The purpose of this division is to protect public safety, promote public welfare and to ensure the maintenance of an attractive community environment, while attempting to meet the needs of sign users for adequate identification, communication and advertising.

Anderson County Development Standards Department
401 E. River Street
Anderson, SC 29624
Definitions

**Abandoned sign:** A sign structure that has ceased to be used, and the owner intends no longer to have used, for the display of sign copy, or as otherwise defined by state law.

**Awning Sign:** A sign displayed on or attached flat against the surface or surfaces of an awning. See also “Wall or fascia sign.”

**Building Elevation:** The entire side of a building, from ground level to the roofline, as viewed perpendicular to the walls on that side of the building.

**Canopy (Attached):** A multisided overhead structure supported by columns, but not enclosed by walls. The surface(s) and or soffit of a free-standing canopy may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light.

**Canopy (Free-standing):** A multisided overhead structure supported by columns, but not enclosed by walls. The surface(s) and/or soffit of a free-standing canopy may be illuminated by means of internal or external sources of light.

**Canopy Sign:** A sign affixed to the visible surface(s) of an attached or free-standing canopy.

**Changeable Sign:** A sign with the capability of content change by means of manual or remote input.

**Electronic Message Sign or Center:** An electrically activated changeable sign where the variable message capability can be electronically programmed.

**Frontage (Building):** The length of an exterior building wall or structure of a single premise orientated to the public way or other properties that it faces.

**Frontage (Property):** The length of the property line(s) of any single premise along either a public way or other properties on which it borders.

**Menu Board:** A free-standing sign orientated to the drive-through lane for a restaurant that advertises the menu items available from the drive-through window, and which has not more than 20 percent of the total area for such a sign utilized for business identification.
DIVISION 8. - SIGN REGULATIONS

FOOTNOTE(S):

--- (3) ---

Cross reference— Buildings and building regulations, ch. 10.

Sec. 38-251. - Purpose.

The purpose of this division is to protect public safety, promote public welfare and to ensure the maintenance of an attractive community environment, while attempting to meet the needs of sign users for adequate identification, communication and advertising.

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03)

Sec. 38-252. - Applicability and conformance.

(1) This division regulates the number, size, placement and physical characteristics of signs, exempts certain signs, prohibits certain signs, and requires permits for certain signs. (2) From and after the adoption of this division, or the adoption of any amendment thereto, no sign permit shall be issued unless the proposed sign conforms with the requirements of this division.

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03)

Sec. 38-253. - Exempt signs.

The following signs are exempt from the provisions of this division, and require no permit:

(1) Traffic, directional, warning or informational signs authorized by any public agency.

(2) Official notices issued by any court, public agency or public officer.

(3) Campaign or political signs erected, displayed or placed on private property. In accordance with state law, no campaign or political sign may be erected, displayed or placed within 200 feet of any polling place.

(4) Real estate signs erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined, relating to the sale or lease of real property and/or improvements thereon, provided the signs do not exceed a total signage area of six square feet for residential property and 32 square feet for commercial, agricultural and industrial properties (for definition of “total signage area” see section 38-257).

(5) Open house, garage sale and yard sale signs erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined. Said signs must note the address of the property where the event is taking place and must be removed within five days following the date of the event.

(6) Institutional signs erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined, not to exceed 20 square feet in total signage area, for any public, charitable, educational, hospital (including urgent care and outpatient ambulatory care facilities) or religious institution.

(7) Building nameplates with related inscription.

(8) Flags and flagpoles erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway, measured from the base of the flagpole, where the right of way is undefined and erected, placed or displayed for any use other than business advertisement or identification.

(9) Window signs.
(10) On-site directional signs erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined, where each sign does not exceed nine square feet in total signage area.

(11) One-time auction signs erected, displayed or placed on private property outside of any defined public right of way and no closer than five feet from any property line nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined. Said signs may not be placed, erected or displayed more than 60 days prior to the auction and shall be removed within ten days following the auction. Auction signs may not exceed a total signage area of six square feet for residential properties with a total area of five acres or less and 32 square feet for residential properties in excess of five acres, commercial properties, agricultural properties, and industrial properties.

(12) Signs carved or built into a structure with materials which are an integral part of the building and approved by the building and codes department.

