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ORDINANCE NO. 161312

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An ordinance amending Division 62 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Division 62 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

DIVISION 62

SIGNS

SEC. 91.6201. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

(a) Scope. All exterior signs and sign support structures shall conform to the requirements of this Division and all other applicable provisions of this Code.

(b) Purpose. The purpose of this Division is to promote public safety and welfare by regulating signs in keeping with the following objectives:

1. That the design, construction, installation, repair and maintenance of signs will not interfere with traffic safety, or otherwise endanger public safety;

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2. That the regulations will provide reasonable protection to the visual environment while providing adequate conditions for meeting sign users' needs;

3. That incompatibility between signs and their surroundings will be reduced;

4. That both the public and sign users will benefit from signs having improved legibility, readability and visibility;

5. That consideration will be given to equalizing the opportunity for messages to be displayed;

6. That adequacy of message opportunity will be available to sign users without dominating the visual appearance of the area.

(c) Application. On-site signs shall comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 91.6201 through 91.6214 of this Division. Off-site signs shall comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 91.6201 through 91.6205 and 91.6220 of this Division. Temporary on-site and off-site signs shall comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 91.6201 through 91.6205 and 91.6215 of this Division. Mural signs shall comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 91.6201 through 91.6205 and 91.6216 of this Division.

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1 (d) Ideological and Political Signs. No
2 provision of this Division shall prohibit an
3 ideological, political or other non-commercial message
4 on a sign otherwise permitted by this Division.
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6 SEC. 91.6202. ENFORCEMENT

7 (a) Violations. It shall be unlawful for any
8 person to erect, construct, install, enlarge, alter,
9 repair, move, remove, convert, demolish, use or
10 maintain any sign or sign support structure or cause
11 or permit the same to be done, in violation of any of
12 the provisions of this Division.

13 Any person who violates or causes or permits
14 another person to violate any of the provisions of
15 this Division is guilty of a misdemeanor.

16 (b) Penalties. Any person convicted of a
17 misdemeanor under the provisions of this Division
18 shall be punishable by a fine of not more than
19 \$1000.00 or by imprisonment in the county jail for a
20 period of not more than six months, or by both such
21 fine and imprisonment. Each violation of the
22 provisions of this Division and each day during which
23 such violation is committed or continues is a separate
24 offense.

25 Any person convicted of violating any provision
26 of this Division may be required to pay restitution to
27 the City of Los Angeles for all costs expended to
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1 investigate and/or enforce the provisions of this
2 Division.

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4 SEC. 91.6203. DEFINITIONS

5 The following terms whenever used in this
6 Division are defined below. To the extent that other
7 terms used in this Division are defined in Section
8 12.03 and Division 4 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of
9 this Code, those definitions shall apply.

10 BUILDING FRONTAGE. The projection of the
11 building walls upon the street used for street
12 frontage.

13 FACE OF BUILDING. The general outer surface, not
14 including cornices, bay windows, or architectural
15 projections, of any exterior wall of a building.

16 FREEWAY. A highway in respect to which the
17 owners or those in possession of abutting lands have
18 no right or easement of access to or from their
19 abutting lands or in respect to which such owners have
20 only limited or restricted right or easement of
21 access, and which is declared to be such, in
22 compliance with the Streets and Highways Code of the
23 State of California.

24 IDENTIFICATION SIGN. A wall sign which is
25 limited to a company logo, generic type of business or
26 the name of a business or building.

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ILLUMINATED ARCHITECTURAL CANOPY SIGN. An enclosed illuminated structure that is attached to the wall of a building with the face of the sign approximately parallel to the wall and with the message integrated into its surface.

INFORMATION SIGN. A sign which is limited to a message giving directions, instructions, menus, selections or address numerals.

MAIN TRAVELED ROADWAY OF A FREEWAY. That portion of a freeway, including interchange roadways connecting one freeway with another, which is designed for the movement of large volumes of vehicular traffic, efficiently and safely at high speed, but not including service roadways, landscape areas, or ingress or egress ramps connecting the freeway with other streets.

MONUMENT SIGN. A sign that is erected directly upon the existing or artificially created grade and which has a horizontal dimension equal to or greater than its vertical dimension.

MURAL SIGN. A sign which is applied to and made integral with a wall, the written message of which does not exceed three percent of the total area of the sign, and which has been approved pursuant to Section 91.6216 of this Code.

ON-SITE SIGN. A sign that is other than an off-site sign.

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OFF-SITE SIGN. A sign which displays any message directing attention to a business, product, service, profession, commodity, activity, event, person, institution or any other commercial or non-commercial message, which is generally conducted, sold, manufactured, produced, offered or occurs elsewhere than on the premises where such sign is located.

POLE SIGN. A free standing sign that is erected or affixed to one or more poles or posts.

PROJECTING SIGN. A sign, other than a wall sign, that is attached to a building and projects outward therefrom with one or more sign faces approximately perpendicular to the face of the building.

