



CITY OF CAÑON CITY

Community Development

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SIGNS

Are Governed Under The Cañon City Municipal Code §17.30, As Follows:

SOME QUICK FACTS!

- Most signage, new or replacement, requires a permit and fee, so, to avoid delays in installation or having to remove unauthorized signage, it's always a good idea to talk to the City before you purchase or install any signage. (17.30.030.A)
- Permit applications are in this packet and are available at City Hall or online at www.canoncity.org under the Code Enforcement tab.
- Contractors who install signage must have an Outdoor Advertising license or a General Contractor's license with the City and may also require a sales tax license. (Information about how to get these licenses is on the application form)
- Signage along Hwy 50 and South 9th Street (Hwy 115) must have pre-approval from the Colorado Dept. of Transportation. (17.30.030.E)
- Generally, signage in residential districts shall not exceed four (4) square. (17.30.070)
- A home occupation that is compliant with the City's regulations (17.20.100) may have an unlighted wall sign that does not exceed 2 square feet. A sign permit is not required. (17.30.070.D)
- Signs may never block the vision of pedestrians or vehicles. All signage has setback requirements.
- [Call if you have questions. 719-269-9011](tel:719-269-9011)

The complete Sign Code starts on the next page.

SIGNS

17.30.010 Purpose.

- A. It is declared to be the purpose of the City Council in passage of this Chapter 17.30 to regulate the existing and future use of signs situated anywhere within the City in a fair and consistent manner in order to protect and promote the health, safety, welfare and aesthetic interests of the people of the City. The City Council finds and declares that the enactment of this chapter is necessary to further the following municipal interests:
1. Promotion of safety of persons and property by regulating signs so as not to confuse or distract motorists or impair drivers' ability to see pedestrians, obstacles, other vehicles, or traffic directional signs;
 2. Promotion of public pride and spirit within the City;
 3. Preservation and enhancement of the natural and scenic beauty of the City by reducing visual clutter;
 4. Broadening the economic well-being and general welfare by attracting to the City tourists and other travelers;
 5. Providing the traveling public with information as to necessary goods and services in the City and its surrounding areas;
 6. To provide for eventual replacement or removal of nonconforming signs, but in a manner intended to minimize financial impact upon and inconvenience to those whose signs will become nonconforming as a result of the enactment of this chapter;
 7. The establishment of permissible limitations or controls on signs within the City which are as stringent or more stringent than those imposed by the state of Colorado to the extent that such limitations or controls do not jeopardize receipt by the state of Colorado of its full share of federal highway funds, and to that end, it is the purpose and intent of the City Council that no provision of this chapter shall be enforced to the extent that the enforcement of such provisions would jeopardize receipt by the state of Colorado of its full share of federal highway funds;
 8. Preservation of the right of constitutionally protected free speech; and
 9. Promotion of efficient communication of messages.
- B. The City Council further finds and declares that this chapter, taken as a whole, represents a balancing of the above-stated substantial municipal interests. (Ord. 20-2017 § 1)

17.30.020 Definitions.

The definitions in Chapter 17.08 of this Code shall apply to this chapter. The meaning of certain additional words and phrases as used in this chapter shall be as follows:

"Abandoned sign" means any sign promoting any business, interest or activity which has been inactive or discontinued for a period of time in excess of ninety (90) days.

"Alteration" means any change, modification or addition to the structure of any sign, with the exception of a nonmaterial alteration such as simple maintenance and refurbishing of an existing message.

"Animated sign" means any sign or part of a sign which changes physical position by any movement, rotation, or change in lighting.

"Area" means the greatest number of square feet of sign exposed to public view on either face thereof; provided, that when the faces exposed to view of any sign are more than thirty (30) inches apart at any place, all faces shall be included in calculating the area thereof.