(13) Temporary construction project signs erected, displayed or placed on private property no closer than five feet from any defined right of way or property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined, with a maximum of 64 square feet in total signage area for residential projects and 150 square feet in total signage area for commercial, agricultural and industrial projects. These signs shall not be erected, placed or displayed more than 30 days prior to start of construction and shall be removed within 30 days after completion of construction.

(14) Temporary mobile or portable signs providing notice of events of widespread community interest and providing a public health benefit erected, placed or displayed not more than two weeks prior to the event and removed within two weeks after the event.

(15) One on-premises temporary mobile or portable sign per business used to advertise a business, a business event, or a business’s products which is attached to a vehicle, trailer, movable structure, or attached to a sign structure which is not securely anchored into the ground, or which may be transported or is designed to be transported; provided, however, that no portion of any such sign shall be placed or displayed within five feet of any defined right of way or property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined. If a sidewalk is present, the temporary mobile or portable sign must be not less than five feet from any edge of the sidewalk.

(16) Other on-premises temporary signs providing advertising of the products or services offered by the business; provided, however, that the aggregate total signage area of said signs shall not exceed 20 percent of the square footage of the business’s building frontage area. Any temporary signage area exceeding the 20 percent square footage maximum is subject to the permitting requirements of section 38-255(5).

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03)

Sec. 38-254. - Prohibited signs.

The following signs are prohibited:

(1) Strobe lights and signs containing strobe lights or flashing lights which are visible beyond the property line.

(2) Signs placed on or painted on a motor vehicle or trailer and parked with the primary purpose of providing a sign not otherwise allowed by this division. For purposes of this section, it shall be presumed that any motor vehicle or trailer validly licensed, tagged, and insured so that it can legally be used on public roadways or offered for sale, is not parked for the primary purpose of providing a sign not otherwise allowed by this division.

(3) Rooftop signs, excluding flush pitched roof signs as defined in section 38-37.

(4) Any sign that encroaches upon any right of way for a street, road or highway other than those exempted in section 38-253(1) and (2).

(5) Signs painted on or attached to trees, rocks or other natural features, or telephone or utility poles, street signs, or poles for stoplights.
Sec. 38-255. - Permitted signs.

The following signs, when properly permitted pursuant to the applicable permitting requirements of section 38-73, and meeting the applicable development standards contained in section 38-256, are allowed:

(1) Permanent freestanding business identification signs.

   a. Allowable area. Freestanding signs may contain 1½ square feet of total signage area per lineal foot of street frontage for each developed site, lot or parcel, up to a maximum of 300 square feet of total signage area.

   b. Number. Only one freestanding sign is allowed for each developed site, lot or parcel on which a nonresidential use is constructed. Where a developed site, lot or parcel fronts on more than one publicly dedicated street, one additional freestanding sign is allowed for each street but shall not be located on the same street frontage, provided, however, one sign using up to the total signage area calculated for both street frontages may be erected, displayed or placed on a single street frontage if all other requirements of this division and applicable permitting requirements are met. Where two or more detached buildings occupy the same lot or parcel, each may have one freestanding sign, provided the total combined signage area does not exceed the allowable limits specified by subsection (1)a. above, based on lineal street frontage of the site or parcel on which they are located. Where two or more attached businesses occupy the same site or parcel (i.e., a shopping center), only one freestanding sign for all the businesses located within the shopping center shall be permitted based upon the total public street frontage for the shopping center. Outparcels, defined as lots having street frontage created by a division of lots from a shopping center, shall be considered a part of the shopping center for the purpose of determining the size allowance for the sign for the shopping center. Each outparcel lot may have one freestanding sign per publicly dedicated street frontage not to exceed 25 feet in height and 1½ square feet of signage area per lineal foot of public street frontage for the outparcel up to a maximum of 100 square feet in total signage area.

   c. Location. No portion of any freestanding sign shall be located closer than five feet from any defined right of way or property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined, or in any way impair the sight lines of drivers or pedestrians at driveway or street intersections.

   d. Height. No freestanding sign shall exceed 50 feet in height measured from the grade of the road at the point closest to the sign to the highest point of the sign, including structural components of the sign, except those signs located on public road frontage within 1,000 lineal feet of an interstate highway interchange, measured from the outermost edge of the interstate on-ramp or off-ramp and proceeding along the edge of the intersecting roadway and interstate in each direction (see appendix H), in which case said freestanding sign may be a maximum height of 100 feet measured from the grade of the road at the point closest to the sign to the highest point of the sign, including structural components of the sign.