PROJECTION. The distance by which a sign extends beyond the buiding line.

ROOF SIGN. A sign erected upon a roof of a building.

SIGN. Any display board, wall, screen, object, or part thereof, used to announce, declare, demonstrate, display, or otherwise present a message and attract the attention of the public.

SIGN AREA. An area circumscribed by the smallest geometric shape created with a maximum of eight straight lines which will enclose all words, letters, figures, symbols, designs and pictures, together with all framing, background material, colored or illuminated areas and attention-attracting devices

1 forming an integral part of an individual message
2 except that:

3 1. Wall signs having no discernible
4 boundary, shall have the areas between letters,
5 words intended to be read together, and any
6 device intended to draw attention to the sign
7 message included in any computation of surface
8 area;

9 2. For spherical, cylindrical or other
10 three-dimensional signs the area of the sign
11 shall be computed from the smallest two-
12 dimensional geometrical shape or shapes which
13 will best approximate the greatest actual surface
14 area visible from any one direction.

15 3. Sign support structures are excluded if
16 neutral in color.

17 4. "Time and Temperature" sign copy is
18 excluded from computation of sign area if such
19 copy is less than 56 square feet in area.

20 SIGN FACE. The surface upon which the sign
21 message is placed.

22 STREET FRONTAGE. The length of a line separating
23 a lot from one street.

24 TEMPORARY SIGN. Any sign that is to be
25 maintained for a limited duration, not to exceed 60
26 days, including paper signs and other signs that are
27 not permanently affixed to the ground or building.

1 WALL SIGN. Any sign attached to, painted on or
2 erected against the wall of a building or structure,
3 with the exposed face of the sign in a plane
4 approximately parallel to the plane of the wall.
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6 SEC. 91.6204. MODIFICATIONS

7 (a) Authority. In addition to its authority to
8 grant slight modifications pursuant to Section 98.0403
9 of this Code, the Board shall have the authority to
10 grant significant modifications from these sign
11 regulations.

12 (b) Basis. Before granting a significant
13 modification, the Board must find (1) that a special,
14 individual reason makes the strict letter of the
15 ordinance impractical and (2) that the requested
16 modification is in conformity with the spirit and
17 purposes of each of the objectives set forth in
18 Section 91.6201(b) of this Division.

19 (c) Procedure.

20 1. Requests for modifications in individual
21 cases shall be made in accordance with the
22 procedure established in Section 98.0403 of this
23 Code.

24 2. The Department shall determine whether
25 an application is for a slight modification or a
26 significant modification. The Department's
27 determination that a proposed modification is
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significant shall be final and may not be
appealed to the Board.

3. Application. An application for a
request for significant modification shall be
made to the Board. The applicant in his request
shall state the special, individual reason which
makes compliance with the strict letter of the
provisions in question impractical and shall show
that the modification requested is in conformity
with the spirit and purpose of this Division.

On the date of receipt of filing of the
application, the file of the Department shall be
forwarded to the Board. The Board may refer the
file to the Building Advisory Appeal Board for
report and recommendation.

Upon receipt of the application, the Board
shall set the matter for hearing and give notice
by mail not less than 10 days before the hearing
of the time, place and purpose thereof to the
applicant, to the owners of the property
involved, and to the owners of all property
within or outside of the City that is within a
300 foot radius of the property on which the sign
is to be placed as shown on the records of the
City Clerk, or in the case of property outside
the City, the records of the County Assessor.

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1 (d) Board Referral. The Board may refer a
2 request for a significant modification to the Sign
3 Advisory Committee for evaluation and recommendation
4 before it renders a decision.

5 (e) Fees. Processing fees for significant
6 modifications are the same as those as set forth for
7 appeals to the Board in Section 98.0403. Significant
8 modifications may also be subject to the fees set
9 forth in Sections 91.0304.3 and 19.05 of this Code.

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11 SEC. 91.6205. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

12 (a) Permit Required. A building permit shall be
13 obtained from the Department in accordance with the
14 provisions of Division 2 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of
15 this Code for any signs and/or sign alterations, other
16 than changes or replacement of copy, that are
17 regulated by this Division, except those signs
18 specified in Section 91.0102(b) 26 and 27 of this Code
19 and temporary signs containing political, ideological
20 or other non-commercial messages. Where signs are
21 illuminated by electric lighting, an electrical permit
22 shall also be obtained as required by Article 3 of
23 Chapter IX of this Code.

24 The Department may revoke any sign permit as
25 provided in Section 98.0602 of this Code.

26 (b) Plans. Plans and specifications shall be
27 submitted with the application for permit for each
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1 sign. The Department may require data to be submitted
2 to show that the supporting surface and other members
3 of an existing building to which a sign is to be
4 attached are in good condition, and are adequate to
5 support the load.

6 Plans shall show complete details, method of
7 attachment or support, location and materials to be
8 used. Plans for signs and sign support structures
9 shall be accompanied by structural plans and
10 computations.