“Banner” means a flexible material (e.g. cloth, paper, vinyl, etc.) on which a sign is painted or printed.
“Billboard sign” means a freestanding sign advertising an establishment, merchandise, service, or entertainment, which is not sold, produced, manufactured, or furnished at the property on which the sign is located.

“Electrical sign” means a sign or marquee illuminated by the use of electrical current.

“Electronic message sign” means an automated sign, which may be programmed by computer, using moving illuminated words or graphics.

“Flag” means any fabric, banner or bunting containing distinctive colors, patterns or symbols and is attached to a pole and which is intended to be permanently affixed to the ground or attached to a building.

“Flagging, streamers and pennants” means a continuous length of cord or other similar material to which long, narrow flags or pennants are attached, for the purpose of attracting attention to a business or location.

“Flashing sign” means any directly or indirectly illuminated sign either stationary or animated, which exhibits changing natural or artificial light or color by any means.

“Freestanding sign” means a detached sign which is supported by one or more columns, uprights, poles, or braces extended from the ground, or a detached sign which is erected on the ground, provided that no part of the sign is attached to any part of the building, structure or other sign.

“Height,” where applied to signs, means the distance from grade to the top of the sign structure, as erected, in a vertical line.

“Marquee/canopy sign” means a permanent roofed (covered) structure which may be attached to and supported by a building, and which may project over public property, including any object or decoration attached to, or a part of, such structure.

“Official sign” means a sign required by law or constructed, placed or maintained by the state, the federal government or the City. The inclusion of “government” in defining such signs does not intend to subject the government to regulation, but instead helps describe the type of sign that falls within the immunities of the government from regulation.

“Owner, business” means the person actively conducting the business for which the signs or marquee is in use.

“Owner, property” means the owner of the land upon which any sign structure is located.

“Owner, sign” means the person owning a sign structure.

“Parcel” means, for purposes of this chapter, one or more adjacent lot(s) or tract(s) of land under common ownership and occupied by a single principal structure or use.

“Permanent sign” means any sign which is permanently affixed or attached to the ground or to a structure.

“Portable sign” means any sign which is not permanently affixed to a building, structure, pole or the ground, including, but not limited to, banners, A-frame or sandwich board signs.

“Projecting sign” means a sign or marquee affixed to and projecting from any building or structure.

“*Roof sign*” means any sign which is erected or constructed wholly upon and/or over the roof of any building and supported on the roof of the structure. Freestanding signs which pass through an overhang roof or canopy shall be considered roof signs.

“*Sign*” means any display, device, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or any other contrivance designed, intended, or used to promote the interest of any person, or to give information and being in public view.

“*Sign enforcement officer*” means the City employee(s) appointed by the City Administrator to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

“*Structure*” means that which is erected or constructed with a fixed location from the ground above grade, any piece of work artificially built up or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner, excluding poles, cables or other transmission or distribution facilities of public utilities.

“*Thickness*” means the greatest distance between outer surfaces of any two (2) faces of a sign exposed to public view.

“*Trailblazing sign*” means a sign used in conjunction with a “tourist oriented directional sign” which is necessary to ensure that motorists do not immediately become lost after exiting the highway.

“*Wall*” means, for purposes of this chapter, an exterior surface of a building which has a slope of greater than sixty (60) degrees from the horizontal plane.

“*Wall sign*” means a sign which is painted on or fastened to the wall or parapet of a building or structure in such a manner that the wall becomes the supporting structure or forms the background surface of the sign.

“*Width*” means the distance overall, side to side, in a horizontal line of a sign or marquee, as erected.