(2) Permanent business identification signs attached to buildings.

   a. Allowable area.

      1. If there is no freestanding business identification sign on the developed site, lot or parcel one permanent business identification sign may be attached to the building provided it contains not more than 1½ square feet of total signage area per lineal foot of principal building frontage.

      2. If there is a freestanding business identification sign on the developed lot, parcel or site, one permanent business identification sign containing not more than one square foot of total signage area per lineal foot of principal building frontage may be placed, erected or displayed on said building.

   b. Types of signs. Fascia, projecting, marquee, awning and flush pitched roof signs are allowed provided they meet all other requirements of this division and all permitting requirements.

   c. Number of signs. Only one projecting sign as defined in section 38-37 is allowed per building frontage, except for shopping centers, which may have one projecting sign for each business use, plus one
aggregate freestanding business identification sign for the shopping center as prescribed in section 38-255(1)b above.

(3) Billboards.

a. Unless otherwise specified, the following requirements relate to all freestanding off-premises billboards receiving initial permitting after April 15, 2003 (the term "initial permitting" shall mean receiving a valid sign permit for a relocated billboard, but shall not include permitting or re-permitting of billboards existing and/or having valid sign permits prior to April 15, 2003).

1. Billboard defined. Any permanent sign, excluding off-premises directional signs and off-premises business signs as defined hereinafter, with advertising copy not related to the use of the property on which the structure is located.

2. Structural requirements. All billboards shall be constructed entirely out of steel, shall be supported by a single steel pole (a "monopole") and shall have a steel face on all facings. Any lighting shall be directed toward the sign face and no light source shall be visible from roadways or surrounding properties. All construction and installation shall meet all applicable building codes.

3. Location. All billboards shall be allowed only in C-1, C-2, C-3, S-1, I-1 and I-2 zoning districts and on unzoned commercial, business, or industrial properties. Commercial, business, or industrial properties shall mean properties being used solely for commercial, business, or industrial activity and for which a valid commercial, business, or industrial land use permit has been issued.

4. Spacing. No billboards shall be permitted:

(a) Within 1,000 feet of any other billboard on the same side of road or within 500 feet from the vertical point of any billboard located on the opposite side of the road;

(b) Within 500 feet of any property zoned residential (if zoned) or any property used for a residential purpose (if unzoned) on the same side of and fronting the road in question at the time of construction of the billboard;

(c) Within 1,000 feet of any historic site, place, or district that is recorded on the national register, or any public park;

(d) Within 1,000 feet from the centerline of any designated scenic highway or the designated heritage corridor when locating a billboard on a road that intersects with a scenic highway;

(e) At intersecting streets within 500 feet of any other billboard measured by the curb line. A billboard may be located at this point or at a vertical point on the opposite side of the street provided all other criteria are met.

5. Maximum allowable display area.

(a) No billboard may contain more than 400 square feet of sign face area per sign face.

(b) Twenty percent of the 400 square feet allowable for extended space.

6. Height restrictions.

(a) The maximum height for any billboard located on property adjoining the right-of-way for Interstate 85 shall be 70 feet, including structural components of the billboard, measured from the grade of Interstate 85 at the nearest point to the billboard;

(b) The maximum height for all other billboards shall be 50 feet, including structural components of the billboard, measured from the grade of the road, street or highway to which the billboard is nearest at the nearest point to the billboard;
(c) Minimum height of the base of any billboard face shall be 15 feet above the grade of the road, street or highway to which the billboard is nearest at the nearest point to the billboard.

7. Minimum setbacks.

    (a) No billboard shall be erected such that any portion of the billboard shall be within 15 feet of any road, street, or highway right-of-way or within 30 feet of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right-of-way is undefined;

    (b) No billboard shall be erected such that any portion of the billboard shall be within five feet of any property line.

8. Abandoned billboard. A billboard without copy must either display copy or be removed within 90 days of official notification from the code enforcement officer.