11 EXCEPTION: Structural plans and computations
12 will not be required for wall signs painted on
13 the wall, for wall signs less than 100 square
14 feet in area, or for projecting signs less than
15 20 square feet in area.

16 (c) Design and Construction. Sign frames and
17 sign support structures shall be designed and
18 constructed in conformity with other applicable
19 provisions of this Code, and, in addition, shall
20 comply with the following:

21 1. Each sign and sign support structure
22 shall be designed to resist the wind pressure as
23 required by Section 91.2311 of this Code.

24 2. Structural steel members shall be not
25 less than 1/4-inch thick if ungalvanized, and
26 3/16-inch thick if such members, including
27 connecting bolts and fastenings, are galvanized
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or otherwise treated with approved weather proofing. Bolts used to support signs equal or greater than 100 square feet in area shall not be less than 1/2-inch in diameter. Bolts supporting signs less than 100 square feet in area, shall not be less than 3/8-inch in diameter.

Signs erected on buildings or structures shall be securely attached by means of adequate metal brackets, expansion bolts, through bolts, or lag screws. No materials, fabrication, or equipment shall be used which may become dangerous because of vibration, corrosion, disintegration, or any other reason. Wire, other than stranded cable, shall not be used.

If supports of an existing structure are found to be inadequate, they shall be adequately strengthened before the sign is erected.

(d) Materials. Signs and sign support structures may be constructed of any material allowed in this Division for the classification of the sign to be installed. Any materials used shall be of the same quality and grade as those specified in this Code for use in buildings. In addition, any glass material used in signs shall comply with the limits set forth in Table No. 62-A.

(e) Hazard To Traffic.

1. Prohibition. No sign or sign support structure shall be erected, constructed, painted

1 or maintained, and no permit shall be issued, if
2 such sign or sign support structure, because of
3 its location, size, nature or type, constitutes a
4 hazard to the safe and efficient operation of
5 vehicles upon a street or a freeway, or which
6 creates a condition which endangers the safety of
7 persons or property thereon.

8 2. Hazard Referral. The Department of
9 Building and Safety shall refer the following to
10 the Department of Transportation for hazard
11 evaluation and determination prior to the
12 issuance of a building permit:

13 A. All permit applications for signs that
14 will be visible from and are located within
15 500 feet of the main traveled roadway of a
16 freeway;

17 B. All other permit applications and any
18 signs that are determined by the Department
19 of Building and Safety to have a potential
20 for hazard.

21 3. Hazard Determination. The Department of
22 Transportation shall return to the Department of
23 Building and Safety each application so referred
24 to it together with a statement of its
25 determination. If the Department of
26 Transportation determines that the sign or sign
27 support structure will constitute a hazard,
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the Department of Building and Safety shall deny the application for permit.

(f) Freeway Exposure.

1. New Signs. No person shall erect, construct, install, paint, maintain, and no building or electrical permit shall be issued for any sign or sign support structure within 2,000 feet of a freeway unless the Department of Building and Safety shall have first determined that the sign will not be viewed primarily from a main traveled roadway of a freeway or an on-ramp/off-ramp. However, at the termination of an off-ramp, any wall sign located along the front lot line may be viewed primarily from the off-ramp.

The phrase "viewed primarily from" shall mean that the message may be seen with reasonable clarity for a greater distance by a person traveling on the main traveled roadway of a freeway or on-ramp/off-ramp than by a person traveling on the street adjacent to the sign.

2. Exemption. The wall signs specified in Paragraphs A and B below are exempt from the limitation of Subdivision 1 of this Subsection. Such signs shall not have moving parts nor any arrangement of lights that create the illusion of movement.

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A. Identification signs identifying the building whereon such sign is located, providing the area of the sign is not more than 50 square feet or is not larger than five percent of the area of the side of the building which faces primarily to the freeway, whichever is greater;

B. Wall signs on which the advertising thereon is limited to the name of any person, firm or corporation occupying the building, or the type of business, services rendered, or the name of any product manufactured or sold on the premises. The total area of all wall signs on a building permitted in this Paragraph shall not exceed 100 square feet. Any one sign shall not exceed 50 square feet in area.

3. Existing Signs. Within three years of the opening of a freeway to public travel, all signs which existed prior to opening of the freeway and which are in conflict with the provision of Subsections (e) and/or (f) of this Section shall be removed, or shall be rearranged or relocated so as to eliminate any conflict with these Subsections. The Department of Building and Safety and the Department of Transportation shall determine whether or not the sign or sign

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support structure is in conflict with the provisions of Subsections (e) and/or (f). If it is determined that any such sign or sign support structure is in conflict with any of the provisions of Subsections (e) and/or (f), the permittee and/or other responsible person shall be advised and shall remove, rearrange or relocate such sign or sign support structure within such three-year period.

(g) Street Address Numbers. No sign shall be maintained on any property unless the street address of the property is maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.113 of this Code.

