



Temporary Commercial Signs (A-Frame Signs) within the Public Right-of-Way

Purpose: to describe regulations and procedures pertaining to the placement of privately owned temporary signage (specifically A-Frame Signage) in the Public Right-of Way. This worksheet does NOT address: banners attached to utility poles, banners attached to private infrastructure, real estate signs, political signs, builder directional signs and other similar items.

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Lead Agency: Colorado Springs Land Use Review – 385-5905

Secondary Agencies: Colorado Springs Engineering; Colorado Springs Traffic Engineering; Colorado Springs Utilities; Development Review Enterprise.

General Regulations:

1. Temporary signs within the public right-of-way shall pertain to the adjacent private property; all others would be considered off-premise signage (i.e. billboard). City Code allows temporary off-site signs during weekends; see exception below for more information.
2. Temporary signs in the right-of-way may not be fastened to, adhered to, or installed on public infrastructure such as light poles, utility risers, fire hydrants, similar items, or the sidewalk itself; this includes commercial advertisements created using sidewalk chalk.
3. No signs shall be permitted that:
 - a. Interrupt the normal flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic;
 - b. Interfere with the public's normal use of the public property upon which the structure, device or use is permitted, such as the overhang of diagonally parked automobiles or the door-opening radius of parallel parked automobiles;
 - c. Interfere with any other device or structure lawfully existing thereon, such as parking meters, water meters, curb cuts, bus stops, or subsurface infrastructure such utility lines or communication cables.
 - d. Interfere with sight visibility lines necessary for safe vehicular and pedestrian travel.
 - e. Create unsafe conditions to vehicles or pedestrians using the public right-of-way.
4. The sign shall not occupy more than one-fifth (1/5) of the width of any paved sidewalk and shall not violate American Disability Act (ADA) standards. Whenever possible, devices and structures shall be installed on unpaved or unused areas of sidewalks or in connection with other devices or structures already installed which break the flow of pedestrian traffic.
5. Signs shall be secured or weighted-down in such a manner so as to prevent it from being dislodged by any natural force such as wind or slope.
6. Signage shall be placed so as to eliminate the collection of litter under and upon the same insofar as possible, and to facility cleaning of the adjacent area of litter and snow.



7. Signage shall be well maintained, kept free of rust, damage, rips, tears, frayed edges, peeling paint, and similar deterioration.
8. Express permission from the owner of the private property closest to the permit site must be granted prior to the placement of a sign within the right-of-way. In many cases, the applicant and the private property owner are one and the same. However, the applicant for a temporary retail sign is often a tenant within the adjacent building; in these cases the property owner must consent to the application.

A-Frame Specific Regulations:

A-Frame signs in the right-of-way must meet the following standards:

- No more than one per business;
- Shall not exceed 4' in height, measured from grade to the highest point of the sign;
- Shall not be less than 2' in height measured from grade;
- Shall not exceed 30 inches in width at its widest point;
- Shall not be located in any median.
- Shall be removed from the right-of-way at the close of every business day.
- Shall be located:
 - In front of the business for which it advertises only
 - Outside of the pedestrian way, so as to protect the free flow of pedestrians along the sidewalk. Whenever possible, the sign should be located in the "amenity zone" or immediately adjacent to the building face.
- A-Frame signs shall be located on private property if possible; revocable permits for A-Frame signs in the public right-of-way are not to be used to avoid compliance with the City's sign regulations applicable to private property.

"Bandit Sign" Exception: The regulations contained within this worksheet shall not apply to signs within the right-of-way posted between the hours of one minute after twelve o'clock (12:01) P.M. on Friday through twelve o'clock (12:00) noon on Monday, as long as the following standards are met:

- The sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area;
- The sign is not placed within the Downtown Core as defined by the map below.



DOWNTOWN CORE

Disclaimers:

The Mayor and/or City Council is authorized to impose on the permittee at any time additional conditions or provisions relating to the revocable permit for the use or occupancy of public property that are reasonable and necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare, and the safety and welfare of general City equipment and facilities. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Mayor may consider the requirement of a bond or cash deposit to assure the removal of any device or structure at the expiration or in the event of revocation of the permit, or to assure the completion of the work within the required time or restore the surface of the public space to the former conditions upon completion of installation of the structure or device for which the permit is requested.

Responsibility To Pay All Costs: The permittee shall pay all costs for the installation and construction of any structure on public property, and further, shall pay all costs and expenses attendant to the removal of the device, structure or use in the event the permit is rescinded.

Any revocable permit may be revoked by the City Council at its pleasure in accord with City Charter section 10-100. The Mayor is authorized to revoke any revocable permit if action is deemed by the Mayor to be necessary to protect the public health, welfare, safety, necessity or convenience in the use of public property. The Mayor shall give notice in writing to the permittee at least fourteen (14) days before the effective date of revocation in order to allow permittee to appeal to City Council in accord with this part. This notice requirement shall not limit the power of the Mayor to summarily revoke any revocable permit if there is a present existing or imminent danger to the public health, safety or welfare.