    Maintenance. The owner of the billboard must maintain the structure and all fascia and appurtenances in proper condition at all times. An unmaintained billboard must be brought to standards or removed within 90 days of official notification from the code enforcement officer.

9. Permit issuance. In addition to the permitting requirements of section 38-73 which are applicable to all signs, the following permitting requirements shall apply to billboards in particular:

    (a) Permits for existing billboards. All existing billboards in Anderson County will be issued a permit number, but shall not be required to meet present standards and requirements as a condition for receiving said permit. In order to be eligible for this initial permitting, the sign owner shall furnish the development standards office of the county with the following information within 90 days of ordinance enactment:

        (1) Complete inventory of all existing billboards.

        (2) Location description.

        (3) Color photograph, taken within 90 days of submission to the county, of each face and support structure.

        (4) Face dimensions.

        No fee shall be charged for this initial permitting.

    (b) Permits for relocated billboards. A sign permit for the relocation of an existing billboard shall not be issued by the county unless:

        (1) An officer of the company applying for the permit certifies in writing to the development standards manager that the relocated billboard shall be completely constructed within 12 months from the date the sign permit for the relocated billboard is issued; and,

        (2) An officer of the company applying for the permit certifies in writing to the development standards manager that the relocated billboard shall have no more display area (square footage) than the billboard or billboards it is replacing and meets all present billboard face requirements; and,

        (3) An officer of the company applying for the permit certifies in writing to the development standards manager that the company has provided the information required by subsection 38-255(3)a.9(a) above for all of its existing billboards in Anderson County and has received re-permitting for said billboards as required hereunder; and,

        (4) The county has verified that the relocated billboard and its proposed location meet all present standards and requirements of this chapter; and,
(5) The county has certified that the billboard being replaced has been completely removed.

(6) All other requirements for obtaining a permit have been met, including, but not limited to, the payment of a permit fee as charged by the county.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no sign permit for the relocation of a billboard, shall be issued if the company requesting such permit is known by the county to be in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter as to any billboard or billboard location in the county.

(c) Posting of sign permits. The county development standards department shall issue all billboards a weather resistant permit number identification tag. The owner of each billboard in Anderson County shall be responsible for affixing the permit tag to the billboard in a prominent and visible location on the pole and for ensuring that each permit is continuously attached thereafter.

(d) Fees and renewal. All sign permits for billboards issued in accordance with this section shall be valid for the calendar year in which they are issued and shall be renewed not later than January 30 of each calendar year. The initial permit fee for billboards of $75.00, subject to periodic adjustment by county council, shall be charged at the time of issuance and must be paid prior to issuance of the original permit. A renewal fee of $25.00 shall be charged for each billboard permit renewed. Any billboard owner who fails to remit the $25.00 fee by January 30 of each year will be charged a late fee of $25.00 for each billboard permit not renewed. Any billboard company that does not renew the billboard permit within 30 days of nonpayment notice by the county, the county shall revoke all unpaid permits, and the billboard owner will be required to remove the unpermitted billboards within 30 days of notification.

(e) No renewal permit shall be issued if the company requesting such permit is known by the county to be in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter.

(f) County must be notified within 90 days upon removal of a sign structure. The permit associated with the removed sign structure will remain active as long as annual renewal permitting fee is paid for up to five years or permit is relocated to new conforming location.

(4) Off-premise changeable message signs.

   a. Changeable message signs shall not contain or display flashing, intermittent or moving lights.

   b. All changeable message signs shall meet all provisions set forth in this chapter regarding billboard and will be considered a billboard.

   c. In addition to current billboard spacing requirement no changeable message sign shall be permitted within 1,000 feet of existing changeable message sign on same road.

   d. Each message displayed shall remain fixed for at least six seconds.

   e. When a message is changed, it shall be accomplished within an interval of two seconds or less.

   f. Changeable message signs shall not be side by side or stacked.

   g. If an existing sign is to be revised to a changeable message sign, an application shall be submitted noting the sign is to become a changeable message signs and requesting approval for this change.

   h. Light produced by a digital billboard should not exceed 0.3 foot-candles over ambient light levels.