(h) Identification. Every sign, with the exception of temporary signs, shall have a permanent label or labels containing the information specified in this Subsection. The label or labels shall be attached to the exterior surface of the sign body in a location and size so that the information will be readable from ground level after sign installation, unless otherwise approved by the Department of Building and Safety.

1. The label shall include the weight of the sign, building permit number, approved fabricator number, sign installer's name and contractor's state license number.

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2. For signs which contain electric wiring or equipment, the label shall include the information required by Article 600 of the National Electrical Code.

(i) Maintenance

1. Structural. Signs and sign support structures shall be maintained at all times in a state of good repair, with all braces, bolts, clips, supporting frames and fastenings free from deterioration, termite infestation, rot, rust or loosening. They shall be able to safely withstand at all times the wind pressure for which they were originally designed, and in no case less than 15 pounds per square foot.

2. Appearance. Every sign shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and good working condition, including the replacement of defective parts, defaced or broken faces, lighting and other acts required for the maintenance of said sign. The display surfaces shall be kept neatly painted or posted at all times.

3. Debris Removal. The base of any sign erected on the ground shall be kept clear of weeds, rubbish or other combustible material at all times.

4. Abandoned Signage. Ninety days after the cessation of a business activity, service or

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product, the related signs shall be removed, or the face of said signs shall be removed and replaced with blank panels or shall be painted out.

(j) Prohibited Locations.

1. No sign or sign support structure shall project into any public alley, except that a sign or sign support structure above a height of 14 feet may project no more than six inches into a public alley.

2. No sign or sign support structure shall be erected in such a manner that any portion of its surface or support structure will interfere in any way with the free use of any fire escape, exit or standpipe, or obstruct any required ventilator, door or stairway. No sign or sign support structure shall obstruct any window to such an extent that any light or ventilation is reduced to a point below that required by law.

3. No sign or sign support structure shall be located less than 6 feet horizontally or 12 feet vertically from overhead electrical conductors which are energized in excess of 750 volts. The term "overhead electrical conductors" as used herein shall mean any electrical conductor, either bare or insulated, installed above ground, except such conductors as are

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enclosed in iron pipe or other material covering of equal strength. Arcs of six foot radius may be used to define corners of prohibition area.

4. No sign or sign support structure shall be erected in a visibility triangle as defined by Sections 12.21C7 and 62.200 of this Code.

5. No sign or sign support structure shall be located within two feet of the curb or edge of any roadway.

(k) Prohibited Signs. Signs are prohibited if they:

1. Contain obscene matters, as defined in Section 311 of the Penal Code of the State of California.

2. Contain or consist of posters, pennants, banners, ribbons, streamers or spinners, except as permitted in Section 91.6215 of this Code.

3. Contain flashing, mechanical and strobe lights in conflict with the provisions of Section 80.08.4 and 93.0607 of this Code.

4. Are revolving and where all or any portion rotate at greater than six revolutions per minute.

5. Are tacked, pasted or otherwise temporarily affixed on the walls of buildings, barns, sheds, trees, poles, posts or fences,

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except as permitted in Section 91.6215 of this Code.

6. Are affixed to any vehicle or trailer on private property if the vehicle or trailer is not intended to be otherwise used in the business and the sole purpose of attaching the sign to the vehicle or trailer is to attract people to a place of business.

7. Emit audible sounds, odor or visible matter.

8. Use human beings, live animals, animated figures, motion pictures or slide projectors in connection with any sign.

(l) Prohibited Devices. Pennants, banners, ribbons, streamers, spinners or other similar devices, except as permitted in Section 91.6215 of this Code, are prohibited.

(m) Sign Illumination Limitations. No sign shall be arranged and illuminated in such a manner as to produce a light intensity of greater than three foot candles above ambient lighting, as measured at the property line of the nearest residentially zoned property.

(n) Combination Signs. A sign which is subject to more than one classification shall meet the requirements for the classification to which each portion is subject.

1 (o) Flag Lots. For purposes of this Division,
2 flag lots containing less than 50 feet of street
3 frontage shall be allotted 50 feet of street frontage
4 for the purpose of determining the type of sign
5 permitted and for the allowable sign area.

6 (p) Sign Permit Priority Status.

7 1. To maintain location, area, frontage, or
8 spacing status, signs must be installed within
9 six months of issuance of a building permit or
10 prior to expiration of any permit extension
11 granted by the Department.

12 2. Where more than one permit has been
13 issued and the effect of those permits when
14 considered together results in a violation of
15 this Division, all permits except the permit with
16 the earlier date and time of issuance shall be
17 invalid.

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19 SEC.91.6206. INFORMATION SIGNS

20 (a) Area. Information signs shall not exceed 25
21 square feet in area.

22 (b) Height. Information signs shall be limited
23 to a maximum overall height of six feet six inches
24 above the sidewalk grade or edge of roadway grade
25 nearest the sign.

