



June 1, 2017

Salem Planning Commission
555 Liberty Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: ***Comments on Proposed Sign Code Amendments – CA 16-05***

President Fry and Planning Commissioners:

SCAN supports most of the proposed amendments to the sign code. The more objective and enforceable standards for measuring brightness of electronic signs are especially needed.

SCAN does not support creating a class 2 sign adjustment process. If someone wants to deviate from the sign code by more than the 10% administrative adjustment currently allowed, then he or she should go through the variance process to ensure it is justified.

The proposed class 2 adjustment would allow adjustments to *"any sign standard"* with no limit on degree of adjustment. It makes adjustments easier to achieve than going through the variance process. *At a time of rampant noncompliance with the sign code, the City should not institutionalize greater deviations through a new class 2 adjustment.* Also, just because a class 2 adjustment process was added to the Urban Development Code does not mean it is appropriate for the sign code.

SCAN has a growing concern with the proliferation of illegal signs, both on private property and in the public right-of-way. The proposed amendments do not address enforcement of the sign code, but SCAN believes enforcement is the main issue the City needs to address to provide relief from the growing visual pollution and distractions along Salem's arterial and collector streets. The visual shouting match at busy street intersections is a safety hazard.

The City is unwilling or unable to hold the business, organization, or person named on an illegal sign accountable for violating the sign code. This allows businesses or persons to violate the sign code with impunity and likely contributes to the proliferation of illegal signs. SCAN asks the City to search for a way to hold the party named on an illegal sign accountable for that violation and to enforce its sign code.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeff Schumacher, SCAN President, 2016-17

Amy Dixon

From: Jeff Schumacher <jeff.schumacher@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2017 3:28 PM
To: Amy Dixon
Cc: Roz Shirack
Subject: Comments on Proposed Sign Code Amendments
Attachments: 20170601152531.pdf

Amy,

Please see SCAN's comments on the proposed sign code amendments. We would like these comments to go to Planning Commission for their meeting on Tuesday, June 6th.

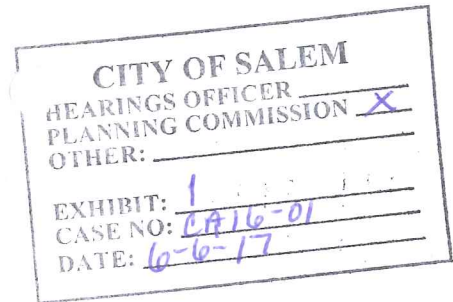
Thank you for coming to our SCAN meeting last month, and enjoy your retirement!

Jeff Schumacher
SCAN president, 2016-17

Subject: (none)

Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 4:37:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Ellen Stevens



For the record, my name is Ellen Stevens. For nearly 4 decades, I've lived in Ward 2. My almost daily, urban hikes send me downtown along the trails and public spaces such as Bush's Pasture Park, Pringle Park near the hospital and the linear trail along Pringle Creek.

Over the years, I have seen an increasing flood of illegal signs.

For myself and on behalf of others in the community that have an interest and work continually to protect, preserve and conserve the City's historic resources, I thank the staff and the planning commission for re-visiting our current code.

Random illegal signage defaces our historical areas, our open spaces and public art, our parks, and our National Historic Districts.

All are state, local and national resources of importance, of value, of what we present to others of our history, our architectural and cultural heritage.

Along High Street in the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National District, it is not uncommon to find illegal signs offering house painting, a sale at an appliance store -- or a sports event in the public-right-of-way or unsightly placement on a utility pole.

On Mission and Liberty in the Historic District, we have found illegal billboard size signs on fences surrounding construction sites.

These signs detract from our All-Star Heritage community, from the dignity of our nationally recognized historic sites and quality interpretative signage that guide visitors and tourists to our community.

Historical sites should not suffer sign pollution.

Directional signs placed by Salem's Public Works should not be cluttered with these illegal signs.

As some of you know, great efforts are made daily -- and investment -- to protect and uphold the appearance of historical properties at considerable detail in our City Code, in Chapter 230, under the reviews of the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Those standards are to uphold the appearance of historic properties, landmarks and parks. The sign code should reinforce this effort.

This flood of illegal signs doesn't honor our City's heritage. Or respect our parks.

As a member of SCAN's Historic Parks and Garden Committee I ask for enforcement and review of the code.