17.30.030 Permit required—Application fees.

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, no sign shall be erected, replaced or altered unless a permit shall have first been issued therefor. Permits shall be issued by the Engineering Department with the approval of the sign enforcement officer.
- B. Permit fees shall be as set forth in the schedule of fees in Section 17.44.040 of this Code, with the same force and effect as if set forth herein in every particular, with the following exceptions:
 1. The fee for portable signs, flagging, streamers and pennants shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) at the time of the initial permit, and an annual renewal fee of five dollars (\$5.00). No fee shall be charged in the case of the replacement of a permitted portable sign, for which the applicable fee has been paid, with another portable sign of the same design and dimension.
 2. There shall be no fee for a permit for any portable sign which is to be displayed for a period of thirty (30) days or less annually. Council may from time to time amend the fee schedule for permits by resolution.
- C. Applications for permits to erect, replace or alter signs shall be made in writing on forms provided by the City and shall contain at least the following information:
 1. Sign owner’s name, address and phone;
 2. Property owner’s name, address and phone;
 3. Address and legal description of the land on which the sign is built, proposed to be built, or attached;
 4. Name and address of the person responsible for erection and maintenance of the sign;

5. The structural features and, where appropriate, the lighting layout of the sign, including detailed plans and specifications;
 6. A plot plan drawn to scale with accurate dimensions showing the location of the proposed sign relative to property lines and to other significant features on the site, including but not limited to, existing and proposed structures, existing signs, landscaping, utility poles and pedestrian and vehicle traffic patterns on the site;
 7. Manufacturer's installation literature showing how the sign is to be anchored and attached to the building, post, ground or other support, showing that wind loads and the structural integrity of the sign supports have been addressed. In the absence of manufacturer's literature, the sign enforcement officer may require that the sign and its supports be designed by a registered professional engineer licensed to do work within the state of Colorado;
 8. A description of the use(s) occupying the site; and
 9. Any other information which may be determined by the sign enforcement officer as necessary to show full compliance with this chapter and all the other laws and ordinances of the City.
- D. The sign enforcement officer shall reject any application which is not prepared and submitted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter or that describes a sign which, when erected, would not be in compliance with the provisions of this chapter.
- E. No permit will be issued for any sign located within the jurisdiction of the Colorado Department of Highways until documented approval has been received that such sign meets state requirements.
- F. If the work for which a sign permit is granted is not completed within sixty (60) days from the date said permit was issued, the permit, unless renewed, shall become void. A permit may be renewed one time upon submission of a written application for renewal made not later than seventy (70) days after the issuance of the original permit and payment of a five dollar (\$5.00) renewal fee.

17.30.040 Signs for which no permit is required.

No permit shall be required to erect or maintain the following signs:

- A. Signs painted on walls of buildings or other structures for information or direction, provided that the area of any such painted signs shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total square foot area of the wall upon which the sign is painted;
- B. Signs placed inside a building, provided that all such signs meet the requirements of the International Building Code and International Fire Code;
- C. Signs, excepting illuminated signs, which are imbedded or set into the exterior wall of a building or are flush with the building wall;
- D. Official signs, danger signs, emergency signs and legal notices may be placed by responsible persons upon approval of the City Administrator;
- E. Informational and directional signs not exceeding five (5) square feet in area and which do not project into the public right-of-way;
- F. Signs which are painted on, or attached to, an operable vehicle;
- G. Signs at construction sites which do not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height;
- H. Flags, provided the flag does not interfere with the required vision clearance or extend into the right-of-way;

- I. Unlimited number of signs, not to exceed three (3) square feet, are permitted four (4) months prior to an election so long as the sign conforms with the other limitations of this chapter. Such additional signs must be removed ten (10) days after the conclusion of the election; or
- J. Subject to the express approval of the City Council, all signs within the PUD shall be controlled by written agreement between the owners and/or tenants of the PUD or otherwise, to avoid excessive advertising and insure a harmonious relationship to the PUD as a whole. All signs within the PUD shall not project above the roofline nor project from the face of the building more than one foot. Signs shall be limited in size to one square foot of sign area for each one lineal foot of building frontage. Only one sign per business is permitted unless the business has double frontage, in which case two (2) signs are permitted. One free-standing sign may be authorized on the shopping center site by the City Council, and shall be shown on the final development plan for the PUD.

