



City of Twin Falls

Sign Code Regulations

City Code Title 10, Chapter 9

Ordinance 2957- Adopted December 8, 2008

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Definition of “SIGN”

SIGN:

Any device, fixture, placard, or structure that uses any color, form, graphic, illumination, symbol, or writing to advertise, announce the purpose of, or identify the purpose of a person or entity, or to communicate information of any kind to the public.

This definition includes the signs defined herein.

Allowable Signs That Require the Issuance of a Sign Permit

Awning Signs



An awning sign is a sign which is applied to, attached, or painted on an awning or other roof-like cover, intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, projecting from a wall or roof of a structure over a window, walk, door, or the like.

Banner Signs



A banner sign is a temporary sign having characters, letters, or illustrations applied to plastic, cloth, canvas, or other similar material, with the only purpose of such non-rigid material being for background.



Bench Signs

A bench sign is an off-premise sign incorporated on a bench designed and intended to be used for seating for the general public.



Canopy Signs



A canopy sign is a sign that is applied to, attached, or painted on a canopy or other roof-like cover over gasoline fuel pumps, or similar use, intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment.

Civic Directional Signs



A civic directional sign is an off-site sign that advertises and directs traffic to civic uses, including, but not limited to schools, parks, fair grounds, City facilities, or similar uses operated by either public or private non-profit organizations.

Community Event Signs



A community event sign is a temporary sign that announces or advertises a campaign, drive, activity, or celebration of a civic, political, public, philanthropic, religious, or educational organization for non-commercial purposes.

Freestanding Sign



A freestanding sign is a sign that is erected on its own vertical framework consisting of one (1) or more uprights supported by the ground and generally used to identify the name of a business or development.

Inflatable Signs



An inflatable sign is a temporary ground-mounted sign that is manufactured of plastic, cloth, canvas, or other light fabric, inflated with air and held upright, typically by mechanical means.



Internal Directional Signs



An internal directional sign is a sign that is to be read by a person already on the premises and used to identify or locate a drive-through lane, entrance, exit, route, parking, building, office, tenant, or similar place, service, or route within commercial, multifamily, or office developments.



Marquee Signs



A marquee sign is a sign mounted on a vertical surface of a roof-like structure projecting over a building entrance, typically a theater entrance.

Menu Board Signs



A menu board sign is a sign erected in conjunction with a use that incorporates a drive-through or drive-in and generally used to provide service and/or product options and pricing for customers who remain in their vehicles.



Message Center Signs



A message center sign is a sign containing a display that can be changed by electrical, electronic and/or a computerized process that provides general public service information such as time, date, temperature, weather, or messages of interest to the traveling public. A message center sign may also provide commercial messages relating to the use of the property on which the sign is located.

Multi-Tenant Signs

A multi-tenant sign is a sign that is erected on its own vertical framework consisting of one (1) or more uprights supported by the ground and generally used to identify several commercial, service, and/or office uses within a single common subdivision or development.



Projecting Signs



A projecting sign is a sign attached to and projecting out from a building face or wall more than twelve (12) inches, generally at a right angle to the building.



Roof Signs



A roof sign is a sign that is painted directly upon or mounted on the roof of any building.



Sandwich Board Signs



A sandwich board sign is a temporary sign that is generally constructed in such a manner as to form an "A" or a tent-like shape that is placed on, but not permanently attached to the ground. This definition also includes signs of a similar temporary nature that are constructed with a base and single upward sign face, forming an upside down "T".



Skylights and Searchlights



A skylight or searchlight is a temporary sign that uses a large high power light pointed into the sky to attract attention to a particular location or event.



Subdivision Entry Signs



A subdivision entry sign is a sign that generally identifies a development and that generally refers to the platted name of the subdivision.

Subdivision Monuments



Subdivision monuments are physical improvements such as signs, walls, or structures, constructed to draw attention to or enhance a subdivision entrance or its surrounding area. A subdivision monument may require issuance of a building permit depending upon the design of the proposed monument. The current Building Code should be consulted to determine whether a building permit will be required or not.

Wall Signs



A wall sign is a sign painted on or erected parallel to and generally extending not more than twelve (12) inches from the façade of any building to which it is attached, supported throughout its entire length by the building face.