       Automatic dimming capability. A digital billboard must be able to automatically adjust as ambient light levels change. An automatic light sensing device (such as photocell or similar technology) should be utilized for adjusting the digital billboard’s brightness. Sunset-sunrise tables and manual methods of controlling brightness are not acceptable as a primary means of controlling brightness.

(5) Off-premises business and directional signs.
a. The following requirements relate to all off-premises directional signs:

1. Off-premises directional signs defined. Any permanent sign, excluding billboards as defined above, the purpose of which is limited exclusively to the identification of a use or occupancy located elsewhere and which tells or shows the location, direction of or route to such use or occupancy.

2. Location. Off-premises directional signs shall only be permitted in areas zoned R-A, R-M1, R-M2, R-M7, R-M, R-MA, R-MHP, O-D, C-1N, C-1R, C-1, C-2, C-3, S-1, I-1 and I-2, and unzoned areas. Off-premises directional signs shall be located at least five feet from any defined right of way or property line, or at least 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined.

3. Maximum allowable display area. Maximum allowable sign face area shall be nine (9) square feet.

b. The following requirements relate to all off-premises business signs:

1. Off-premises business signs defined. Any permanent sign, excluding billboards as defined above, the purpose of which is limited exclusively to the identification of a use or occupancy located elsewhere where the owner or lessee of the sign site is the business to which the sign copy refers.

2. Location. Off-premises business signs shall only be permitted in areas zoned R-A, R-M1, R-M2, R-M7, R-M, R-MA, R-MHP, O-D, C-1N, C-1R, C-1, C-2, C-3, S-1, I-1 and I-2, and unzoned areas. Off-premises business signs shall be located at least five feet from any defined right of way or property line, or at least 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined.

3. Maximum allowable display area. Maximum allowable sign face area shall be 32 square feet.

(6) Temporary signs. Shall mean any on-premise signs, not exempted in section 38-253, that disseminate information about the business. No portion of any temporary sign shall be placed within five feet of any defined right of way or property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right of way is undefined. No temporary sign shall be permanently attached to the ground, a building, or any other permanent structure, and all temporary signs must be maintained in a presentable fashion acceptable to the development standards manager. Any temporary sign, not exempt from the permitting requirements, must be permitted in accordance with this chapter prior to being displayed, erected, placed or constructed. No developed lot, parcel or site shall have a non-exempt temporary sign permitted more than once in any six-month period and the permit must expire within thirty days of issuance. A security deposit shall be required for each permit for temporary signs. Such deposit shall be returned to the permit holder provided the sign has been removed after the expiration of the 30-day period or the deposit will be forfeited. The following temporary signs, when properly permitted, are allowed:

a. Banners.

1. Allowed in commercial and industrial areas and zoning districts only, or as otherwise provided in the Zoning Ordinance.

2. One banner is allowed per street frontage for each developed lot, parcel or site. No banner may have greater total signage area than the allowed permanent freestanding business identification sign for that developed lot, parcel or site as provided in section 38-255(1)a.

3. In the case of long pennant type banners with multiple flags or banners attached to a banner string or rope, the total length of the pennant banner string or rope shall not exceed the total street frontage of the developed lot, parcel or site. For example, if a lot has 200 feet of frontage, then the pennant banner string shall not exceed 200 feet in length.

4. The height of the pennant banner shall be no lower than eight feet and no higher than 14 feet measured from grade of the property line closest to the pennant banner and shall not exceed 20 feet in height at any point measured from grade of the property line closest to the pennant banner.

5. No individual pennants and flags on any banner string shall be greater than 18 inches in width and 24 inches in length at there widest and tallest points.
6. Multiple strands are allowed, so long as the aggregate length of the banner strings is no greater than the allowed length and all other requirements of this section are met.

b. Balloon or inflatable signs, subject to the following conditions:
1. Allowed in commercial and industrial areas and zoning districts only.
2. Only one balloon or inflatable sign may be permitted for any developed lot, parcel or site.
3. No balloon or inflatable sign may have greater total signage area than that allowed for a permanent freestanding business identification sign for that developed lot, parcel or site as provided in section 38-255(1)a and may not be displayed above the height limitations of section 38-255(1)d.

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03; Ord. No. 2012-004, § 2[Att.], 3-5-2012)

Sec. 38-256. - Development standards.