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(c) Construction. Information signs and sign support structures shall be constructed of noncombustible materials or approved plastics.

SEC. 91.6207. MONUMENT SIGNS

(a) Area.

1. The sign area of monument signs shall not exceed 1.5 square feet per foot of street frontage nor a maximum of 75 square feet for the sign face visible to the same direction of traffic.

2. The combined sign area of monument signs, projecting signs, wall signs, illuminated architectural canopy signs, pole signs, roof signs and window signs shall not exceed four square feet for each foot of street frontage.

(b) Location.

1. Monument signs shall be located at least 7.5 feet from interior lot lines and at least 15 feet from any other monument sign, projecting sign or pole sign.

2. The location of monument signs shall not interfere or present a hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

(c) Height. The height to the top of the sign shall be limited to a maximum of eight feet above

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1 sidewalk grade or edge of roadway grade nearest the
2 sign.

3 (d) Shape. Monument signs shall have a
4 horizontal dimension equal to or greater than its
5 vertical dimension.

6 (e) Projection. Monument signs shall not project
7 over the roof of a building or over the building line.

8 (f) Construction. A monument sign and sign
9 support structure shall be constructed of
10 noncombustible materials or approved plastics.

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12 SEC. 91.6208. PROJECTING SIGNS

13 (a) Permitted. Projecting signs shall not be
14 permitted on that portion of a lot having less than 50
15 feet of street frontage. Lots having a street
16 frontage of at least 50 feet may have a projecting
17 sign for each 200 feet or fraction thereof of street
18 frontage, if such frontage does not contain an
19 existing projecting sign or a pole sign.

20 (b) Area.

21 1. The sign area of projecting signs
22 visible to the same direction of traffic shall
23 not exceed 25 square feet plus 1.5 square feet
24 for each foot of street frontage up to a maximum
25 sign area of 300 square feet. Any projecting
26 sign located at the street corner of a corner lot

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may use the greater street frontage in computing area limitations.

2. The combined sign area of projecting signs, wall signs, monument signs, illuminated architectural canopy signs, pole signs, roof signs and window signs shall not exceed four square feet for each foot of street frontage.

(c) Location

1. A projecting sign shall be located at least 7.5 feet from any interior lot line.

2. A projecting sign shall be located at least 15 feet from any other projecting sign, monument sign, or pole sign.

3. The plane of the sign face of a projecting sign shall be within 15 degrees of being perpendicular to the face of the building, except at the corner of the building.

(d) Height. A projecting sign shall not be located lower than eight feet above sidewalk grade or edge of roadway grade nearest the sign and shall not extend above the top of the wall.

(e) Projections. A projecting sign may project over the building line, but shall not extend beyond the limits shown in Diagram 62-B of this Code. Sign projections shall fall within an area that is perpendicular to the building line and has a width of three feet as measured parallel with the building

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line. In no event may a projecting sign project more than eight feet from the face of a building.

EXCEPTION: For projecting signs located above a 16 foot height and on a lot having a street frontage greater than 50 feet, projections over the building line may vary linearly from five feet at 50 feet to eight feet at 100 feet of street frontage.

(f) Construction. A projecting sign and sign support structure shall be constructed of noncombustible material or approved plastic.

SEC. 91.6209. WALL SIGNS

(a) Area.

1. The total sign area of wall signs facing a street shall not exceed two square feet for each foot of street frontage, plus one square foot for each foot of building frontage for a single story building.

2. For buildings more than one-story in height, the combined wall sign area shall not exceed that permitted for a single story by more than 10 percent for each additional story. In no event shall the combined wall sign area exceed by 50 percent that area permitted for a single story building.

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3. For wall signs that are made up of individual letters that use the wall of the building as background, the allowable sign area may be increased by 20 percent, provided there is no change in color between the background and the surrounding wall area.

4. The combined sign area of illuminated architectural canopy signs, roof signs and wall signs facing the same direction shall not exceed two square feet for each foot of street frontage, plus one square foot for each foot of building frontage.

5. The combined sign area of wall signs, projecting signs, monument signs, illuminated architectural canopy signs, pole signs, roof signs and window signs shall not exceed four square feet for each foot of street frontage.

(b) Height. A wall sign shall not extend above the top of the wall of the building.

EXCEPTION: Where there is less than three feet between the top of the wall and the top of a window, the wall sign may extend above the top of the wall by a maximum of three feet.

(c) Location.

1. No wall sign shall be located on a wall that faces and is within five feet of an interior lot line.

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2. Wall signs installed on a wall that faces the rear lot line and that is located within 30 feet of property that is zoned R-3 or more restrictive shall not be illuminated.

(d) Projection.

1. No wall sign shall have a projection over any public street, other public property or building line greater than that permitted in Diagram 62-B of this Code.

2. No wall sign shall project more than 24 inches from the face of the building. If any message is placed on the edge of a wall sign, that portion of the wall sign shall be regulated as a projecting sign.