**Allowable Signs That Do
Not Require the Issuance
of a Sign Permit**

Civic Signs



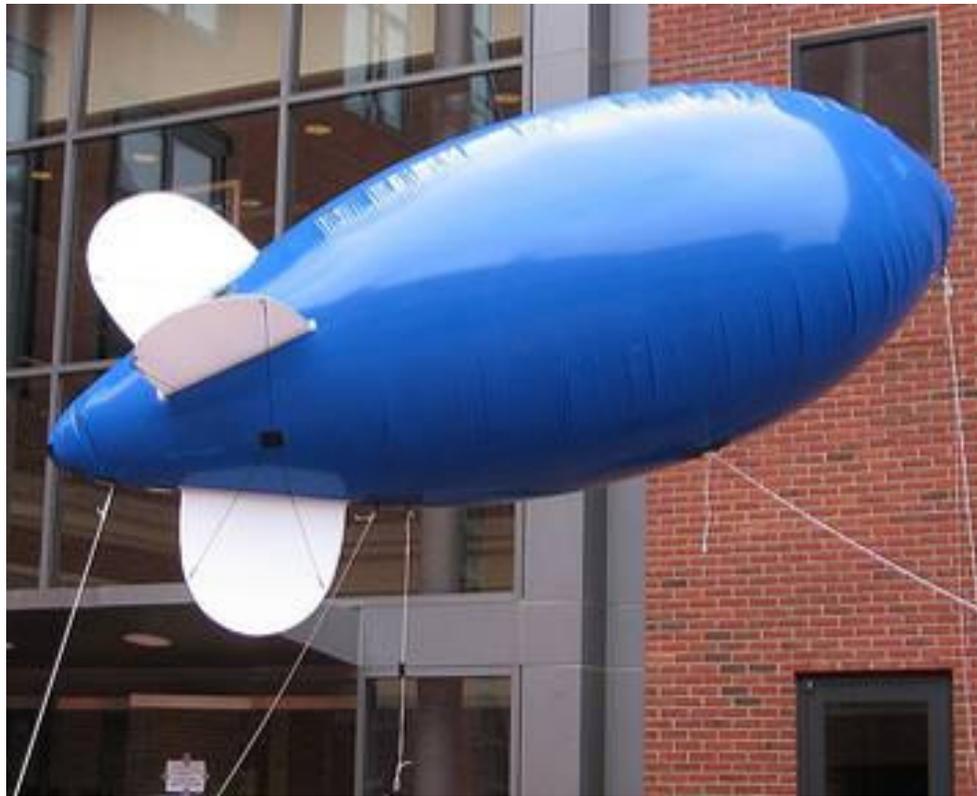
A civic sign is a temporary stake sign that publicizes times or locations of meetings or special events of homeowners associations, religious organizations or groups, or civic groups. This definition excludes directional signs for regularly scheduled religious events. A civic sign may also publicize times or locations of special events for schools and athletic team registrations.



Cloud Busters



A cloud buster sign is a temporary sign inflated so that it rises into the air and is anchored to the ground, vehicle, structure, or any other fixed object used for the purpose of advertising or drawing attention to a business, activity, commodity, service, sale, or product.



Construction Identification Signs



A construction identification sign is a temporary sign that is generally used to advertise a new building, opening dates, leasing opportunities, and/or to identify the property owner, architect, contractor, engineer, landscape architect, or financier engaged in the design, construction or improvement of the premises on which the sign is located. Construction identification signs are also used to advertise sales and zoning information of properties.



Flags



A flag is a piece of fabric attached to a staff or cord on one end and generally used as a symbol of a nation, state, political subdivision, or organization.

Garage Sale Signs



A garage sale sign is a temporary sign used to advertise a garage sale, yard sale, or similar event on a residential property. This definition includes off-premise signs for this purpose.

Government Signs



A government sign is a temporary stake sign used to convey information to the public regarding City, State, or Federal government activities and events.



City Council Meeting Tonight @ 6:00 pm



Home Improvement Signs



A home improvement sign is a temporary stake sign that displays the name of a roofing, fence, pool, paint, landscape or other home improvement contractor currently performing home improvement work at a residential location.

Human Signs



A human sign is a temporary sign held by or attached to a human for the purposes of advertising or otherwise drawing attention to an individual, business, commodity, service, activity, or product. A person dressed in costume for the purpose of advertising or otherwise drawing attention to an individual, business, commodity, service, activity, or product shall also be construed as a human sign.



Instructional Signs



An instructional sign is a sign that provides instruction, information, or direction to the general public. The sole purpose of an instructional sign is to provide such information to the general public that is essential to the health, safety, and public welfare of the community. Instructional signs shall include, but are not limited to, signs identifying rest rooms, public telephones, handicap parking spaces, reserved parking spaces, freeze warning, no trespassing, no dumping, no loitering, and construction entrance signs. Signs erected by the City, State or Federal government for the purpose of public instruction, warning, street or highway designation, control of traffic and similar uses incidental to the public interests shall be considered instructional signs. An instructional sign also includes signs of a warning, directive or instructional nature erected by a public utility company that operates under a franchise agreement with the City.

Political Signs



A political sign is a temporary sign relating to the election of a person to a public office, relating to a political party, relating to a matter to be voted upon at an election called by a public body or containing primarily a political message.



Real Estate Signs



A real estate sign is a temporary stake sign that advertises a home, building, or property for sale or lease. This definition includes off-premise real estate signs for directional purposes.



Residential Nameplate Signs



A residential nameplate sign is a sign that states the name of the occupant of a residential unit.



Scoreboards



Scoreboards are signs erected at an athletic field, stadium or court and that are generally used to maintain the score or time expired in an event at the field or stadium.



