

Legislation Text

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Subject:

Potential amendments to the Sign Code, Chapter 3, Title 4 of the Littleton City Code

Presented By: Steve Kemp, City Attorney and Jocelyn Mills, Community Development Director

POLICY QUESTION:

Does city council support staff bringing forward future code amendments to the City of Littleton Sign Code, Chapter 3, Title 4 of Littleton's City Code? Proposed amendments to the sign code chapter are outlined below.

PROPOSAL:

There are several items in the sign code chapter of the city's code are in need of review. In general, items that staff would like to discuss with council include the following:

- To allow temporary a-frame signs in the downtown area on public right of way, of a certain size and when safety and accessibility requirements along a sidewalk can continue to be met.
- To include regulation of murals on buildings.
- To include regulation of fast food restaurant menu board signs.
- To include regulation of lighting along rooflines of buildings is considered as an enhancement to signage and is not permitted.
- To update language regarding enforcement and appeals sections of the code.
- To relocate the entire chapter of the sign code from the city's building regulations (Title 4) into the zoning code, Title 10, which is more typical of a municipal sign code location and regulation. (To move from existing Title 4, Chapter 3 to Title 10, and establish a new chapter 17.)

The attached code outlines the proposed amendments for review and discussion. Strikethrough indicates items to be deleted, and capital letters/words indicates items to be added into the code.

Please note, staff will bring additional diagrams to help explain and review the proposed changes at the study session.

BACKGROUND:

Earlier last summer, an update to the sign code had been discussed with city council with the main topic being a request from some of the city's downtown merchants to re-think the existing sign code to allow portable a-frame signs on the right-of-ways (as long as safety (vehicle and pedestrian/bicyclists), and access of the city's downtown sidewalks can be maintained) in the downtown area. Currently a-frame signs are not permitted in the city's sign code but enforcement is on hold recognizing this amendment will be considered by the city council.

Once staff began research into the existing sign code on the a-frame topic, it became apparent that additional items needed to be addressed in order to create a workable sign code, and as a result other potential changes are outlined for discussion.