17.30.050 Prohibited signs.

All signs listed and described below are expressly prohibited within the City:

- A. Flashing or intermittently lighted signs and signs which are animated with lights or illuminations which flash, move, rotate, blink, flicker, or vary in intensity or color or which may be confused with traffic control devices or emergency vehicles. Electronic message signs in conjunction with stacking lanes in drive-through facilities, may be allowed by resolution of City Council, provided that such signs conform to all other requirements of this chapter;
- B. Any sign which due to size, color, shape, location or message is likely to be confused with any official sign;
- C. Any sign which causes any direct glare into or upon any residential building or premises located within a residential zone district, other than the building or premises to which the sign is attached;
- D. Any sign which obstructs a window, door, fire escape, stairway, ladder, or openings intended to provide light, air, ingress or egress to or from any building as required by law;
- E. Any sign of such size or located in such a manner as to cause a physical or visibility hazard to the movement of vehicles or pedestrians, or obstruct or interfere with the view of traffic signs, signals or other safety devices located along or upon a public right-of-way;
- F. Roof signs which project above the highest point of a building, except where the height of the sign from grade level is less than twenty-five (25) feet;
- G. Signs along highways as defined in Section 43-2-101(1) C.R.S., 1973, as amended, and signs along the interstate system of highways as defined in Section 43-2-101(2) C.R.S., 1973, as amended, which fail to conform with all of the requirements of the Outdoor Advertising Act, Part 4 of Article 1 of Title 43, C.R.S., 1973, as amended, and all rules and regulations promulgated by the State of Colorado Department of Highways pursuant thereto; provided however, that if any of the provisions of this chapter are more restrictive, the provisions of this chapter shall control;
- H. Any sign that is not anchored or attached to a structure, the ground, a pole, or other device in a manner which will insure that the sign will be stable under wind effects determined in accordance with applicable requirements of the International Building Code and amendments thereof;
- I. Any sign which is designed to emit a noise or sound intended to draw attention or to capture the interest of the public, or which inadvertently emits sound and noise which can be detected more than one hundred fifty (150) feet distant from the sign location;

- J. Any sign, paper or other fabric pasted or otherwise fastened, painted, stenciled, or written on any sidewalk, curb, gutter or street, or on any post, pole or elsewhere beyond the building line, or to any other sign, porch, building, fence or other structure, with the exception of address numbers on curbs, unless sanctioned by the provisions of this title; nor shall any of the said objects be defaced in any other manner. The placement of address numbers on curbs shall not relieve the owner or occupant of any building from the requirement to place address numbers in a conspicuous place on or above the front door of the building, as set forth in Section 12.24.090 of the Municipal Code;
- K. Any sign not specifically prohibited elsewhere under this Section 17.30.050 which fails to satisfy the requirements of, or exceeds the limitations or restrictions set forth at Section 17.30.060 regarding sign classifications, Section 17.30.070 regarding signs in residential districts and/or Section 17.30.080 regarding general requirements;
- L. Any sign erected prior to September 11, 1991 which, when erected, failed to conform to the requirements of the Cañon City Municipal Code in effect at the time such sign was erected.

17.30.060 Signs in nonresidential districts.

A. Freestanding Signs.

- 1. Area. The allowable area of a freestanding sign shall be a maximum of one hundred (100) square feet of sign area for signs located in the general commercial and industrial districts and up to a maximum sign area of thirty-two (32) square feet in the central business district.
- 2. Height. The maximum height of a freestanding sign shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet for signs located within the general commercial and industrial districts and to a maximum height of twelve (12) feet in the central business district. The height of a freestanding sign may be increased to thirty-five (35) feet on a commercial or industrial lot where the property line of the parcel nearest to an arterial street is in excess of two hundred (200) feet from such arterial street.
- 3. Number. Only one freestanding sign shall be allowed on a parcel of land having less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet of area, unless there are two (2) businesses located on the parcel as provided for herein. Two (2) freestanding signs will be allowed on parcels of land having twenty-five thousand (25,000) or more square feet of area. In the instance of a second business located on a single parcel, a secondary freestanding sign may be allowed with a maximum height of twenty (20) feet and a maximum face area of fifty (50) square feet.

