

## **ARTICLE XXVI**

### **SIGN REGULATIONS**

#### **SECTION 2600 - PURPOSES**

The purposes of this ordinance are to regulate signs, as defined under Article II, for the following reasons:

- A. To assure that signs are appropriate to the land, building, or use to which they are appurtenant, thereby protecting the character and economic stability of surrounding property.
- B. To assure that signs are adequate but not excessive for their intended purpose.
- C. To prohibit the erection, placement or retention (in the case of signs erected prior to the adoption of this Ordinance) of any sign which constitutes a hazard to the public safety.
- D. To prohibit the erection, placement, or retention of any sign which constitutes a nuisance by reason of glare, noise, animation, flashing, or other objectionable influence.

#### **SECTION 2601 - PERMIT REQUIRED/ APPLICATIONS FOR SIGN PERMITS**

Except for the signs listed under Section 2603 and temporary signs listed under Sections 2615, 2616, and 2617, no sign shall be constructed, erected, relocated or expanded unless the owner (or his/ her representative) obtains a sign permit from the Zoning Administrator.

If signs are proposed in conjunction with the construction or erection of a building, parking lot, placing of a manufactured or modular home, relocating an existing structure, change or expansion of any use of any property within unincorporated areas of Lamar County that are subject to this Zoning Ordinance, a sign permit may be applied for at the same time that the owner (or his/ her representative) applies for a Land Use Permit (see Section 400.01 of this Ordinance).

If the proposed sign is NOT in conjunction with such construction (for example, an off-premise sign), then the owner (or his/ her representative) shall apply for a separate sign permit under the provisions of this Article.

If the signs for a subdivision are shown on the plat, a land use permit will not be required.

Sight distance along driveways, entrances and intersections must be considered when placing a sign.

The Zoning Administrator shall not issue a sign permit unless the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this Ordinance and other applicable ordinances and regulations of the Lamar County.

Applications for sign permits shall be filed with the Zoning Administrator on a form provided by the County. The permit application shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information:

- A. Name and address of the sign owner and of the sign erector.

- B. Zoning district in which the sign is to be erected, expanded (or otherwise modified) or relocated.
- C. Sign type proposed.
- D. Drawings showing the design, location(s) on the lot(s), materials, finishes of the sign, type of illumination, if any, and such other pertinent information as the Zoning Administrator may require.

**SECTION 2602 - SIGN MEASUREMENT/ SIGN FACES**

The surface area of a sign shall be computed as including the entire area within a rectangle, triangle, circle, or other geometric form, or aggregates thereof, encompassing all of the display area of the sign and including all of the elements of the matter displayed. Base, apron, supports and other structural members not bearing advertising matter shall not be included in computation of the surface area. In measuring the required setbacks for ground-mounted signs, the measurement shall be from the appropriate street or highway right-of-way or property line to the leading edge of the sign, including the structural members of the sign.

The face of a sign shall be defined as the area of a sign which is *visible from one direction* as projected on a plane; the face is the entire area on which copy is placed. In measuring the area of signs having double faces, the area of each face shall be measured.

**SECTION 2603 - SIGNS NOT REQUIRING A PERMIT**

The following signs shall not require a permit, but shall be subject to the regulations of this Ordinance:

- A. Governmental Signs: Any sign erected by any Federal or State agency or Lamar County, or under authorization or required by any governmental agency, shall not require a permit. Such signs include, but are not limited to: traffic regulatory signs, historic markers, identification signs on buildings or other facilities, holiday decorations, and similar signs.
- B. Utility Signs: Standard markers or warning signs denoting utilities.
- C. Traffic Directional/ Parking Signs and Delivery Signs: Signs providing traffic directions (entrance/ exit signs), parking directions, and delivery signs shall not require a permit. These signs may be erected in addition to other signs permitted by these regulations and not included in calculating the maximum allowable aggregate sign area.
- D. “Private Parking” Signs: Signs warning the public that a parking lot or parking garage is intended for use only by employees or other persons associated with a business or organization shall not require a permit. These signs may be erected in addition to other signs permitted by these regulations and not included in calculating the maximum allowable aggregate sign area.
- E. Address Signs: Not regulated.
- F. Window Signs: Permitted only in commercial or industrial districts.