Indemnification: All applications for the private use and occupancy of the public right-of-way include the following indemnification statement:

The permittee shall be responsible for any and all damages to property or injury to persons arising out of the exercise of the permit or the construction, installation or maintenance of any device or structure. The permittee shall indemnify and save harmless the City and all its officers, agents and employees from all suits, actions or claims of any type brought for or on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person or property related to the exercise of the permit, any act or omission of the permittee, the permittee's agents or employees, or the failure of the permittee to maintain the structure or device or to provide necessary safety devices. The permittee shall defend against any suit, action or claim and pay any judgment, with costs, which may be obtained against the City, its officers, employees or agents growing out of the injury or damage.

Application Process: The owner of the adjacent property and/or their agent must submit a completed Temporary Revocable Permit application and the corresponding fee to the City of Colorado Springs Land Use Review Division. If the sign to be permitted is already in use, a photograph of the sign at the desired location should be submitted with the application; the dimensions of the sign should be included.

Fees: \$10 per Sign

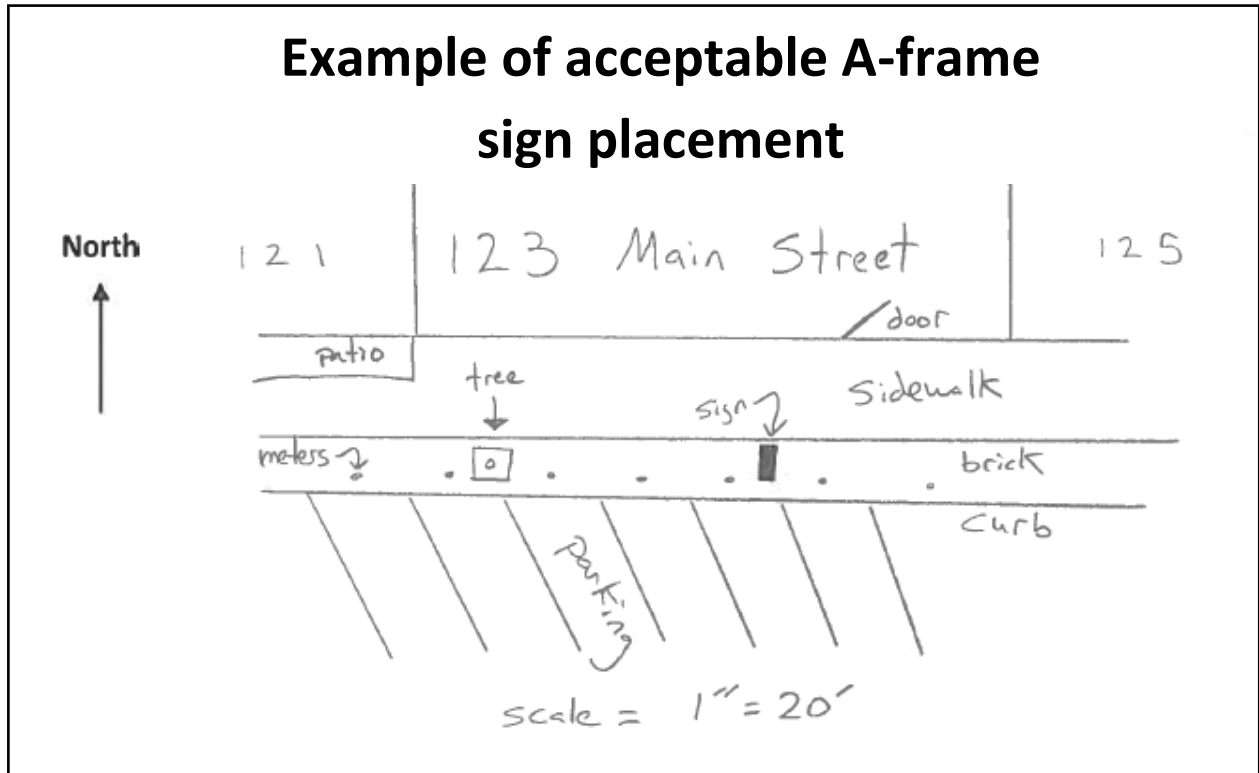
Review:

- The review of a revocable permit for temporary signs in the right of way takes approximately 1 to 2.
- Modifications to the application and/or plan may extend the review and approval process.
- Temporary encroachment permits may be issued administratively.

Expiration: The expiration of the revocable permit will be clearly indicated on the approved plan. Approval periods for an A-frame permit shall not exceed one (1) year. A permit may be renewed through the submittal of a revocable permit renewal application and renewal fee.

Figures:

Example of acceptable A-frame sign placement



Good Examples



Placed within permitted café



Placed in "amenity zone"



Adjacent to building, not blocking sidewalk

Bad Examples



Blocking sidewalk, outside café area



Not adjacent to advertised businesses



Signs too big or too small