SIGN POLLUTION

Fred Meyer South – Illegally placed signs in the Right of Way.

September 2017 – going west on Madrona South – 9 illegally placed signs.

November 2017 - now 3 have been vandalized, 7 remain.

December 2017 – signs still there!!

Turn corner onto Commercial – 5 more of the SAME sign.

Amy Dixon

From: epwhitehouse@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 4:43 PM
To: Amy Dixon
Cc: Alan Alexander
Subject: Re: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

Amy, my one comment right now would be that it is just fine for the city to have a sign code, however I see a proliferation of political and other signs in the public right of way, and nothing is being done about it by the City. I also see lots of signs by Kelly, College Pro Painting, Walk to Life, etc. I think non-enforcement of the City's sign code actually penalizes ethical political candidates and businesses that abide by the City's sign code. I do not think it would be so difficult for the City to enforce its code -- simply call the offending businesses or candidates and tell them to remove the sign "or else," and the "or else" should mean a substantive fine -- say \$100 per illegally placed sign. My two cents, and thanks for your good work,

Evan White
Land Use Chair
Sunnyslope NA

From: "Amy Dixon" <ADIXON@cityofsalem.net>
To: "Amy Dixon" <ADIXON@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 2:46:11 PM
Subject: RE: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

It is anticipated that a public hearing before the Planning Commission will be held June 6, 2017

Amy J. Dixon, Planner II
City of Salem
Community Development Dept.
555 Liberty St SE / Room 305
Salem, OR 97301
503-540-2304

March 23, 2017

TO: Interested Parties

RE: Proposed Code Changes to Salem Revised Code Chapter 900, Sign Code

This letter is intended to provide information for you and your organization on proposed code amendments to Salem Revised Code Chapter 900, Sign Code. We are seeking input on the proposed amendments prior to the public hearing. It is anticipated that a public hearing before the Planning Commission will be held May 16, 2017.

The amendments address the following (more specific information is attached):

1. Requiring only one set of plans at submittal which accommodates electronic submittals (current language requires 2 sets of plans),
2. Eliminating temporary sign permits,
3. Exempting public art and art markers from the sign code,

4. Establishing an adjustment process that allows more than a 10% increase to height and display surface,
5. Establish measurable brightness standards for electronic signs,
6. Renaming overlay zones to be consistent with the Unified Development Code,
7. Allow for illumination of non-emergency signs on property that have no emergency services within the Public and Private Health zones,
8. Minor housekeeping changes.

I am available to meet with you and your organization if you have questions or need further information or you may contact me at (503) 540-2304, or adixon@cityofsalem.net.

Sincerely,

Amy J. Dixon, Planner II
City of Salem
Community Development Dept.
555 Liberty St SE / Room 305
Salem, OR 97301
503-540-2304

Amy Dixon

From: epwhitehouse@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, June 05, 2017 9:44 AM
To: Amy Dixon
Subject: Re: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

Amy, I plan to be at the hearing tomorrow night and will testify. With several other people, I'm meeting with Brady this afternoon to talk about what might be done about this situation. FYI, I counted two dozen lawn signs yesterday at two intersections on Keubler. Thanks for your reply, Evan

From: "Amy Dixon" <ADIXON@cityofsalem.net>
To: epwhitehouse@comcast.net
Cc: "Alan Alexander" <awa8025@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 5, 2017 7:59:27 AM
Subject: RE: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

Evan,

Your comments were received as part of the outreach and were summarized in the staff report. SCAN submitted comments as part of the public hearing process.

It sounds like you would like these comments submitted as part of the record for the hearing. If this is correct, please let me know if they are your comments or Sunnyslope's comments. This way will know how to present them to the commissioners.

