

ORDINANCE NO. 579
2ND SERIES

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 10, RELATING TO OFF-
PREMISE/BILLBOARD SIGNS AND THEIR LOCATION, SPACING,
LIGHTING, SIZE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION**

WHEREAS, Chapter 10 of the Alexandria City Code establishes the minimum standards for placement, spacing and size of off-premise/billboard signs within the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria Planning Commission has conducted a study on the effects of such signs on the public health, safety and welfare, including a public hearing (conducted on December 19, 2005), solicitation of information from concerned citizens, residents and businesses and solicitation and analysis of regulatory information from communities similar in nature to Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria finds as a result of such study that the preservation of property values, the enhancement of the local economy through the reasonable, orderly and effective promotion of the community's business identification, the avoidance of visual clutter that is potentially harmful to traffic and pedestrian safety and effective business communication and the enhancement of the community's appearance are all best protected and/or promoted by establishing appropriate location, sizing and spacing requirements for such off-premise/billboard signs;

NOW, THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of Alexandria does hereby **ORDAIN**:

Section I: That City Code Section 10.24, Subdivision 11, Paragraph A, Location, is hereby amended by deleting the existing language and replacing it with the following:

A. **Location.** All billboards may be erected or maintained only in the I-1 "Light Industrial" or I-2 "Heavy Industrial" zoning districts. Any billboard or off-premise sign in existence in any other zoning district as of the effective date of this ordinance may be allowed to continue as an existing, non-conforming use and thus may not be enlarged, improved or relocated on the same site."

Section II: That City Code Section 10.24, Subdivision 11, Paragraph B, Spacing is hereby amended by deleting all of paragraph 2 and replacing it with the following:

2. No billboard shall be erected closer to any other such billboard sign than one thousand (1000) feet, provided that this provision shall not prevent the erection of a double-faced, back-to-back or V-type advertising device and further providing that such spacing requirement shall not apply as between any off-premise advertising device permitted under the provisions of Laws 1971, Chapter 883. Additionally, no billboard shall be erected less than five hundred (500) feet from the surface of the Central Lakes Trail, or within three hundred (300) feet of any property located in a residential zoning district.

Section III: That City Code Section 10.24, Subdivision 11, Paragraph C, Size is hereby amended by deleting all of the existing language and replacing it with the following:

No billboard shall exceed four hundred (400) square feet in area and no portion of a billboard sign shall extend beyond the regular face of the sign framework.

Section IV: That City Code Section 10.24, Subdivision 11, is hereby amended by the addition of the following:

E. **Lighting.** All billboard lighting is to be hooded and directed away from any adjacent public roadway. Additionally, all illumination shall be external."

Section V: That City Code Section 10.03, Subdivision 2.I "Landscaping Requirements" is hereby amended by adding, after the words "All new structures", the following: "new billboards,".

Section VI: That City Code Section 10.02, Subdivision 2 and City Code Section 10.02, Subdivision 31 are hereby deleted.

Section VII. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Alexandria this 13th day of February, 2006, by the following vote:

YES: KALPIN, CARLSON, WEISEL, FRANK

NO: NONE

ABSENT: BENSON

/S/ H. Dan Ness, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
/S/ James P. Taddei, City Administrator