands, buildings or occupancies purchased or constructed for public housing under federal, state or local grants to be available for use of occupancy as personal housing or dwelling.