All signs allowed under this division, including, but not limited to, billboards, must comply with the following development standards:

(1) Visual clearance.

a. No sign may be located within a vision clearance area as defined in subsection (1)b. below and no support structure for a sign may be located in a vision clearance area unless the diameter is 12 inches or less.

b. Location of vision clearance areas. Vision clearance areas are triangular shaped areas located at the intersection of any combination of streets, private roads, alleys or driveways (collectively referred to as the "roadways"). The sides of the vision clearance triangle extend 15 feet from the intersecting point of the roadways in both directions along the edge of each roadway. The vertical dimensions of the vision clearance area commences 42 inches above the grade of the roadway at any point along the edge of the vision clearance area to ten feet above said grade. (See Page 11)

(2) Vehicle area clearances. When any sign or billboard extends over vehicle travel areas including driveways, alleys, parking lots and loading and maneuvering areas, the bottom of the sign structure shall be at least 14 feet above the ground directly below the sign or billboard.

(3) Pedestrian area clearances. When a sign extends over private sidewalks or walkways, the bottom of the sign structure, including, but not limited to billboards, shall be at least eight and one-half feet above the ground directly below the sign.
(4) Required yards and setbacks. Except for exempt signs under subsection 38-253(1) and (2), the sign face of any sign structure may be erected in required yards and setbacks as defined in this chapter, but shall be placed, erected or displayed no closer than five feet from any defined right-of-way or property line, nor within 15 feet from the edge of any paved or unpaved roadway where the right-of-way is undefined.

(5) Illumination. Except where otherwise prohibited, signs may be illuminated either through the use of backlighting or direct lighting provided the following standards are met:

a. Information on any illumination proposed as part of a sign must be provided on any sign permit application.

b. No light source from any illuminated sign shall be visible or cause direct glare into or upon any building other than the building to which the sign is related.
c. No light source from any illuminated sign shall be visible or cause direct glare onto any adjoining piece of property or any adjoining right-of-way.

Any permanent or temporary sign containing electrical components shall conform to current building code standards as well as current UL, ETL, CSA, or ULC standards and display a label from one of these recognized testing labs. All electrical power shall be supplied from an underground source.

(Ord. No. 2012-004, § 2[Att.], 3-5-2012)

Sec. 38-257. - Sign measurement.

(1) Total signage area.

a. The total signage area of any sign or billboard enclosed in frames or cabinets is determined based on the outer dimensions of the frame or cabinet surrounding the sign face. (See appendix J.) Total signage area does not include foundations or supports to the sign, unless said structures contain sign related display or decoration. Only one side of a double-faced or V-shaped (where the angle of the V is less than 45 degrees) freestanding sign or billboard is counted in total signage area.

b. When a sign or billboard is on a base material and attached without a frame, such as a wood board or plexiglass panel, the dimensions of the base material are to be used to determine total signage area unless it is clear that part of the base contains no sign related display or decoration.

c. When signs are constructed of individual pieces attached to a building wall, total signage area is determined by a perimeter drawn around all the pieces. (See Page 14)

d. For sign structures containing multiple modules oriented in the same direction, the modules together are counted as one sign face. (See Page 13)

e. The maximum surface area visible at one time of a round or three-dimensional sign is counted to determine total signage area.

f. When signs are incorporated into awnings, the entire panel containing the sign is counted as the sign face unless it is clear that part of the panel contains no sign related display or decoration.
SIGN FACE MEASUREMENT

1. SIGN FACE AREA = (A) (B)

2. SIGN FACE AREA = (A) (B)

3. SIGN FACE AREA = (D) (E) + (F) (G) + (I) (H)

(2) Primary building frontages. Primary building frontages are derived for each ground floor occupant’s qualifying exterior walls. (See appendix K.)

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03; Ord. No. 2012-004, § 2[Att.], 3-5-2012)
Building Frontage Measurements

Sign Measurements

SF = SITE FRONTAGE
PBF = PRIMARY BUILDING FRONTAGE
SBF = SECONDARY BUILDING FRONTAGE
Sec. 38-258. - Removal of signs.