- G. Unilluminated, Ground-Mounted Political Signs: Not regulated.
- H. Flags or Emblems of the United States, the State of Mississippi or Their Political Subdivisions: Not regulated.
- I. Memorial or historical plaques, cornerstones, and the like.
- J. Signs not legible off the lot upon which they are situated, such as drive-up menu boards at fast food restaurants.
- K. Temporary signs subject to Sections 2616, 2617, and 2618.

**SECTION 2604 - REGULATIONS FOR SIGNS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC/  
QUASI-PUBLIC FACILITIES AND UTILITIES**

The following types of signs, subject to the regulations of this Ordinance, are permitted in connection with public/quasi-public facilities and utilities, as such uses are defined by this Ordinance. Where a public/quasi-public use is permitted as a special exception under the Official Zoning Ordinance of Lamar County, Mississippi, these signs are allowed.

2604.01 Allowable Signs (By Permit Only Except Where Exempted under Section 2603):

- (a) Ground-mounted identification signs.
- (b) Wall-mounted identification signs.
- (c) Changeable copy (manual only) signs. Such changeable copy signs shall only display information regarding scheduled activities and must be enclosed to prevent vandalism.  
  
(NOTE: These manual changeable copy signs will be permitted for schools, churches, and other public/quasi-public uses, such as the Y.M.C.A., civic clubs, Red Cross, etc.)
- (d) Off-premise ground-mounted signs with the consent of the property owner on which the ground-mounted sign is to be placed. An example of this type of sign is a sign pointing the direction to a church located on another lot from the one on which the sign is located.
- (e) Temporary construction signs.
- (f) Temporary OFF-PREMISE signs providing formation on special events/ activities sponsored by the public/ quasi-public use.

2604.02 Illumination of Public/Quasi-Public Signs: Except for temporary signs which shall not be illuminated, signs allowed for public and quasi-public uses may be externally illuminated or internally illuminated, as defined by this Ordinance. However, no public/quasi-public use sign shall be illuminated by neon tubing or light bulbs arranged to form copy.

2604.03 Maximum Area: For all on-premise signs, a maximum of one ground-mounted, changeable copy (manual), or wall sign per street frontage, with no more than sixty-four (64) square feet per face may be erected. In no case shall total (aggregate) sign area exceed one hundred, twenty eight (128) square feet, regardless of the number of faces.

2604.04 Regulations for Temporary Construction Signs for Public/Quasi-Public Facilities and Utilities: See Section 2517.

2604.05 Regulations for Temporary Off-Premise Signs Providing Information on Special Events/Activities: A permit shall be required for all off-premise special event/ activities signs. The locations for all such signs shall be reviewed by the Lamar County Planning Commission and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Regulations regarding maximum aggregate area and illumination shall be the same as those for on-premise special event/activities signs under Section 2617.

### **SECTION 2605 - MINIMUM SET-BACK FROM STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR ALL GROUND-MOUNTED SIGNS**

Except for signs located on Federal-Aid Interstate Highways and Federal-Aid Primary Highways, which are regulated by the State of Mississippi. No portion (including the leading edge of the sign) of a ground-mounted sign shall be located nearer than twenty-five (25) feet from the right-of-way of any street or road in unincorporated Lamar County.

### **SECTION 2606 - OUTDOOR ADVERTISING**

The regulation of outdoor advertising (“billboards”) adjacent to Federal-Aid Interstate Highways and Federal-Aid Primary Highways is subject to the Standard Operating Procedures adopted by the Mississippi Transportation Commission or The Mississippi Department of Transportation. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall be outright permitted in the C-2, C-3, C98/589, I-1 and I-2 zoning districts.