B. Marquee/Canopy Signs.

- 1. Area. The allowable sign area shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet per business.
- 2. Height. Signs upon a marquee or canopy shall not extend above the highest point of the marquee or canopy.

C. Projecting Signs.

- 1. Area. The allowable area of a projecting sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
- 2. Height. Projecting signs shall be erected so that no part of the sign is less than ten (10) feet above a sidewalk or grade directly beneath the sign. No projecting sign shall extend above the roof of the building at the point where it is attached.
- 3. Projection. The maximum projection of the sign, its supports and appurtenances, shall not exceed twelve (12) feet from the face of the building to which it is attached, except in the Central Business District, where the buildings are constructed upon the property line abutting public right-of-way, where the projection of the sign, its supports and appurtenances, shall not exceed six (6) feet from the face of the building to which it is attached.

4. Number. Only one projecting sign shall be allowed per business. Several businesses may advertise on one common projecting sign provided the maximum area allowed for a single projecting sign is not exceeded.
5. Construction. All projecting signs, including frames, braces, supports and ornaments, shall be made of noncombustible materials.

D. **Roof Signs.**

1. Area. The allowable area of a roof sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet. In the absence of any freestanding sign on the parcel, a roof sign may be allowed up to one hundred (100) square feet in area.
2. Height. Roof signs shall not project above the highest point of a building, except where the maximum height of the sign from grade level is less than twenty-five (25) feet.
3. Number. Only one roof sign shall be allowed per structure.
4. Construction. All roof signs, including frames, braces, supports and ornaments, shall be made of noncombustible materials.
5. Freestanding pole signs that pass through an overhang roof or canopy are considered roof signs.

E. **Portable Signs.**

1. Area. The allowable sign area shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
2. Height. The maximum height of a portable sign shall not exceed eight (8) feet, except in the case of a banner attached to the wall of a building, in which case the maximum height shall not extend above the eave line of the building, or twenty-five (25) feet above grade level, whichever is less.
3. Number. Only one portable sign shall be allowed on a parcel of land having less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet in area. In the case of a parcel of land having more than twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet in area, two (2) portable signs shall be allowed, or one sign shall be allowed for each street on which the parcel fronts, whichever is greater.
4. Location. No portable sign shall be placed in such a manner as to obstruct the flow of traffic on the property, or otherwise constitute a safety hazard.
5. Additional Limitations. Any portable sign placed upon any property shall be securely anchored to the ground, a building or other structure, or a pole or poles, to prevent accidental movement of the sign by wind, or deliberate movement of the sign by anyone other than the sign owner, in a manner to be approved by the sign enforcement officer. Any portable sign for which a permit has been issued may be replaced by a similar portable sign during the year for which the permit was issued, providing that all requirements set forth herein are met by the replacement sign. Permits for portable signs, with the exception of those displayed for thirty (30) days or less per calendar year, must be renewed annually.

F. **Wall Signs.**

1. Area. The allowable area of wall signs attached to structures shall be a maximum of one hundred (100) square feet per wall. The maximum sign area allowed per wall may be increased by an additional fifty (50) square feet in the absence of any freestanding sign on the parcel. As an alternative to the foregoing, in the instance of a multi-use structure with individual signs, the wall sign area per use shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
2. Height. No wall sign attached to a structure shall project above the highest point of the building, excluding roof top mechanical structures, chimneys, elevator shafts, ventilators or other such facilities. Electrical signs on raceways shall be at least seven (7) feet, six (6) inches above any sidewalk or pedestrian walkway.
3. Number.