(e) High Rise Signs. Any wall signs located over 100 feet above grade shall be used as identification signs only. Such identification signs shall comprise no more than 80 percent of the width of that portion of the building where such signs are attached.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (a) of this Section, the area of such signs may constitute up to five percent of the area of the wall where such signs are attached and may be in addition to the area permitted in Subsection (a) of this Section.

(f) Construction. Wall signs shall be constructed of noncombustible materials or approved plastics.

1 SEC. 91.6210. ILLUMINATED ARCHITECTURAL CANOPY SIGNS

2 (a) Area.

3 1. The area of illuminated architectural
4 canopy signs shall not exceed two square feet for
5 each foot of street frontage, plus one square
6 foot for each foot of building frontage.

7 2. In applying sign area limits, only the
8 area occupied by the message of the illuminated
9 architectural canopy signs will be used.

10 3. The combined sign area of illuminated
11 architectural canopy signs, roof signs and wall
12 signs facing the same direction shall not exceed
13 two square feet for each foot of street frontage,
14 plus one square foot for each foot of building
15 frontage.

16 4. The combined sign area of illuminated
17 architectural canopy signs, projecting signs,
18 monument signs, wall signs, pole signs, roof
19 signs and window signs shall not exceed four
20 square feet for each foot of street frontage.

21 (b) Projections. Illuminated architectural
22 canopy signs may project over a building line.
23 However, in no event may an illuminated architectural
24 canopy sign project more than three feet from the face
25 of the building.

26 (c) Construction. The supporting frame of an
27 illuminated architectural canopy sign shall be
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1 constructed of non-combustible materials. The canopy
2 surface, including the enclosing soffit, shall be of
3 an approved light-transmitting material. The fabric
4 shall be tested and classified as non-flammable under
5 the provisions of Los Angeles Fire Department Standard
6 No. 43 as referenced in Section 57.07.01 of this Code.

7 (d) Clearance. Illuminated architectural canopy
8 signs shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet
9 above the sidewalk grade or edge of roadway grade
10 nearest the sign and shall not be located closer than
11 two feet from the curb of any roadway.

12 (e) Emergency Personnel Access. Illuminated
13 architectural canopy signs shall not occupy a four
14 foot distance along the exterior wall at one corner of
15 the building's street frontage and an additional four
16 foot distance along every 50 feet of such frontage.

17 (f) Illumination. The sign shall be internally
18 illuminated so as to illuminate the canopy and the
19 exterior wall below. The illuminated architectural
20 canopy sign shall bear the electric sign label of an
21 approved testing agency with a reinspection service.

22 (g) Height. An illuminated architectural canopy
23 sign shall not extend above the top of the wall of a
24 building.

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1 SEC. 91.6211. POLE SIGNS

2 (a) Permitted. Pole signs shall not be permitted
3 on that portion of a lot having less than 50 feet of
4 street frontage. Lots having a street frontage of at
5 least 50 feet may have a pole sign for each 200 feet
6 or fraction thereof of street frontage, if such
7 frontage does not contain an existing pole sign or
8 projecting sign.

9 (b) Area.

10 1. Sign area visible to the same direction
11 of traffic shall not exceed two square feet for
12 each foot of street frontage, plus one square
13 foot for each foot of building frontage.

14 2. The maximum area of any one pole sign
15 shall not exceed 400 square feet.

16 3. Any pole sign that is located at the
17 street corner of a corner lot may use the greater
18 street frontage for area limitations.

19 4. The combined sign area of pole signs,
20 projecting signs, monument signs, illuminated
21 architectural canopy signs, wall signs, roof
22 signs and window signs shall not exceed four
23 square feet for each foot of street frontage.

24 (c) Location.

25 1. Pole signs shall be located at least 10
26 feet from interior lot lines; however on corner
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lots and flag lots pole signs may be located five feet from interior lot lines.

2. A pole sign shall be located at least 15 feet from any other pole sign, projecting sign or monument sign.

3. Pole signs shall be located so as not to interfere or present a hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

4. Where the lower part of a pole sign is less than eight feet above sidewalk grade or the edge of roadway grade nearest the sign, the sign shall extend to grade, or shall be installed in a planter that extends beyond the edges of the sign and sign support structure and that is a minimum of 18-inches in height.

(d) Height. Height shall be measured from the nearest sidewalk or edge of roadway grade to the top of the sign. The overall height limitation shall be determined by street frontage as follows:

1. 25 feet for lots having 50 feet of street frontage;

2. 35 feet for lots having more than 50 and less than 100 feet of street frontage; and

3. 42 feet for lots having at least 100 feet of street frontage.

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Any pole sign that is located at the street corner of a corner lot may use the greater street frontage for determining height limitations.

In no event shall a sign exceed the height specified for the height district in which the sign is located.

