

Austin City Code Amendment CITY OF AUSTIN RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 22 AGENDA DATE: Thu 02/17/2005 PAGE: 1 of 2

SUBJECT: Approve an ordinance on second/third reading amending Chapter 25-10 of the City Code relating to nonconforming signs to allow location of new off-premise signs (billboards) in various locations in the City if an existing off-premise sign is removed.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Watershed Protection and **DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT:** Development Review **AUTHORIZATION:** <u>Joe Pantalion</u>

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Luci Gallahan, 974-2669

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: Council passed the amendment on first reading on January 13, 2005.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: Planning Commission voted for no change to the current code.

The proposed amendment would amend Chapter 25-10 of the Land Development Code to allow the relocation of nonconforming off-premise signs. The proposed amendment would allow a nonconforming off-premise sign to be relocated to a tract that meets the following requirements:

- it is located in an expressway corridor sign district or commercial sign district,
- it is not in the area bounded by Lamar Boulevard to Martin Luther King Boulevard, Martin Luther King Boulevard to Interstate 35, Interstate 35 to Manor Road, Manor Road to Highway 183 Highway 183 to State Highway 71, State Highway 71 to Riverside Drive, Riverside Drive to Lamar Boulevard; and both sides of each named roadway.
- it is not located in a Scenic Roadway sign district,
- it is not within 500 feet of a historic sign district,
- it is not within 200 feet of a residential structure in a residential base zoning district, and
- it is zoned as a commercial or industrial base district.

The proposed amendment also would require that the sign height and face size of the relocated sign may not be increased, and the application to remove and relocate must be submitted at least 90 days before removing the sign. It would require that the applicant provide a statement from the owner of the tract from which the sign is to be removed agreeing to the permanent removal of the sign or provide a form indemnifying the city for any costs or claims arising from the sign relocation. It would require the applicant to relocate the sign not later than 3 years after the application is approved.



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The proposed ordinance provides the following criteria that must be met for the original location of the sign:

- the original sign must be in the area bounded by Lamar Boulevard to Martin Luther King Boulevard, Martin Luther King Boulevard to Interstate 35, Interstate 35 to Manor Road, Manor Road to Highway 183 to State Highway 71, State Highway 71 to Riverside Drive, Riverside Drive to Lamar Boulevard; and both sides of each named roadway.
- in a Scenic Roadway Sign District,
- within 500 feet of a historic sign district, or
- within 200 feet of a residential structure in a residential base zoning district.

The proposed ordinance recommends a new fee of \$120 to be collected by the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department for removal and relocation permits.