- a. Each wall shall be allowed an attached wall sign and a painted wall sign, but the area of the attached wall sign shall never exceed one hundred (100) square feet and the two (2) together shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet.
 - b. See Subsection 17.30.040(B), painted wall signs for which no permit is required.
 4. Projection from Wall. Wall signs may project no more than twelve (12) inches from the building or structure, except that electrical signs on raceways which are at least seven (7) feet, six (6) inches above any sidewalk or pedestrian walkway may project no more than eighteen (18) inches from the building or structure.
- G. **Flags, Flagging, Streamers and Pennants.**
1. Length. Except as provided for in this chapter, the total length of any flagging, streamers and/or pennants shall not exceed the length of the perimeter of the parcel of land upon which it is to be displayed.
 2. Height. No flagging, streamers, and/or pennants, shall be attached to any poles or buildings at a height greater than twenty-five (25) feet.
 3. Additional Limitations. Any flags, flagging, streamers or pennants which become worn or tattered with age, or by the wind, shall be promptly removed or replaced by the property owner, upon notification by the Code Enforcement Officer.

17.30.070 Signs in residential districts.

- A. One freestanding sign is permitted to be placed, without a sign permit, in the front yard of a lot or in the case of a corner lot, the sign may be placed in the side yard. Such sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet or placed within five (5) feet of any lot line or right-of-way line. Placement of such signs shall be subject to other provisions of this title pertaining to vision clearance areas.
- B. Any additional signage in residential districts shall require a permit, subject to the following conditions:
 1. Except as otherwise provided in this Code, such signs may be externally illuminated, providing the lamp is so deflected or subdued as to not shine or create glare beyond the boundary of the property on which the sign is located.
 2. Such signs shall not exceed forty-eight (48) inches in height and ninety-six (96) inches in length, exclusive of supporting structure, which supporting structures shall be only so large as is reasonably necessary for the purposes of safely supporting the sign permitted hereby, but in no case to exceed eight (8) feet in height.
- C. Such signs may be affixed to, or designed as a part of, the exterior of a building or extension thereof,
- D. Signs in conjunction with home occupations which meet the regulations in Chapter 17.20 shall be permitted in residential districts.

17.30.075 Comprehensive sign plan.

- A. There may be special circumstances where flexibility from the sign code requirements contained herein is in the best interest of property owners and members of the community, particularly when such flexibility may allow: (1) improved visibility (signage closer to rights-of-way, for instance), (2) on- and off-premises signage in excess of one or more current sign regulations, and (3) cost sharing. Such plans must nevertheless strive to eliminate excessive signage in terms of number, height and/or bulk that may otherwise be allowed and provide uniformity in terms of quality and character.

The purpose of this subsection is to allow a comprehensive sign plan to be considered when it can be demonstrated that such plan affords flexibility while still meeting the purpose of this sign code. In

the absence of a comprehensive sign plan, nothing contained herein shall prohibit the owners and/or tenants from developing signage in accordance with the regulations set forth in this title and that is applicable to the underlying zone district of such properties.

The Zoning Administrator may permit the utilization of a comprehensive sign plan for: (1) multiple businesses located in a single building, (2) building complexes that are located on one or more continuous parcels held in unified control, such as a business park, or (3) where the owners and tenants on contiguous parcels join in such application.