Thank,
Amy

Amy J. Dixon, Planner II
City of Salem
Community Development Dept.
555 Liberty St SE / Room 305
Salem, OR 97301
503-540-2304

From: epwhitehouse@comcast.net [mailto:epwhitehouse@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, June 02, 2017 11:51 AM
To: Amy Dixon <ADIXON@cityofsalem.net>
Cc: Alan Alexander <awa8025@aol.com>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

Amy, seems to me that these comments should have been included in the staff report. Blessings, Evan White

From: epwhitehouse@comcast.net
To: "Amy Dixon" <ADIXON@cityofsalem.net>
Cc: "Alan Alexander" <awa8025@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 4:43:05 PM
Subject: Re: Proposed City of Salem Sign Code Amendments

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Sincerely,

Amy J. Dixon, Planner II
City of Salem
Community Development Dept.
555 Liberty St SE / Room 305
Salem, OR 97301
503-540-2304

Amy Dixon

From: James Carpentier <James.Carpentier@signs.org>
Sent: Friday, June 02, 2017 3:05 PM
To: Amy Dixon
Cc: Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie; Rebai Tamerhoulet; hfletcher@foresssign.com; Corey Spady; Patti King; David Hickey
Subject: Sign Permit applications
Attachments: NWSC ISA Salem sign permit application 6217.pdf; Corvallis Sign Application (003).pdf; What's Involved in Neon and or Electrical Sign Work in Oregon.pdf

Hello Amy,

I wanted to make you aware of a significant issue with sign permit applications in Salem. Additional information is needed on your sign permit application to ensure that sign permits are issued in accordance with the Oregon Administrative Rules. I have attached a letter that describes the issue, sign application from Corvallis, and some background information prepared by Hal Fletcher, Foress Sign.

We hope that this issue can be resolved soon. I will be attending the hearing on June 6th.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Best Regards,

James B Carpentier AICP
Director State & Local Government Affairs

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www.signs.org | www.signexpo.org
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fax: (703) 836-8353
info@signs.org
WWW.SIGNS.ORG

June 2, 2017

To: Amy Dixon, Planner II

From: James Carpentier AICP, Director State & Local Government Affairs, International Sign Association

Re: Permitting process for signs in Salem

I am contacting you on behalf of the Northwest Sign Council and the International Sign Association. Both associations work with jurisdictions to assist in the creation of beneficial and enforceable sign regulations.

We have become aware of a situation in Salem that deals with the applications for signs in the city and state licensing requirements for electric signs. Section 918-282-0220(a) (see attached information prepared by Hal Fletcher, Foresight Sign) of the Oregon Administrative Rules which requires a Limited Journeyman Sign Electrician License (SIG) to install electrical signs. This SIG license is required in addition to the Contractor's license (CCB# which needs to be an Electrical General Contractor License) which you currently require on your sign permit application. Your current sign permit application does not require that the applicant for an electric sign include the license number for the limited journeyman sign electrician. This requirement will ensure that the installer of an electrical sign is properly trained and can safely install all electrical sign types, including some unique sign types such as neon.

I have attached the sign permit application from Corvallis. In their sign permit application they have included language that requires that illuminated signs include the license number for the limited journeyman sign electrician (SIG), in addition to the Contractor's license number (CCB).

Therefore, we request that you add a section to your sign permit application that requires illuminated signs include the license number for the limited journeyman sign electrician.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 480-773-3756 or james.carpentier@signs.org.

Best Regards,

James Carpentier, AICP

What's Involved in Neon and or Electrical Sign Work in Oregon?

In order for electrically illuminated sign to be safe and effective, signs must be properly installed by a Registered Electrical Sign Contractor and Licensed Journey Sign Electrician.

Only licensed electrical contractors and electricians are permitted to install and service electrical signs that have components consisting of Neon transformers and power supplies, including those intended to be connected to a Class 2 source of supply, that provides the voltage and ballasting for neon and cold-cathode tubing (electric-discharge tubing) consisting of electrodes and gas, such as neon, mercury, helium, argon and similar gases, enclosed in glass for use in signs and outline lighting. Electrical Signs, referred to as signs, using incandescent lamps, fluorescent lamps, HD lamps, neon tubing and other combinations for use in, that includes and is not limited to, awning signs, channel letter signs, directional signs, ordinary box signs, recessed signs, trailer-mounted signs, and other similar signs.

All the items indicated must be installed in accordance with appropriate Oregon Building Code, National Electrical Code (NEC), NFPA 70, the UL standards and the manufacturer's specifications.

These neon and electrical sign systems must be installed by a licensed electrical contractor and local permits must be taken out before installation.

Licensing Requirements for Neon and Electric Sign Installers

Oregon State law requires all electricians and electrical contractors to be licensed with the Department of Consumer Protection. It is a violation of State law for a person to install or offer to install a Neon and Electric Sign system unless he or she has first obtained a *Limited Sign Contractor License* through the Building Codes Division (BCD), as provided in Section 918-282-0000 of the Oregon Administrative Rules.