(e) Projections. A pole sign may project over a building line, but shall not extend beyond the limits shown in Diagram 62-B of this Code. Sign projections shall fall within an area that is perpendicular to the building line and has a width of three feet as measured parallel to the building line.

(f) Construction. Pole signs and sign support structures shall be constructed of non-combustible materials or approved plastics. A maximum of two poles shall be permitted for any pole sign. The maximum cross-sectional dimension of a pole shall not exceed 10 percent of the overall height of the sign.

SEC. 91.6212. ROOF SIGNS

(a) Permitted. Roof signs shall be permitted only when placed directly upon a roof that slopes downward towards and extends to or over the top of an exterior wall.

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(b) Area.

1. Sign area shall not exceed two square feet for each foot of street frontage, plus one square foot for each foot of building frontage.

2. The maximum area of any one roof sign shall not exceed 300 square feet.

3. The combined sign area of roof signs, illuminated architectural canopy signs and wall signs facing the same direction shall not exceed two square feet for each foot of street frontage, plus one square foot for each foot of building frontage.

4. The combined sign area of wall signs, projecting signs, monument signs, illuminated architectural canopy signs, pole signs, roof signs and window signs shall not exceed four square feet for each foot of street frontage.

(c) Location.

1. Roof signs shall be located at least 10 feet from interior lot lines.

2. Roof signs shall be located at least two feet from the edge of the roof.

3. The plane of the sign face of a roof sign shall be approximately parallel to the face of the building.

(d) Height. The top of the roof sign shall be located at least two feet below the ridge of the roof.

1 (e) Construction. A roof sign and sign support
2 structure shall be constructed of non-combustible
3 materials or approved plastics.
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5 SEC. 91.6213. WINDOW SIGNS

6 (a) Area. The total area of all window signs
7 shall not exceed 10 percent of the area of the window.

8 (b) Combined Area. The combined sign area of
9 wall signs, projecting signs, monument signs,
10 illuminated architectural canopy signs, pole signs,
11 roof signs and window signs shall not exceed four
12 square feet for each foot of street frontage.
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14 SEC. 91.6214. MARQUEE SIGNS

15 (a) Approval. Sign approval shall be obtained
16 from the Cultural Affairs Commission.

17 (b) General Requirements. Marquee signs shall
18 comply with the requirements set forth in Sections
19 91.4505 and 91.6201 through 91.6205 of this Code.

20 (c) Construction. Signs shall be constructed of
21 non-combustible materials or approved plastics.
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23 SEC. 91.6215. TEMPORARY SIGNS

24 (a) Permit Required. Notwithstanding any other
25 provision of this Code, a building permit shall be
26 required for a temporary sign other than one which
27 contains a political, ideological or other
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1 non-commercial message. The permit application shall
2 specify the dates being requested for authorized
3 installation and the proposed location.

4 (b) Time Limit.

5 1. Temporary signs that require a permit
6 shall be removed within 60 days of installation
7 and shall not be reinstalled for a period of 30
8 days of the date of removal of the previous
9 sign. The installation of temporary signs shall
10 not exceed six months in any calendar year.

11 2. Temporary signs that do not require a
12 permit shall be removed within 60 days of the
13 date of installation of the sign.

14 (c) Area.

15 1. The combined sign area of temporary
16 signs shall not exceed two square feet for each
17 foot of street frontage.

18 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of
19 Section 91.6213(a) of this Division, temporary
20 signs, when placed upon a window, may cover up to
21 a maximum of 25 percent of the window area.

22 (d) Type/Construction. Temporary signs may
23 contain or consist of posters, pennants and banners.
24 Temporary signs may be made of paper or any other
25 material. If the temporary sign is made of cloth, it
26 shall be flameproofed when the aggregate area exceeds
27 100 square feet. Every temporary cloth sign shall be
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1 supported and attached with stranded cable of
2 1/16-inch minimum diameter or by other methods as
3 approved by the Department.

4 (e) Location. Temporary signs, including those
5 that do not require a permit, may be tacked, pasted or
6 otherwise temporarily affixed to windows and/or on the
7 walls of buildings, barns, sheds or fences.

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9 SEC. 91.6216. MURAL SIGNS

10 (a) Approval. Approval for mural signs shall be
11 obtained from the Cultural Affairs Commission. The
12 placement, height, and overall area of a mural sign
13 shall be as approved by the Cultural Affairs
14 Commission. In making its determination the Cultural
15 Affairs Commission shall find that the proposed sign
16 does not conflict with the purposes and objectives set
17 forth in Section 91.6201(b) of this Division.