The regulations of outdoor advertising signs adjacent to federal aid interstate highways and federal aid primary highways are subject to the following (SOP Standard Operation Procedures) with the following guidelines

- A. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall be defined as any sign, structure or device which displays information about a business, product or service not located on or offered on the premises on which the sign is located.
- B. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall not be located closer than 1000 feet to any other Outdoor Advertising Signs on the same side of each street, highway or alley.
- C. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall not be located one above another and can not exceed two faces per any one structure.
- D. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall not exceed 672 square feet of sign area on any one side.

- E. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall not exceed 40 feet in height measuring from the adjacent road grade to the top of the outdoor advertising sign area.
- F. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall have a minimum ground clearance of 16 feet for all structures whose largest one display advertising face dimension is equal to or greater than 288 square feet or 12' and 24' (12'x24') and shall have a minimum ground clearance of 10 feet whose largest any one display advertising face dimension is not equal to or is less than 288 square feet or 12' and 24' (12'X24')
- G. The maximum allowed Outdoor Advertising Sign face is 14' and 48' (14'X48')
- H. Outdoor Advertising Signs may be one sided and two sided and may consist of one of the following Display types,
  - a. Tri-Vision
  - b. Digital
  - c. Paper
  - d. Vinyl
  - e. Painted
- I. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall be of all metal single pole, all metal supports and all metal frame construction.
- J. The face and trim of all Outdoor Advertising Signs may be of other durable materials.
- K. Outdoor Advertising Signs may utilize one of the following methods,
  - a. Back to Back Structure
  - b. "V" Structure
  - c. Single Face Structure
- L. Outdoor Advertising Signs shall be located 100 feet from any residentially zoned district including but not limited to the following,
  - a. R1
  - b. R2
  - c. PH
  - d. TH
  - e. R3
  - f. MHP
  - g. MHS
  - h. MX

**SECTION 2607 - MAXIMUM HEIGHTS FOR ALL GROUND-MOUNTED SIGNS**

This section does not pertain to OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS. The section pertains only to on premise signs. Except for residential districts and temporary ground-mounted signs, if the proposed location of a ground-mounted sign is lower than the elevation of the centerline of the street or highway to which the sign is directed, then the height of the sign shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet above the said centerline elevation. If the proposed location of the ground-mounted sign is the same or above the elevation of the centerline of the street or highway to which the sign is directed, then the height of the sign shall not exceed thirty five (35) feet above the surrounding grade.

**SECTION 2608 - SIGNS EXCEEDING HEIGHT LIMITATIONS ARE NONCONFORMING STRUCTURES**

All signs existing at the time of passage of this Ordinance which exceed the height limitations of this Ordinance shall be considered nonconforming structures, subject to the provisions of Section 2503 of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 2609 - SIGN REGULATIONS FOR ALL SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENTS, AND MANUFACTURED HOME PARK/ SUBDIVISION RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

The following regulations shall apply to all land zoned Residential Estate (R-E), Residential Estate Manufactured Housing (RE-MH), Low Density Residential (R-1), Moderate Density Residential (R-2), High Density Residential (R-3), Town House Residential (TH), Patio Home (PH), Planned Unit Developments (PUD's), and Manufactured Residential Park (MHP) or Manufactured Home Subdivisions (MHS):

2609.01 Allowable Signs (By Permit Only):

- (a) Permanent residential subdivision ground-mounted (free-standing) identification signs: no more than two per subdivision entrance
- (b) Permanent multiple-family residential (apartments or condominiums) ground-mounted or wall identification signs
- (c) Permanent manufactured home park or subdivision ground-mounted identification signs

2609.02 Size and Location:

- (a) Residential subdivision and manufactured home park/ subdivision ground-mounted identification signs:

Maximum area: Sixty-four (64) square feet per sign face; in no case shall total sign area exceed one hundred twenty eight square feet, regardless of the number of faces.

Set-back from street rights-of-way: These signs may be located at all subdivision entrances at least five (5) feet from the right-of-way line of any street. In accordance with Section 2518, item number 8, no residential identification sign shall be erected in a manner as to obstruct the free and clear vision of vehicle drivers.