Only licensed contractors can sign contracts obtain permits. Journey people and apprentices cannot work directly for consumers, unless employed by, or employing a licensed contractor of record for the work being performed.

ELECTRICAL PERMITS AND FEES

918-309-0090

Minimum required licensure for people who perform neon and electric sign system work can be found in:

Oregon Administrative Rules
Chapter 918 Building Codes Division
OAR Chapter 918,
Division 309 3-1-08
DIVISION 309

Rules for Electrical Contractors Desiring to Make Electrical Installations under Working Permits; Any electrical contractor who elects to use a working permit authorized by ORS 479.840 shall:

(1) Submit to the division a \$2,000 corporate surety bond or a cash bond on a division-approved form guaranteeing the payment of all fees provided for under ORS 479.510 to 479.850.

(2) Apply to the division for the working permit and affix at the job site before any electrical installation is commenced.

(3) Submit the supplementary permit application and the total permit fee as soon as the fees for that job can be determined and in no case, more than three months from the date work commenced on the job.

Provided, that in special long term construction projects such as high rise buildings and large industrial buildings, where the electrical contractor has procured the prior approval of the division, a new working permit may be issued for three months for the same building if all fees for the electrical installations under the working permit issued for the preceding three-month period have been paid in full.

(4) Agree that the aggregate amount of unpaid fees outstanding at any time shall not exceed the amount of the bond. No working permit shall be issued and any existing working permit shall become null and void when fees totaling over \$2,000 are owed.

(5) Agree that if any unresolved dispute arises as to the amount of fees due on a particular installation, job, or in the aggregate shall be decided by the division after a hearing before the board.

Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 918
2016 Compilation
Building Codes Division
OAR Chapter 918, Division 282
DIVISION 282
ELECTRICAL AND ELEVATOR LICENSING

Electrical Contractors
Limited Electrical Sign Contractor
918-282-0020

Limited Sign Contractor License

A limited sign contractor's Scope of Work:

- (1) Shall employ at least one full-time limited journeyman sign electrician;
 - (2) Is limited to the electrical work authorized by a limited journeyman sign electrician license; and
 - (3) Is authorized to make, direct, supervise or control the making of a sign installation only if the contractor is a sole proprietor who is also licensed as a limited journeyman, a general supervising or a general journeyman electrician.
- 918-282-0000

Electrical Contractors in General

(1) *An electrical contractor license is a specialized license allowing a company to engage in the business of making electrical installations. This license is in addition to the licensing and bonding required by the Construction Contractors Board.*

(2)(a) *Generally, the contractor is required to have a full-time general supervising electrician to supervise the electrical work and sign permits; and*

(b) *Generally, the electrical installations are required to be made by individuals holding an appropriate electrical license.*

(3) *Exceptions to Sections (1) and (2). Certain statutory exemptions are in ORS 479.540. Different electrical contractor categories and requirements are in ORS 479.630 and this division of rules.*

918-282-0010

Electrical Contractor License

An electrical contractor:

- (1) Shall continuously employ at least one full-time general supervising electrician except as otherwise exempted;
- (2) Is not authorized to make, direct, supervise or control the making of an electrical installation, unless properly licensed; and
- (3) Shall display its electrical license at each of the contractor's places of business. If the contractor has multiple places of business, a facsimile of the license may be posted. The object of this requirement is to display the scope of electrical authority held by the contractor.

918-282-0015

Electrical Contractor's Responsibilities

Electrical contractors engaged in the business of making electrical installations that require a

signing supervising electrician shall assure that all electrical work is made by, or under the direct supervision or control of, a continuously employed full-time signing supervising electrician acting within the scope of their license.

(1) Signing supervising electricians shall perform supervisory duties for only one contractor for which they are registered. Registered signing supervising electricians shall provide direct supervision or control through one of the following:

- (a) Be on the job site;
- (b) Have on the job site a continuously employed full-time supervising electrician; or
- (c) Be available in person, or have a supervising electrician available to meet with the jurisdictional inspector at the job site within two business days following the request.