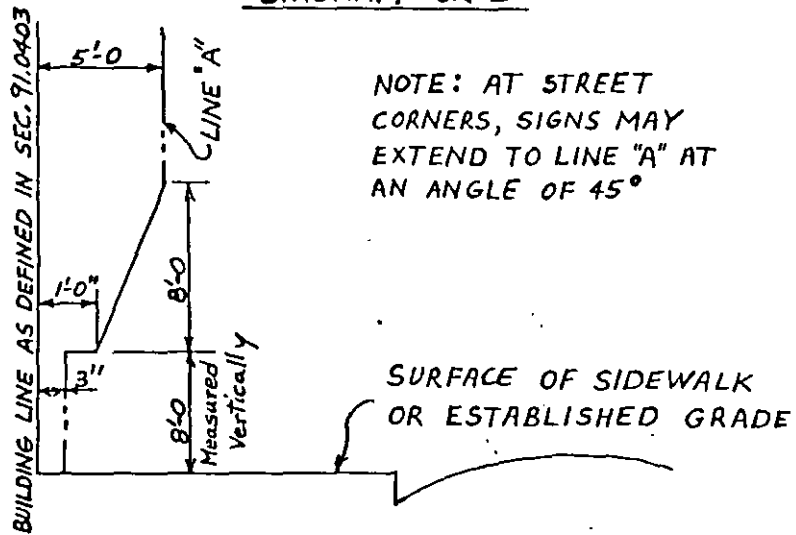
18 (b) General Requirements. In addition to the
19 requirements of this Section, mural signs must comply
20 with Sections 91.6201 through 91.6205. Mural signs
21 shall not be required to comply with the provisions of
22 Sections 91.6209 and 91.6220 of this Division.

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TABLE NO. 62-A - SIZE, THICKNESS AND TYPE OF
GLASS PANELS IN SIGNS

MAXIMUM SIZE OF EXPOSED GLASS PANEL		MINIMUM THICKNESS OF GLASS IN INCHES	TYPE OF GLASS
ANY DIMENSION IN INCHES	AREA IN SQUARE INCHES		
30	500	1/8	Plain, Plate or Wired
45	700	3/16	Plain, Plate or Wired
144	3600	1/4	Plain, Plate or Wired
Over 144	Over 3600	1/4	Wired Glass

DIAGRAM 62-B



1 Sec. 2. Division 3 of Article 1 of Chapter IX of the
2 Los Angeles Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding Section
3 91.0304.3 thereto to read as follows:

4
5 SEC. 91.0304.3. SIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6 (a) Function of the Committee. It shall be the
7 function of a Sign Advisory Committee to advise,
8 counsel and provide recommendations to the Board of
9 Building and Safety Commissioners on matters involving
10 sign regulations.

11 (b) Establishment of the Committee Member List.
12 The Board of Building and Safety Commissioners shall
13 establish a Sign Advisory Committee member list
14 representing the various required fields of interest
15 of persons who are available to serve as members of a
16 Sign Advisory Committee. Persons selected for the
17 Sign Advisory Committee list shall possess experience
18 in the design, fabrication, the use or application of
19 signs, or shall have demonstrated a background in the
20 social and environment impacts of signs or the
21 development of sign regulations. Members of said
22 Committee shall be exempt from all Civil Service
23 requirements.

24 (c) Procedure. When the Board determines that a
25 matter is significant in nature, the Board may refer
26 the matter to a Sign Advisory Committee for evaluation
27 and recommendation before it renders a decision
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thereon. When the matter is referred to a Sign Advisory Committee, the Board shall consider, but is not bound to accept the recommendation of the Committee.

(d) Composition of the Committee. The Board shall select five persons from the Sign Advisory Committee member list to serve on a Committee. The Committee shall be composed of one member from each of the following interests:

1. One member of or designated by the Board of Building and Safety Commission;
2. One member of or designated by the City Planning Commission; and
3. Three public members, one each from the following interests: architecture, sign industry, and community groups.

(e) Compensation of Members. Each member of the Committee who is in actual attendance at a meeting requested by the Board shall be compensated at the rate of \$50.00 for each four hours or fraction thereof of service. However, in no case shall the compensation of the Committee members exceed the fee paid by the applicant under Subsection (g) of this Section.

(f) Self-insurance by the City for Committee Members.

. . . .

1 The provisions of Sections 11.36 through 11.44,
2 inclusive, of the Los Angeles Administrative Code
3 shall apply to each Sign Advisory Committee member
4 while he is acting as such and committee members shall
5 be deemed to be fully covered by the provisions of
6 said Sections even though each Committee member is
7 retained as an independent person and not as an
8 officer or employee of the City.

9 (g) Fees. When a matter is referred to the
10 Committee as provided in this Section, the applicant
11 in said matter shall pay a referral fee of \$300.00.

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Sec. 3 The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and cause the same to be published in some daily newspaper printed and published in the City of Los Angeles.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was introduced at the meeting of the Council of the City of Los Angeles of MAY 20 1986 and was passed at its meeting of MAY 27 1986

Approved MAY 30 1986

ELIAS MARTINEZ, City Clerk

By Edward W. Anderson
deputy

File No. 84-0503-52 Tom Bradley
Mayor

June 4
689111
(D043852)

See attached report
Clara S. Hunter
Director of Planning

Lady 6/4
689111