Maximum height: fifteen (15) feet.

- (b) Multiple Family Residential (Apartments or Condominiums). Identification Signs, Ground-Mounted or Wall:

Maximum area: Maximum of one ground-mounted or wall sign per street frontage, with no more than sixty-four (64) per face. In no case shall total sign area square feet exceed one hundred twenty eight (128) square feet per lot, regardless of the number of faces. For example, an apartment complex fronting on two streets could have two wall-mounted signs measuring 4 feet x 8 feet each, with no ground-mounted signs; or one wall mounted sign measuring 4 feet x 8 feet and a ground-mounted sign of the same dimensions.

Set-back from street right-of-way for ground-mounted signs: twenty five (25) feet.

Maximum height for ground-mounted signs: fifteen (15) feet.

(c) Temporary signs: See Section 2616.

2609.03 Illumination of Signs in Residential Districts, Manufactured Home Parks/ Subdivisions, and Planned Unit Developments: No sign in residential districts, manufactured home parks or subdivisions, or PUDs shall be internally lighted (i.e., only external lighting, as defined by this Ordinance, is permitted for signs in these districts).

**SECTION 2610 - SIGN REGULATIONS FOR RESTRICTED COMMERCIAL (C-1), GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2), HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL (C-3), CORRIDOR 98/589 (C-98/589), INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS (I-1 AND I-2), AND MIXED USE (MX) DISTRICTS (ON PREMISE SIGNS ONLY)**

The following regulations shall apply to Restricted Commercial (C-1), General Commercial (C-2), Highway Commercial (C-3), Corridor 98/589 (C98/589), and Industrial (I-1 and I-2) zoning districts:

2610.01 Allowable Signs (By Permit Only):

(a) Ground-mounted signs.

(b) Wall signs.

(c) Canopy signs or marquee signs.

(d) Changing signs (automatic) which provide community event information, time and temperature, in addition to advertisement.

(e) Permanent changeable copy (manual) signs.

(f) Ground-mounted identification signs.

2610.02 Individual Ground-Mounted Signs Prohibited Where More Than One Business/Organization Is Located On a Single Lot: Where more than one business or organization is located on a single lot, individual ground-mounted signs for each such business or organization shall be prohibited.

2610.03 Maximum Area for All Signs:

- (a) Ground-Mounted Signs (Other Than Outdoor Advertising), Wall, Canopy or Marquee, Changing (Automatic) Signs: The maximum aggregate square footage for ground-mounted, wall, canopy or marquee, or changing automatic) signs shall be one (1) square feet for each lineal foot of building frontage length, with “building frontage” including each side of a building which fronts on a public street, IN ADDITION TO A GROUND-MOUNTED IDENTIFICATION SIGN. In no case shall the total aggregate square footage for such signs exceed 125 square feet (excluding a ground-mounted identification sign). However, a single business on a lot could not have an additional “identification sign,” since by definition identification signs are only permitted for more than one business on a lot.

For example, a building measuring 100 feet on one street and 50 feet on another street (corner lot) could have up to 125 square feet of ground-mounted signs and wall signs: say, a wall sign measuring 3 feet x 8.33 feet and a ground-mounted sign in the front of the business measuring 4 feet x 25 feet, for a total of 125 square feet.

- (b) Ground-Mounted Identification Signs: In addition to (A) above, ground-mounted identification signs not exceeding fifty (50) square feet per face per street frontage may be erected in all commercial or industrial districts or commercial portions of PUDs, but the total sign area for such identification signs on a single lot shall not exceed 125 square feet per lot. Such ground-mounted signs shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height and shall be located at least five (5) feet from street rights-of-way. For example, two stores on a single corner lot could have one 50 square foot (each face) ground-mounted identification sign on each street.