(2) Electrical contractors who have more than one designated continuously employed full-time signing supervising electrician shall assign only one signing supervising electrician responsibility for the work being performed under each valid permit.

(3) When an electrical contractor has only one designated signing supervising electrician, the electrical contractor may not use a different signing supervising electrician until the designated signing supervising electrician has discontinued the signing supervising electrician responsibilities and written notice has been provided to the division. The electrical contractor shall not continue electrical work until another signing supervising electrician is employed and written notification is provided to the division.

(4) Electrical contractors shall notify the division in writing who their signing supervising electrician(s) is.

Notification shall be provided within five days of entering into or termination of that relationship.

(5) Worker leasing companies, as defined in ORS 656.850, shall notify the division within five business days of any contractual relationship or change in a contractual relationship with an electrical contractor.

Notification shall include the name of the electrical contractor and a list of employed licensed electricians, including signing supervising electricians, leased to the electrical contractor. Electrical contractors and signing supervising electricians who utilize worker-leasing companies are responsible for assuring compliance with the provisions of ORS Chapter 479 and the rules adopted thereunder.

918-282-0120

Licensing Requirements for Electrical Work

(1) No person or entity shall allow any individual to perform electrical work for which the individual is not properly registered or licensed.

(2) Owners, managers or agents of facilities having electrical employees shall report in writing to the division and the authority having jurisdiction, the names and license numbers of limited supervising manufacturing plant or limited maintenance electricians employed.

The Department of Consumer Protection and Business Services is responsible for the licensing and regulation of all occupational trades people who work in Oregon. Neon and Electric Sign work falls under the State's legal definition of Electrical Work; therefore, Neon and Electric Sign installers need electrical training and licensure.

Limited Electrical Sign Journeyperson

918-282-0220

Limited Journeyman Sign Electrician License

SCOPE OF WORK: The holder of this license may perform only work limited to installing, servicing, maintaining and testing electric signs where such work commences may extend a sign branch circuit not more than 15 feet if the dedicated branch circuit exists at that location or connection directly adjacent to such sign and only while in the employ of a contractor licensed for such work. The requirements to qualify for this license examination shall be the completion of a registered apprenticeship program or equivalent experience and training.

(1) A limited journeyman sign electrician:

(a) Installs and services electrical signs and outline lighting;

(b) Shall be employed by a limited sign contractor;

(c) May extend a sign branch circuit not more than 15 feet if the dedicated branch circuit exists at that location; and

(d) Is not permitted to:

(A) Install a branch circuit from an electrical panel;

(B) Install control equipment not located on the same wall or post, inside or outside the building;

(C) Install branch circuits; or

(D) Perform work on service equipment.

(2) A licensed apprentice, after completing the sixth period of apprenticeship training, may service signs without supervision. "Servicing" is the replacement of incandescent, high intensity discharge and fluorescent lamps and cleaning and painting the sign interior.

(3) This license is not required to install the footing or pole, or to operate the equipment required to access or set in place an electric sign, or to clean and paint the sign exterior.

(4) License and Equivalent Requirements.



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SGN

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Sign Permit Application

Site & Applicant Information

Street Address

Benton County Assessor's Parcel #

Applicant Name

Mailing Address

City, State and Zip Code

Email

Phone

How do you prefer to be contacted ?:

☐ Email

☐ Mail

☐ Phone

Sign Contractor Name

Mailing Address

City, State and Zip Code

CCB License #

☐ Illuminated signs require a limited Journeyman Sign Electrical Contractor

Property Owner Name *(if different than Applicant)*

Mailing Address

City, State and Zip Code

Property Sign Allocation Summary

Zoning District

Length of Property Line at Primary Frontage *(count both property lines for corner lot)*: feet

Primary Frontage Multiplier= ☐ 0.10 (residential) ☐ 1.5 (other)

Property Sign Allocation square feet (frontage x multiplier)

Total of All Existing Signs square feet

Remainder of Allocation square feet

Proposed Sign

Type of Sign : ☐ Attached ☐ Free-Standing ☐ Temporary Banner

Horizontal Dimension of Sign feet

Vertical Dimension of Sign feet

Sign Area sq. ft.

Corvallis Community Development Department
Development Services Division
301 SW Madison Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97333

tel: (541) 766-6929

email: Development.Services@corvallisoregon.gov
web: www.corvallispermits.com