(1) The lawful use of any sign or billboard existing at the time of the enactment of the ordinance, or any amendment thereto, from which this article derives may be continued although such use does not conform with the provisions of this division, subject, however, to any re-permitting requirements contained herein and subject to provisions related to abandoned signs and billboards.

(2) Any existing sign or billboard which is subsequently determined to have been abandoned after due notice as provided herein, shall be removed at the expense of the owner. Any existing sign exceeding the allowable total signage area by 25 percent, which is subsequently destroyed or damaged to the extent of 50 percent or more of its replacement cost, shall be removed or brought into conformity with these regulations. Any written notice required herein shall be mailed or personally delivered by the planning commission staff to the owner of such sign, or of the building or premises on which such sign is located, requiring compliance within the stated period of time. Upon failure to comply with such notice, the county may remove the sign and any costs of removal incurred by the county may be collected in a manner prescribed by law.

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03; Ord. No. 2012-004, § 2[Att.], 3-5-2012)

Sec. 38-259. - Nonconforming signs.

(1) Determination of existing nonconforming status. Existing signs or billboards which do not conform to the specific provisions of this ordinance, as amended, may be eligible for the designation "existing nonconforming" provided that:

   a. The development standards manager determines such signs or billboards are properly maintained and do not in any way endanger the public.

   b. The sign was installed with a valid permit or variance, and/or complied with all applicable laws on the date of adoption of this ordinance.

(2) Loss of existing nonconforming status. An existing nonconforming sign or billboard may lose this designation if:

   a. The sign or billboard is relocated or replaced.

   b. The structure or size of the sign or billboard is altered in any way except toward compliance with this ordinance. This does not refer to change of copy or normal maintenance.

(3) Maintenance and repair of nonconforming signs. The legal nonconforming sign or billboard is subject to all requirements of this Code regarding safety, maintenance, and repair; provided, however, if the sign or billboard is damaged or destroyed to the extent that repair costs exceed 50 percent of the replacement cost, it must be brought into compliance with this Code or removed.

(Ord. No. 03-007, § 1, 4-15-03; Ord. No. 2012-004, § 2[Att.], 3-5-2012)
Examples of Free Standing Signage

COMMON FREE-STANDING SIGN TYPES

MONUMENT OR BLADE
PYLON
POLE
GROUND OR LOW PROFILE

WALL OR FASCIA SIGNS ON STOREFRONTS

ROOF SIGN

PROJECTING SIGN

CANOPY SIGN
ON FREE-STANDING CANOPY
Prohibited Roof Top Signage

- **Roof Signs**
  - *Main Roof*
  - *Sign*
  - *Roof Sign*
  - *Sloping Roof Mount*

- **Canopy Mount**
  - *Main Roof*
  - *Sign*
  - *Canopy*
  - *Side Elevation*
  - *Not Roof Sign*

- **Mansard Mount**
  - *Main Roof*
  - *Sign*
  - *Mansard*
  - *Side Elevation*
  - *Not Roof Sign*

- **Pent Eave Mount**
  - *Main Roof*
  - *Sign*
  - *Pent Eave*
  - *Side Elevation*
  - *Not Roof Sign*
Examples of Signage Consisting of Individual Letters, Elements or Logos Placed on Building Walls or Structures

**METROLAND BANK**
Drive-In Branch

Compute area around copy elements only.

**METROLAND BANK**
Drive-In Branch

Compute area inside defined border or inside contrasting color area.

**Arrowhead**

Compute sum of areas of individual elements on wall or structure.

**Village Center**

In computing area for upper- and lower-case lettering, include ascenders or descenders, but not both. Calculate super ascenders separately as indicated.
Sign Permit Application

Date of Application Completion ______________________ Permit Status ______________________ Permit# ______________________

**ALLOW 7 WORKING DAYS FOR REVIEW**

Owner’s Information

Name:______________________________________________________________

Business Name (if applicable): ________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________

Telephone and Fax: ________________________________________________

E-Mail: ____________________________________________________________

Sign Company/Authorized Representative’s Information

Name:______________________________________________________________

Company Name: ____________________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________

Telephone and Fax: ________________________________________________

E-Mail: ____________________________________________________________

Project Information

Property/Sign Location: ______________________________________________

Parcel Number(s)/TMS: ______________________________________________

Existing Sign(s) on Site: (Please List Sign Type, Area and Height, 2 copies of rendering)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Nature of Work:

New Construction __________________ Alteration __________________________ Repair __________________

Change out of existing/one for one replacement: ________________________________

Proposed Type of Signage:

Permanent Free-Standing ________ Temporary ____________ Business Identification __________

Monument __________ Pylon __________ Pole __________ Ground Tower __________

Off-Premises Directional ____________ Attached to Building (Wall Sign) _____________

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<tr>
<th>Type of Sign</th>
<th>Square Footage of Sign</th>
<th>Building Frontage for Sign (If a Wall Sign)</th>
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<td>Sign One (1)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Two (2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Three (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Please attach a design/sketch of each sign with dimensions, show total height for free-standing signs.

**Road Right-of-Way Verification (Road ROW List):**
The right-of-way for an Anderson County maintained road can be obtained by contacting the Roads and Bridges Department at (864) 260-4190. If the sign is located on a state road, please contact the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) at (864) 260-2215 for right-of-way verification.

**Minimum Setback Requirements:**
Five (5) feet from any defined right-of-way or property line or fifteen (15) feet from the edge of the pavement, if there is not a defined right-of-way.

*You must contact the Building and Codes Department at (864) 260-4158 to obtain a separate building permit that will cover the structural, electrical and foundation.*

As the applicant(s), I (we) hereby confirm that the required information and materials for this application are authentic and have been submitted to the Anderson County Public Works Division – Development Standards. I (We) further confirm that I (we) have read and understand the road right-of-way and minimum setback requirements and will adhere to them as stated in the Anderson County Code of Ordinances.

Applicant’s Signature: ________________________________ Date: ______________

Applicant’s Signature: ________________________________ Date: ______________

This sign permit is only valid for the sign(s) constructed, erected or installed in accordance with the application herewith and in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Anderson County Development Standards Ordinance, as amended.

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For Office Use Only:
Application Received By: __________________________ Date Complete Application Received: __________
Application Fee $50.00 __________________________ Check or Credit Card: __________________________
Date Application Approved: ________________ Approved By: __________________________
Checklist/Requirements for Submitting a Sign Application

Applications

As of July 2019, our sign permits have been updated. We have also designed a separate application, specifically to process Upfit signage. You can download the newest versions of both applications from our website. (Fees for new signage is $50, fees for upfit or change-out signage is $20.00)

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE MAILED IN OR SUBMITTED IN PERSON WITH PAYMENT FOR PROCESSING

Must submit two (2) copies of a completed Sign Application(s) with fees. A sign application, and our site plan must include the following: (Incomplete applications will be returned)

Freestanding Signs are allowed 1½ square foot of signage per lineal foot of street frontage, with a maximum of 300 sf. and height maximum of 50’.

Your site plan should include:

- Exact sign renderings (freestanding or wall)
- Exact sign locations
- Exact Sign Heights/Measurements/Size
- Lineal street frontage (For freestanding signs)
- Distance from a State or County Road Right of Way (For freestanding signs)
- For right of way information on State Roads, contact SCDOT at 864-260-2215, for County roads contact Roads & Bridges at 864-260-4190.

Wall Signs (with Freestanding) signs are only allowed (1 to 1) square foot of signage per linear ft of frontage. If there is no freestanding sign, you will be allowed 1½ square foot of wall signage per lineal foot of frontage. Wall signs must include, exact sign rendering, sign measurements/sizes, and lineal ft. of building frontage or display area.

Upfit Signage – Can only replace a sign being swapped out of an existing panel.

(Note: When erecting or displaying wall signage in a strip shopping center, your lineal frontage does not include the entire length of the strip shopping center building. Only count the area or space)

New Signage - Should include all items listed above. You will also be required to submit an application to the Building Codes Department (on a separate application), contact Building Codes for more information at 864.260-4158.

Off Premise Signs - Should not be larger than 32 square feet and must include a permission letter from the property owner. (cannot include directional arrow)

Directional Signs - Should not be larger than 9 square feet.

Allow seven (7) working days for a Sign Application to be reviewed.

(Signs requiring additions, corrections, or resubmittals require additional time.)

Signs requiring a variance, please allow at least thirty (30) days for a scheduled hearing.