2610.04 Illumination of Signs: Except for temporary sale/new product signs and “grand opening” signs, signs allowed in commercial and industrial districts may be externally illuminated or internally illuminated, as defined by this Ordinance. However, except for automatic changeable copy signs, no sign shall be illuminated by means of exposed lighting on the sign face, such as neon tubing or light bulbs arranged to form copy. TEMPORARY SALE/ NEW PRODUCT SIGNS SHALL NOT BE ILLUMINATED and “GRAND OPENING” SIGNS MAY ONLY BE EXTERNALLY ILLUMINATED.

2610.05 Private Sign Standards Required: The developer of an office park, shopping center, or other grouping of three or more commercial or industrial tenants on a single lot, or in a subdivision shall prepare a set of sign standards for all exterior signs to be approved by the Lamar County Planning Commission. Developers of Mixed Use (MU) properties shall also prepare a set of sign standards to be submitted to the Planning Commission. Such standards shall run with all leases or sales of portions of the development. The Lamar County Planning Commission, when reviewing these standards, shall consider the following:

- size and height;
- colors;
- materials;
- styles of lettering;

- appearance of any logo;
- type of illumination;
- location; and
- landscaping around the signs.

Sign permits shall not be issued until the Board of Supervisors have approved the sign standards after having been assured that such standards will be enforced by the developer or owner. The sale, subdivision, or other partition of the site after development does not exempt the project or portions of the project from complying with these regulations relative to number of signs and the harmony and visual quality of signs to be installed.

(NOTE: By definition under this Ordinance, a shopping center consists of three (3) or more commercial establishments managed as a unit. Other “groupings” of three (3) or more commercial or industrial uses on a single lot or in a subdivision are also required to submit private design standards.)

### **SECTION 2611 - SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR SERVICE STATIONS AND CONVENIENCE STORES**

In addition to the signs allowed under Section 2613 in Restricted Commercial (C-1), General Commercial (C-2 as conditional uses) and Highway Commercial (C-3) and industrial (I-1 and I-2) districts, service stations and convenience stores shall be entitled to the following additional signs (by permit only):

- 2611.01 Non-Illuminated Price Signs: Each gasoline service station or convenience store may have one (1) price sign per street front. Such signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet per face and may be located upon the pump island nearest the streets on which the station/store fronts or incorporated into a ground-mounted sign. Price signs shall pertain to fuel products only (i.e., price signs shall not provide prices for cigarettes or other items sold on the premises)

(NOTE: As previously stated, a single business such as a service station on a lot by itself cannot have an identification sign, since by definition identification signs are intended to identify a group of businesses or organizations on a single lot.)

- 2611.02 Non-Illuminated Self-Service/Full Service Signs: Each gasoline service station or convenience store may have two (2) non-illuminated self service or full service signs per pump island. Such signs shall not exceed two (2) square feet in area and shall be attached to the pump or pump island.

### **SECTION 2612 - TEMPORARY SIGNS FOR ALL SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, MANUFACTURED HOME PARK/ SUBDIVISION DISTRICTS AND PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENTS:**

2612.01 Allowable Signs: The following signs shall not require permits but shall be subject to the regulations of this Section.

- (a) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a single-family detached residence.

- (b) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated construction signs announcing the development of a residential subdivision, or the construction of a multiple-family residential development.
- (c) Ground-mounted identification signs.
- (d) Ground-mounted, on-premise or off-premise unilluminated real estate signs.
- (e) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated miscellaneous sale signs (garage sales, etc.)

2612.02 Maximum Height, Area and Location:

- (a) Maximum Height for All Ground-Mounted Temporary Signs in Residential Districts: No ground-mounted temporary sign in a residential district shall exceed a height of six (6) feet above the surrounding grade.
- (b) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a single-family detached residence: Nine (9) square feet per face for a single-family residence. In no case shall the total sign area exceed eighteen (18) square feet for a single-family residential lot.
- (c) Ground-mounted, on-premise unilluminated construction signs announcing the development of a residential subdivision or the construction of a multiple-family residential development: Thirty-two (32) feet per face. For residential subdivisions, one such sign shall be permitted per entrance to the subdivision. For multiple-family residential developments (apartments or condominiums), one such sign shall be permitted per street frontage.