Sponsor Signs



A sponsor sign is a sign that is mounted or applied to the inside of a fence or wall surrounding an athletic field, stadium or court, such as an outfield wall of a baseball field, and intended to be viewed by spectators of an athletic event at the field or court.



Vehicle Signs



A vehicle sign is a sign that is attached to or placed in or on a truck, bus, car, trailer, boat, recreational vehicle, or any other vehicle. Vehicle signs shall exclude bumper stickers, license plates, and inspection and registration stickers.

Vending Machine Signs



A vending machine sign is a sign that is attached to a vending machine, including a gasoline pump, and that generally advertises the products dispensed from the vending machine.

Wind Device Signs



A wind device sign is a sign that is made of cloth, canvas, plastic, or any flexible material that moves or is designed to move freely in the wind, with or without a frame or other supporting structure, used for the purpose of advertising or drawing attention to a business, commodity, service, sale, or product. This definition includes balloons, pennants, streamers, spinners, or similar devices, but excludes inflatable signs, cloud buster signs and flags as specifically defined in this Chapter.

Window Signs



A window sign is a sign that is visible from a public street or sidewalk and that is posted, attached, painted, placed, or affixed in or on a window or a sign that is located within three (3) feet of the inside of a window.



Yard Signs

A yard sign is a temporary stake sign that publicizes the arrival of a newborn, the participation of a family member in a school activity or sport, or similar residentially themed event. Yard signs shall also include signs that advertise the presence of a home security system and seasonal or holiday decorations.



Zoning Signs



A zoning sign is a temporary sign erected to publicize the request for zoning or rezoning of a property.



Prohibited Signs

Commercial Billboard Signs



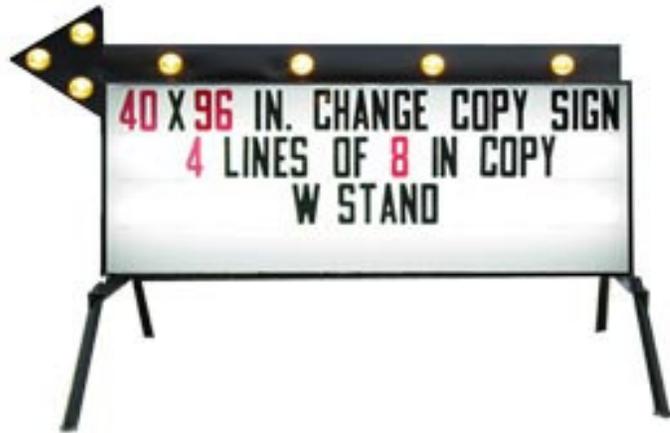
A commercial billboard sign is a large sign, generally supported by a metal or wood frame and consisting of two parallel sign faces oriented in opposite directions, used for the display of posters, printed, painted, or electronic advertisements that generally direct attention to goods, merchandise, entertainment, or services conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located.



Obscene Signs

An obscene sign is a sign that contains offensive language, is hate based, is discriminatory or on which the dominant theme of material taken as a whole appeals to a prurient interest in sex, or is patently offensive because it affronts community standards relating to the description or representation of sexual matters, and is utterly without redeeming social value.

Portable Signs



Signs designed or intended to be relocated from time to time, whether or not it is permanently attached to a building or structure, or is located on the ground, are prohibited. Portable signs include signs on wheels or on portable or mobile structures, such as, among other things, trailers, skids, tent signs, and airborne signs. This prohibition does not include vehicle, sandwich board, and other similar sign types specifically regulated herein.

Merchandise Displays



No person shall suspend from any building, or pole, structure, sidewalk, parkway, driveway, parking area, or fuel pump island any goods, wares, merchandise or other advertising object or structure for the purpose of advertising such items, other than a sign as defined, regulated and prescribed by this Chapter. This prohibition does not apply to the outside display or storage of merchandise as allowed in this Title.



Other Signs

1. **Signs which move and/or are animated by means of flashing, traveling or blinking lights, or other means not providing constant illumination, unless specifically allowed within this Chapter.**
2. **Appendages to primary signs which have flashing, blinking, or traveling lights;**
3. **Any sign which emits audible sound, odor, or visible matter;**
4. **Any sign located on a property where the contents of that sign do not pertain to a person, activity, idea, business, or product being sold, promoted, or expressed on the premises where the sign is located, unless specifically allowed within this Chapter;**
5. **Any sign not referenced within, or governed by this Chapter;**
6. **Any sign erected without a permit, either prior to or after the adoption of this Chapter, if a permit was required;**
7. **Any sign erected in or over public right-of-way or other public property, unless the same is erected by the City, County, State or other authorized governmental agency, or with the permission of the City, for public purposes, unless allowed within this Chapter; and**
8. **Any lighted sign erected or displayed within one-hundred fifty (150) feet of a residentially zoned property, or designated as residential on the Future Land Use Plan, unless the lighting is shielded from view of the residential property and indirect light does not exceed ½ lumen measured from any property line of the residential property, unless allowed within this Chapter.**