



SIGN CODE UPDATE  
DISCUSSION #3: TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

Planning Commission Meeting  
November 21, 2024

# GOALS OF UPDATING THE SIGN CODE

- Consistency in terms and definitions
- Clear purpose and intent of the sign code
- Clear distinctions between what sign types and sizes are allowed in each zoning district
- Consistency in interpretation and administration
- Reorganization of regulations from Chapter 117 and the COR Framework
- Streamlining processes
- Easier to read and understand for all users

# WHAT COUNTS AS A TEMPORARY SIGN?

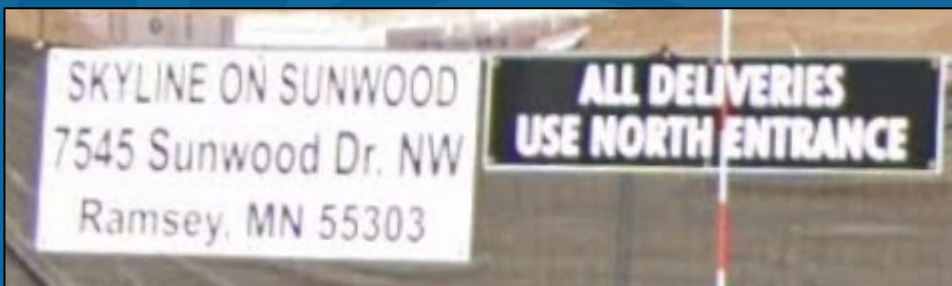
## Chapter 117

- Balloons
- Gas Filled Figures
- Streamers
- Whirling Devices
- Revolving Searchlights
- Real Estate Signs
- Construction Signs
- Portable Signs
- Sandwich Board/"A" Frame  
(prohibited outside the COR)
- Pennants
- Banners
- Flags

## COR Framework

- Sandwich Board/"A" Frame
- Temporary Wall Signage (Banners)
- Real Estate & Leasing Signs

# EXAMPLES OF ALLOWED TEMPORARY SIGNS IN THE COR



# EXAMPLES OF ALLOWED TEMPORARY SIGNS OUTSIDE OF THE COR



# EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED TEMPORARY SIGNS IN THE COR



# EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED TEMPORARY SIGNS OUTSIDE OF THE COR



# EXAMPLES OF ALLOWED NON-STANDARD TEMPORARY SIGNS OUTSIDE OF THE COR

Permitted up to 4 weeks per  
year, for 1 week at a time.



# PENNANTS OUTSIDE OF THE COR

- Permitted in commercial zoning districts, as long as they are securely anchored and maintained in good repair.
- If a pennant is damaged, the property owner must remove or replace it to maintain code compliance.



# FLAGS OUTSIDE OF THE COR

- Permitted in all zoning districts.
- However, the total square footage area of any flags uses as advertising copy or as attention getting devices for commercial purposes shall be considered permanent signage and counted towards the total allowable sign area for that parcel.
- Flag height cannot exceed 25 feet.



# SANDWICH BOARDS/“A” FRAME SIGNS

- Only allowed in the COR
- 1 max. sign per business, located within 5 feet of the business entrance
- Can only be displayed during business hours – must be removed when business is closed
- Max. width of 2 feet & max. height of 3 feet (6 SF per face)
- At least 5 feet of pedestrian access must be maintained
- Cannot be secured to any public fixture



# WHAT ARE THE CURRENT PROCEDURES FOR TEMPORARY SIGN PERMITS IN THE COR?



- The COR Framework only allows these temporary signs:
  - sandwich boards
  - standard temporary signs (black signs with neon-colored letters)
  - temporary wall signage (banners)
  - real estate/leasing signs – 32 SF max.
- Location must be fully on private property, with the permission of the property owner.
- Any sign in the right-of-way or installed without the property owner's permission is subject to removal.
- Max. of 2 temporary signs per parcel for single-tenant
- Max. of 3 temporary signs per parcel for multi-tenant

# WHAT ARE THE CURRENT PROCEDURES FOR TEMPORARY SIGN PERMITS OUTSIDE OF THE COR?



- Temporary Highway 10 Construction Provision to remain in place, and Staff will discuss this item closer to its sunset date of December 31, 2025.
- Location must be fully on private property, with the permission of the property owner.
- Any sign in the right-of-way or installed without the property owner's permission is subject to removal.
- Max. of 2 temporary signs per parcel for single-tenant
- Max. of 3 temporary signs per parcel for multi-tenant

# WHAT ARE THE CURRENT SIMILARITIES?

- All temporary signs in Ramsey must be located on private property and cannot be located in public right-of-way.
- Most zoning districts allow for temporary signs, as long as code requirements are met and permits are obtained.
- Most zoning districts have time limits for how long temporary signs can be posted.

# WHAT ARE THE CURRENT DIFFERENCES?

- COR-1, 4a, 4b, & 4c only allow sandwich boards, temporary banners, and real estate/leasing signs.
- COR-2, 2a, & 3 allow sandwich boards, temporary banners, real estate/leasing signs, and freestanding temporary signs (though not clearly defined).
- All non-COR districts allow for more temporary signage, as long as proper permits are obtained.
- Some inconsistencies in temporary signage terms and definitions between zoning districts.

# WHAT ARE THE CURRENT CHALLENGES?

- Inconsistent language across zoning districts.
- Current code language complicates enforcement efforts.
- Very few businesses or residents obtain permits for temporary signs.
- Temporary signs are often abandoned and left in various states of disrepair after installation.
- Temporary signs are often installed in public right-of-way, which is not allowed by Sec. 117-465(a)(2) of City Code.
- Signs less than 15 SF in area, and all residential temporary signs do not currently require permits, but are often installed incorrectly and often do not meet code requirements.



# TABLE OF CURRENT TEMPORARY SIGN REGULATIONS

	MR, RR, R-1a/b/c, R-2, R-3	B-1, B-2, & B-3	I-1 & I-2 (E-1 & E-2)	COR-1	COR-2 & COR-2b	COR-3	COR- 4a/b/c	PUD, PI, P, & CL
<b>Max. # of Temporary Signs</b>	2 per parcel	2 per parcel (single-tenant) 3 per parcel (multi-tenant)		1 per parcel	1 per parcel	1 per parcel	1 per parcel	2 per parcel
<b>Max. Sign Area per Face</b>	50 SF	50 SF	50 SF	6 SF	6 SF	6 SF	6 SF	50 SF
<b>Max. Sign Area - Total</b>	100 SF	100 SF	100 SF	12 SF	12 SF	12 SF	12 SF	100 SF
<b>Height Maximum</b>	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	3 feet	3 feet	3 feet	3 feet	Not specified
<b>Duration</b>	12 weeks, with possible 8 week extensions			Only during business hours, year-round				12 weeks, with possible 8 week extensions
<b>Review &amp; Approval*</b>	None	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff

“SF” means “square feet”.

\* Sign reviews must be content-neutral, with a sole focus on size and placement.

# RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide direction to Staff to develop clear, consistent, and simplified regulations for temporary signage in all zoning districts.