- B. A pre-application conference with the Zoning Administrator is required before the applicant may submit a comprehensive sign plan application in order to discuss the general components of the plan and contents of an application including the application fee. The application fee is assessed upon issuance of a sign(s) permit based on the valuation of the sign(s).
- C. An application for a comprehensive sign plan shall be submitted according to the requirements for the contents of an application as located in Subsection 17.30.030(C). All owners and/or parties affected by the comprehensive sign plan shall sign or otherwise authorize the application.
 - 1. The applicant shall file a complete application. No application shall be allowed to proceed until it has been deemed to be complete.
 - 2. One full set of all application materials shall be submitted. Graphic documents shall be provided in an eleven (11) inch by seventeen (17) inch format or larger, if necessary, and produced in color. All details shall be clearly readable.
 - 3. Once the application has been deemed complete, the Zoning Administrator will review the application and the established approval criteria and determine whether to approve the plan, with or without conditions, or deny the application.
 - 4. The Zoning Administrator's decision following his or her review, as provided for in paragraph 3 of this subsection, shall be set forth in a written "Notice of Decision" sent to the applicant's address, as shown on the application.
- D. The Zoning Administrator shall review the application and may grant the application, with or without conditions, if it is found that the plan:
 - 1. Provides the total signage necessary to accommodate the needs of the development;
 - 2. Eliminates number, height and/or bulk of signage that would otherwise be allowed;
 - 3. Eliminates nonconforming signage or sign structures, if existing;
 - 4. Provides signage that is uniform in terms of quality and character for the development;
 - 5. Does not substantially alter the basic character of the zone district in which it is located or jeopardize the development or redevelopment potential of property within the district; and
 - 6. Conforms with all other zoning requirements contained in this title.
- E. An applicant shall have the right to appeal to the City Council a decision of the Zoning Administrator denying the application. The applicant also shall have the right to appeal to the City Council any condition of approval imposed by the Zoning Administrator in his or her written Notice of Decision.
- F. An appeal by the applicant shall be made in writing filed with the City Clerk no later than thirty (30) days following the date of the Notice of Decision.
- G. The appeal shall identify those portions of the Zoning Administrator's decision that are being appealed; set forth the applicant's grounds for appealing each portion of the decision identified by the applicant as being appealed; contain the applicant's proposal for how the City Council should decide those matters that are the subject of the appeal; and, as to each such matter, shall state why

such proposal is consistent with the intent of Section 13.30.075 and specifically satisfies the criteria set forth in Subsection D of 17.30.075.

- H. Any such appeal shall be heard at a regular or special City Council meeting no sooner than twenty (20) days nor later than forty (40) days following the filing of the Notice of Decision. The City Clerk shall mail written notice of the hearing date to the applicant no later than ten (10) days prior to the hearing date.
- I. City Council's decision may be made on the hearing date or at any time not later than twenty (20) days following the conclusion of the hearing. Decisions that are not made in open session immediately following the conclusion of the hearing shall be written and mailed to the applicant.
- J. City Council's decisions shall be final decisions.

17.30.080 General requirements.

The following requirements shall apply to all signs which are located within the City:

- A. No sign shall be erected, constructed, maintained or altered within the City in violation of the Code of Cañon City, including but not limited to this chapter.
- B. Proper vision clearance shall be provided at all times. Except in the CB, Central Business Zone District, no freestanding sign or its support structure shall be located closer than five (5) feet from the property line. When a freestanding sign is located at or near the intersection of streets, alleys or other points of vehicular ingress/egress, in addition to the five (5) foot setback described above, no sign or sign support structure shall be located within the area created by measuring fifteen (15) feet from the property corner parallel along the public way each direction and striking a diagonal line.
- C. No sign shall project past the property line except in the Central Business District and no sign in the Central Business District shall project into that portion of any right-of-way designated for vehicular traffic.
- D. No sign of any type shall be erected or placed so as to obstruct any necessary egress in case of fire.
- E. No sign shall be erected or maintained which has less vertical or horizontal clearance from communication or electrical power lines than that required by the State Electrical Code or the supplying utility. It shall be the responsibility of those erecting any sign to ensure that the applicable requirements are met.
- F. All exterior signs shall be designed and constructed to resist the wind effects determined in accordance with applicable requirements of the International Building Code and amendments thereto as adopted by the City Council.
- G. The owner of any sign or structure regulated by this chapter shall keep the same in good repair and properly painted whenever the sign or structure has painted parts, and shall keep all metal parts and supports thereof that are not galvanized or made of rust-resistant metals properly covered with paint.

