

CHAPTER 16

SIGNS

Ordinance of 7/13/87

Sec. 16.1. Erection, alteration, maintenance.

No sign may be erected or maintained other than signs of the character, size, location, and construction expressly authorized by this Ordinance relating to the erection, alteration or maintenance of signs and similar devices.

Sec. 16.2. General Provisions.

The following signs may be erected, and maintained subsequent to Section 16.3 and 16.4.:

- A. One (1) sign for each family residing on the premises, indicating the name of the owner or occupant or pertaining to a permitted accessory use, provided that the said sign is not larger than two hundred (200) square inches.
- B. Signs of schools, colleges, churches, hospitals, sanitariums or other institutions of a similar nature relating exclusively to the institutions erecting the same, may be erected and maintained; provided that the size of any such sign is not in excess of twenty (20) square feet and not more than two (2) such signs are placed on a property held in single and separate ownership, unless such property fronts upon more than one (1) street, in which event not more than two (2) such signs may be erected on each frontage. No two (2) signs shall be less than twenty-five (25) feet apart.
- C. All temporary signs provided that:
 1. The size of any such sign is not in excess of thirty-two (32) square feet, and
 2. Not more than two (2) such signs are placed upon any property held in single and separate ownership, unless such property fronts upon more than one (1) street, in which event not more than two (2) such signs may be erected on each frontage. No two (2) signs shall be less than twenty-five (25) feet apart.

Such signs must be removed promptly upon completion of the work.

- D. Signs indicating the name of a particular organization or estate may be erected and maintained provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet, and any such sign shall be located on the same lot as the organization or estate but precluding signs designated within the Subdivision Regulations of the

City.

- E. All business or commercial signs must be located on the same lot to which it refers, provided that the total sign area on any one street frontage of any property in single and separate ownership shall not exceed two hundred (200) square feet unless authorized by variance.
- F. Signs prohibiting or otherwise controlling trespassing upon particular premises, or indicating the private nature of a road, driveway or premises may be erected and maintained, provided that the area of any such sign shall not exceed two (2) square feet.
- G. Signs which exist at the time this Ordinance becomes effective and are maintained in connection with a business then existing and lawfully conducted, may be maintained or repaired, or replaced with signs similar in size and character, but may not be enlarged or otherwise substantially altered.

Sec. 16.3. Limitation on Highway Signs,.

No sign shall be erected or maintained within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way and visible from the main traveled way of the interstate or primary highways in the state except the following:

- A. Directional and other official signs and notices.
- B. Signs advertising the sale or lease of property upon which they are located.
- C. Signs advertising activities conducted or maintained within 100 feet from the nearest part of the activity as the dimensions of said activity are determined by Georgia Department of Transportation regulations, which regulations need not take into consideration the property lines of said activity.
- D. Signs located in areas zoned commercial or industrial which provide information in the specific interest of the traveling public and conform to the provisions of Section 16.4.
- E. Signs located in un-zoned commercial or industrial areas which provide information in the specific interest of the traveling public and conform to the provisions of Section 16.4.

"...NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED (200) SQUARE FEET, NOR THE PARAMETERS OF EIGHT BY TWENTY-FIVE (8 x 25) FEET."

NO SIGN SHALL BE ERECTED OR MAINTAINED WHICH IS VISIBLE FROM THE MAIN TRAVELED WAY OF THE INTERSTATE OR PRIMARY HIGHWAY WHICH IS IN AN AREA NOT ZONED FOR COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY, AND

WITHIN THREE HUNDRED (300) FEET OF A RESIDENCE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE OWNER.

Sec. 16.4. GENERAL SIGN RESTRICTIONS.

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO ERECT, PLACE, OR MAINTAIN ANY SIGN, SIGNAL, OR DEVISE WHICH:

- A. Advertises an activity that is illegal under Georgia or Federal Laws or Regulations in effect at the location of such signs or at the location of such activity.
- B. Is obsolete.
- C. Is not structurally safe, clean, and in good repair.
- D. Is not securely affixed to a substantial structure which is permanently attached to the ground.
- E. Is attached to, drawn, or painted upon trees, rocks, or other natural features.
- F. Moves or has any moving or animated parts.
- G. Emits or utilizes in any manner any sound capable of being heard with normal hearing.
- H. If illuminated, contains, includes, or is illuminated by any flashing intermittent, or moving lights except those giving public service information such as time, date, temperature, weather, or other similar information.
- I. If illuminated, is not effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled way and which are of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or which otherwise interferes with the operation of a motor vehicle.
- J. If illuminated, is illuminated so that it interferes with the effectiveness of, or obscures, an official traffic sign, device, or signal.
- K. When constructed ARE composed of metal and steel construction, the maximum area of any outdoor advertising sign shall not exceed 380 square feet in sign area, and when constructed, ARE NOT composed of metal and steel construction, the maximum area of any outdoor advertising sign shall not exceed 300 square feet in sign area. Said sign are is not to include as part of the measurement the structural components or trim of said sign. No outdoor advertising sign constructed of metal and steel shall exceed 36 feet in length and no outdoor advertising sign not constructed of metal and steel shall exceed 25 feet in length. No outdoor advertising sign shall be erected to exceed 30 feet above grade of highway and the bottom coping of sign shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet above ground level. If additional height is needed a conditional use permit may be issued.

- L. Contains more than two faces visible from the same direction to the main traveled way. Double-faced, back-to-back, and V-type constructed signs shall, for the purpose of determining compliance with size and spacing limitations, be considered as one sign.
- M. Is located so as to obscure, or otherwise interfere with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, signal or device.
- N. Is within 500 feet of a public park, public playground, public recreation area, public forest scenic area, or cemetery.
- O. Is located so as to obscure, or otherwise interfere with a motor vehicle operator's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic.
- P. Is located adjacent to an interstate highway and which is within 500 feet of another sign on the same side of the highway:
PROVIDED, however, that such signs may be located within 500 feet of another sign when the signs are separated by buildings or other obstructions so that only one sign facing located within the 500 foot zone is visible from the interstate highway at any time.
- Q. When erected is spaced a minimum of six-hundred (600) feet from a then existing outdoor advertising sign on the same side of the road as measured along a parallel to such road: This spacing does not include back-to-back, side-by-side, or V-type sign structures, as such sign structures are considered one sign structure for spacing requirements. Side-by-side signs are not to exceed two (2) structures side-by-side. No signs shall be stacked one above the other. (**Amended: 10/08/2007**)
- R. When illuminated so as to adhere to the customary practices of the industry in Georgia at the time of passage of this Ordinance, providing that no lighting device shall be used which in any way initiates any traffic control device, railroad sign or signal, or highway directional sign, or law enforcement or emergency vehicle lights, or in any manner directs flashing lights to a residential zone, or in any way creates a traffic hazard.

No person, firm or corporation shall engage within the corporate limits of the City of East Dublin, Georgia, in the business of erecting or maintaining outdoor advertising signs as required under this ordinance until after such persons shall have filed with the City Clerk evidence of liability insurance coverage of \$50,000 property damage, \$100,000 personal injury to any one person and \$200,000 for personal injury growing out of any one occurrence; such liability insurance will save and keep the City, and all of its officials, employees and agents, harmless from all damages, liabilities, losses or judgments resulting by reason of the erection or maintenance of any such sign, and of any injury to persons or damages to property resulting therefrom.

BUILDING PERMITS must be obtained from the building official before construction may begin. A detailed drawing of the structure, structure location, materials used, along with a written lease for the sign, etc., location from the property owner or proof of ownership if the sign, etc., is

to be erected on the applicant's property.

Sec. 16.5. Deposit of cash bond.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, place, or maintain any sign, signal, billboard or other outdoor advertising device covered by this ordinance, without first depositing with the City of East Dublin a cash bond in the amount of \$100.00 to be held in escrow for the purposes of maintenance, cleanup or removal should said sign, billboard, signal, or other outdoor advertising device covered by this ordinance be abandoned or neglected.

Sec. 16.6. Unlawful; public right-of-way.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, place, or maintain any sign, signal, billboard, or other outdoor advertising device covered by this ordinance, including portable signs, signals, billboards, or other outdoor advertising devices, on the public right-of-way.

Sec. 16.7. Fees and Licenses Required.

Prior to the erection of any sign regulated by this ordinance, the following fees, permits and licenses shall be obtained and purchased from the City:

- a. Sign Company License \$ 50.00 for 1st employee, \$ 25.00 each additional employee
- b. Construction Permit \$100.00
- c. Advertising space charge of \$10.00 plus \$0.21 per square foot of advertising space.
- d. If the sign is lighted, an electrical license is required.

Sec. 16.8. Violation; punishment.

Violation of this ordinance shall be punishable in municipal court by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 and incarceration of not more than 30 days.