No construction sign for a residential subdivisions or an apartment/condominium complex shall be off-premise.

- (d) Ground-mounted, on-premise or off-premise unilluminated real estate signs: On-premise signs for all residentially-zoned property: Nine (9) square feet per face for all single-family uses, with a maximum total sign area of eighteen (18) square feet. One such sign shall be permitted per lot per street frontage.

Off-premise signs for residentially-zoned property: With the consent of the property owner upon whose property the off-premise sign is to be placed, off-premise signs may be located on lots at street intersections (for example, "house for sale" with an arrow pointing toward the house that is for sale). Such signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area. Under no circumstances shall an off-premise real estate sign be located inside a street/highway right-of-way or upon other public property.

- (e) Ground-mounted, unilluminated miscellaneous sale signs: Four square feet per face. In no case shall the total sign area exceed eight (8) square feet per lot. These signs may be on-premise or off-premise, but off-premise signs shall be located off-premises only with the consent of the property owner on whose property the sign is to be placed.

2612.03 Removal of Temporary Signs:

- (a) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a single-family detached residence: Construction signs may remain on the premise to which they are appurtenant until all construction is completed.
- (b) Ground-mounted, on-premise unilluminated construction signs announcing the development of a residential subdivision: Construction signs may remain on the premise to which they are appurtenant until all required improvements (not including the final wearing surface of streets) are installed.
- (c) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated real estate signs: Such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days of the sale, lease or rental of the property.
- (d) Ground-mounted, on-premise and off-premise unilluminated miscellaneous sale signs: Miscellaneous sale signs shall be removed no later than the day after the item(s) is (are) sold.

**SECTION 2613 - TEMPORARY SIGNS FOR ALL COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL (I-1 OR I-2) DISTRICTS**

2613.01 Allowable Signs: In addition to signs allowed by permit only, the following signs SHALL NOT REQUIRE PERMITS but shall be subject to the regulations of this Section.

- (a) On-premise ground-mounted, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a commercial or industrial building.
- (b) On-premise ground-mounted or wall signs announcing the opening of a newly established, expanded in floor area or relocated commercial or industrial land use.
- (c) On-premise ground-mounted or wall signs relating to a sale or new product.  
  
On-premise ground-mounted or wall, unilluminated real estate signs;  
OFF-PREMISE REAL ESTATE SIGNS SHALL BE PROHIBITED IN ALL  
COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS.
- (d) Ground-mounted unilluminated political signs: See Section 2503, paragraph G for regulations.

2613.02 Maximum Height, Area, Location, and Illumination:

- (a) Maximum Height for All Ground-Mounted Temporary Signs in Commercial and Industrial Districts: No ground-mounted temporary sign in a commercial or industrial district shall exceed a height of six (6) feet above the surrounding grade.
- (b) On-premise, ground-mounted, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a commercial or industrial building: fifty (50) square feet per lot, with no more than twenty-five (25) square feet per sign face.

- (c) On-premise ground-mounted or wall sign announcing the opening of a newly established, expanded in floor area or relocated commercial or industrial land use: Temporary ground-mounted or wall signs relating to an opening of a newly-established, expanded in floor area, or relocated commercial or industrial use may be erected in commercial or industrial districts, containing up to twenty-five (25) square feet per street frontage per lot. These signs may be externally illuminated.
- (d) On-premise ground-mounted or wall sign relating to a sale or new product: Temporary signs relating to a sale or a new product may be erected in commercial and industrial districts. Such temporary signs shall not exceed an aggregate area of twenty-five (25) square feet per lot. If ground-mounted, a temporary sale/ new product sign shall be at least five (5) feet from all street rights-of-way. No more than one such sign shall be allowed per street frontage. These signs may be externally illuminated.
- (e) On-premise ground-mounted or wall, unilluminated real estate signs: Twenty-five (25) square feet per face with a maximum of fifty (50) square feet per lot.

