

ORDINANCE NO. 17-254-O

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TEXT OF THE  
MADISONVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE,  
CHAPTER 2, SECTION 11-203. DEFINITIONS  
AND CHAPTER 4, SECTION 11-408. SIGNS, BILLBOARDS, AND  
OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURES**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Madisonville, Tennessee, in accordance with Section 13-7-203 and 13-7-204 of the *Tennessee Code Annotated* may from time to time amend the text of the Zoning Ordinance, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Madisonville Regional Planning Commission has considered the sign needs of the City, and has recommended the amendment to the Madisonville Zoning Ordinance, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen finds the amendment of the Zoning Ordinance to be in the best interests of the City;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MADISONVILLE, TENNESSEE, THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 2. Zoning Code, Section 11-203. Definitions, be amended by deleting the definition for “Billboard or Off-Premise Sign”.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 2. Zoning Code, Section 11-203. Definitions, be amended by adding the following definitions and inserting them in the correct alphabetical order:

*Billboard:* A sign that draws attention to or communicates information about a business, service, commodity, accommodation, attraction, or other activity that is conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the billboard is located. Also referred to as Off-Premise Outdoor Advertising.

*Ground/Pole Sign:* Any sign erected on a free-standing frame, pole(s), or posts(s) and not attached to any building. Such signs may be two-sided provided that both sides cannot be seen simultaneously from any point. Such signs may have changeable copy.

*One-Time Event Sign:* Any sign which notifies or advertises an event, such as an election, property sale, merchandise sale, revival, grand opening, or other similar short-term, temporary events.

*Wall Sign:* Any sign fastened to or painted on a wall of a building in such a manner that the wall becomes the supporting structure for the sign.

**SECTION 3.** Chapter 4. Supplementary Provisions Applying To All Districts, Section 11-408. Signs, Billboards, and Other Advertising Structures, to delete it in its entirety and substitute in lieu thereof the following:

11-408. Signs and Billboards. The purpose of these sign regulations is to balance the need of communication with the need to minimize traffic hazards, reduce clutter, and improve community appearance. The regulations for signs and billboards are enumerated below:

1. General Provisions. All signs and billboards erected, replaced, reconstructed, expanded, or relocated on any property within the city shall conform with the provisions of this section.
  - a. All signs erected, constructed, or placed in any district shall conform to the adopted building codes and if serviced by electrical power, shall conform to the National Electrical Code. Electrical materials and devices used on such signs shall bear the U.L. Label.
  - b. No sign shall be erected or maintained where by reason of its position, wording, illumination, size, shape, or color may obstruct, impair, obscure, interfere with the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic control sign, signal, or device.
  - c. With the exception of One-Time Event Signs, all signs shall obtain a sign permit from the City of Madisonville.
  - d. The area for all wall signs shall be measured by drawing an imaginary single, regular geometric shape of a rectangle, circle, or equilateral triangle around the sign. The text and other graphics do not have to be physically, visually, or topically connected.
  - e. The area for all pole and ground signs shall be the entire face of the sign, including the advertising surface and any framing, trim, or molding but not including the supporting structures.
  - f. When an entity is no longer in operation, the associated sign(s) shall be removed.
2. Residential Districts. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all signs within the R-1 Low Density Residential District and the R-2 High Density Residential District shall conform with the following provisions.
  - a. Any activity lawfully conducted on the premises shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated sign up to two (2) square feet in area.
  - b. Uses Permitted on Review shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign up to thirty-two (32) square feet in area. Such sign shall

not exceed ten (10) feet in height and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.

- c. Uses Permitted on Review shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign. Such wall sign may have up to one-half (1/2) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall on which the sign is mounted.
  - d. Residential neighborhoods shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated ground or pole sign per neighborhood entrance. Such sign may be up to fifty (50) square feet in area, shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
3. Local Business District. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all signs within the C-1 Local Business District shall conform with the following provisions.
- a. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to fifty (50) square feet in area, shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - b. Multiple use buildings shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to fifty (50) square feet in area, shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - c. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign per road frontage. Such sign(s) may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall upon which the sign is mounted.
  - d. Tenants within a multiple use building shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign per road frontage. Such sign(s) may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall of tenant space upon which the sign is mounted.
4. Central Business District. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all signs within the C-2 Central Business District shall conform with the following provisions.
- a. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign. Such sign may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall upon which the sign is mounted.
  - b. Tenants within a multiple use building or within an attached building shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign. Such sign may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall of tenant space upon which the sign is mounted.

5. Highway Business District. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all signs within the C-3 Highway Business District shall conform with the following provisions.
  - a. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to two hundred (200) square feet in area, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - b. Multiple use buildings shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to two hundred (200) square feet in area, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - c. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated internally illuminated wall sign per road frontage. Such sign(s) may have up to one and one-half (1 ½) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall upon which the sign is mounted.
  - d. Tenants within a multiple use building shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign per road frontage. Such sign(s) may have up to one and one-half (1 ½) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall of tenant space upon which the sign is mounted.
6. Industrial District. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all signs within the M-1 Industrial District shall conform with the following provisions.
  - a. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to one hundred (100) square feet in area, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - b. Multiple use buildings shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated ground or pole sign. Such sign may be up to one hundred (100) square feet in area, shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.
  - c. Freestanding entities shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign. Such sign may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall upon which the sign is mounted.
  - d. Tenants within a multiple use building shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated or internally illuminated wall sign. Such sign may have up to one (1) square feet of sign area per each linear foot of building wall of tenant space upon which the sign is mounted.
  - e. Industrial parks shall be permitted one (1) non-illuminated ground or pole sign per park entrance. Such sign may be up to two hundred (200) square feet in area, shall not exceed

ten (10) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all property lines.

7. One-Time Event Signs. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all one-time event signs shall conform with the following provisions.
  - a. One-time event signs are permitted in all zoning districts, on developed land, and on vacant land.
  - b. Such signs shall be a maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet, shall not exceed six (6) feet in height, shall be non-illuminated, and shall be affixed to the ground or a building.
  - c. Freestanding one-time event signs shall be set back from all property lines a minimum of ten (10) feet.
  - d. One-time event signs shall be removed promptly after the completion of the event.
8. Billboards. In addition to meeting the General Provisions of this section, all billboards shall conform with the following provisions.
  - a. Billboards are permitted within the C-3 Highway Business District.
  - b. Billboards shall not exceed one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet in area, exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height, or exceed fifty (50) feet in length. The bottom of the billboard shall be a minimum of five (5) feet above the ground level.
  - c. Billboards shall meet the minimum building setbacks for the district in which they are located. In addition, billboards shall be set back a minimum of one hundred (100) feet from any residential district.
  - d. Internal illumination and changing sign faces are permitted provided the billboard has auto dimming which reduces the brightness after sunset.
  - e. No other billboard may be erected within a seven hundred and fifty (750) foot radius (determined by a straight line and not street distance) from any other billboard.

**SECTION 4.** This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed on first reading: May 1, 2017

Passed on second reading: June 5, 2017

Public hearing held: May 1, 2017

Certified by Planning Commission:

April 18, 2017

ATTEST:

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City Recorder

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Mayor

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Secretary  
Madisonville Planning Commission