2613.03 Removal of Temporary Signs:

- (a) On-premise, ground-mounted, unilluminated construction signs announcing the construction of a commercial or industrial building: Construction signs may remain on the premise to which they are appurtenant until all construction is completed.
- (b) On-premise ground-mounted or wall sign announcing the opening of a newly established, expanded in floor area or relocated commercial or industrial land use: Such “grand opening” signs may be erected for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.
- (c) On-premise ground-mounted or wall sign relating to a sale or new product: Such sale/ new product signs may be erected for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.
- (d) Ground-mounted, on-premise, unilluminated real estate signs: Such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days of the sale, lease or rental of the property.

**SECTION 2614 - TEMPORARY SIGNS FOR ALL PUBLIC/QUASI-PUBLIC USES**

2614.01 Allowable Signs: In addition to the signs allowed by permit for public/ quasi-public uses (see Section 2604), the following signs erected for public/ quasi-public uses SHALL NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT but shall be subject to the regulations of this Section.

- (a) On-premise ground-mounted unilluminated construction signs.
- (b) On-premise ground or wall-mounted, unilluminated signs providing information on special events/ activities sponsored by the public/ quasi-public use.

2614.02 Maximum Area:

- (a) On-premise ground-mounted unilluminated construction signs: Sixty-four (64) square feet per lot with no more than thirty-two (32) square feet per sign face.
- (b) On-premise ground or wall-mounted, unilluminated signs providing information on special events/ activities sponsored by the public/ quasi-public use: Sixty-four (64) square feet per lot with no more than thirty-two (32) square feet per sign face.

2614.03 Removal of Temporary Signs Erected by Public/Quasi-Public Uses:

- (a) On-premise ground-mounted unilluminated construction signs: Construction signs may remain on the premise to which they are appurtenant until a Certificate of Occupancy is issued for the public/ quasi-public use.
- (b) On-premise ground or wall-mounted, unilluminated signs providing information on special events/activities sponsored by the public/ quasi-public use: These signs shall be removed within two days (48 hours) of the cessation of the event or special activities.

**SECTION 2615 - PROHIBITED SIGNS**

The following signs are hereby prohibited anywhere in the zoned areas of unincorporated Lamar County:

- (a) Any sign erected on public property (County, State or Federal) or street/ highway right-of-way without the consent of the appropriate governmental entity.
- (b) Signs which are of a size, location, movement, content, coloring or manner of illumination which may be confused with or construed as an official traffic sign, signal or other traffic control device or which hide from view any such traffic control device.
- (c) ALL portable or “trailer” signs.
- (d) Roof signs.
- (e) Signs which are structurally unsound or which are rendered structurally sound by guy wires or unsightly bracing.;
- (f) Signs which contain words or pictures of an obscene, indecent, or immoral character which could offend morals or decency.
- (g) Signs erected in such a manner as to obstruct the free and clear vision of vehicle drivers.
- (h) Signs placed on a vehicle or trailer which is parked or located for the primary purpose of displaying said sign, not including signs or lettering on buses, taxis, or vehicles operating during the normal course of business.

- (i) Abandoned or obsolete signs.
- (j) Signs which contain or consist of banners or posters (except for allowed temporary signs), pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or other related items, except where specifically permitted as temporary signs.
- (k) Signs which contain or consist of pulsating lights, strobe lights, or beacons.

#### **SECTION 2616 - SIGN ILLUMINATION**

The light for or from any illuminated sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity will not be objectionable to motor vehicle drivers or the surrounding area. Signs shall not be erected or maintained which contain, include or are illuminated by flashing, intermittent or moving lights, except those giving public service information, such as (but not limited to) time, date, temperature, weather or news.

#### **SECTION 2617 - NONCONFORMING SIGNS**

Signs which were in existence prior to the effective date of this Ordinance which do not conform to the provisions of this Ordinance are declared nonconforming signs. Regulations concerning nonconforming signs and other structures are included under Article XXIV of this Ordinance.