17.30.090 Nonconforming signs.

- A. Definition. A nonconforming sign shall be any sign which on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter was lawfully maintained and had been lawfully erected in accordance with the provisions of any prior ordinance pertaining to or regulating signs, but which sign does not conform to the limitations established by this chapter.

- B. Continuance. Subject to the termination hereinafter provided, any nonconforming sign may be continued in operation and be maintained after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter; provided, however, that no such sign shall be changed in any manner that increases the nonconformity of such sign with the provisions of this chapter.
- C. Termination of a nonconforming sign shall take place upon:
 - 1. Structural change to any nonconforming sign.
 - 2. Structural alteration to prolong the life of the sign, except to meet safety requirements.
 - 3. Alteration or expansion in any manner which increases the degree of nonconformity.
 - 4. Damage or destruction if the estimated cost of reconstruction exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the value of the sign structure prior to being damaged.
 - 5. Abandonment of the structure housing the occupancy for which the sign is in use for longer than ninety (90) continuous days.
 - 6. Abandonment of a nonconforming sign shall terminate immediately the right to maintain such a sign.
 - 7. Any violation of this chapter shall terminate immediately the right to maintain such sign.

17.30.100 Outdoor advertising—License and insurance required.

- A. No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of erecting, constructing, repairing or altering outdoor signs within the City without a license from the City authorizing such person to carry on such business within the City. Such license shall be issued for annual periods by the City Clerk upon application therefor and payment of a license fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year. Such license shall expire on December 31st of the year of issuance.
- B. Persons holding a valid general contractor's license with the City shall not be required to obtain a separate license under this chapter to construct, erect, or repair a sign.
- C. Before any license shall be issued to an applicant that wishes to engage in business as an outdoor advertising contractor within the City, the applicant for such license shall file a certificate of evidencing that the applicant is covered by comprehensive general liability insurance in amounts equal to or greater than those minimum coverage amounts specified by the City Administrator or designee for the type of license to be issued pursuant to this chapter. Such certificate shall provide that the City of Cañon City is named as an additional insured. All such insurance must be maintained and remain in full force and effect during the period for which the license will be issued. Each insurance certificate shall provide that the holder of the insurance policy and the City will be notified by the insurer not fewer than thirty (30) days prior to any material decrease in coverage or cancellation of the policy.
- D. Any wiring, except that built into the sign, must be performed by an electrician licensed by the State of Colorado and in compliance with the requirements of applicable codes.
- E. Renewals of the license set forth in this section shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 5.66 of Title 5 of the Cañon City Municipal Code.
- F. In lieu of the applicable penalties set forth in Section 17.44.050 of this title, any person, firm or corporation operating without a license shall be given the opportunity to apply for such license by filing an application and making payment, in addition to the licensing fee, of a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) administrative penalty fee.

17.30.110 Permits and licenses—Revocation conditions.

- A. Permits issued pursuant to this chapter may be revoked by order of the Sign Enforcement Officer after determination that any sign for which a sign permit had been issued was not constructed, or is not being constructed, according to the requirements of this chapter.
- B. Any license issued pursuant to this chapter may be revoked by Council after a hearing by request of the City Administrator and pursuant to reasonable notice to the licensee, if it can be shown that the licensee refuses, fails, or neglects to correct or remove, within ten (10) days from notice of rejection by the Sign Enforcement Officer, any faulty or defective sign erected by such licensee which does not comply with the provisions of this chapter.

17.30.120 Awnings, barberpoles and mailboxes.

- A. Awnings supported by metal frames securely fastened to a building may extend over a sidewalk a distance not to exceed two-thirds of the width thereof to a maximum distance of five (5) feet from the building. No part of any awning frame shall be less than seven (7) feet six (6) inches above the sidewalk, and no curtain or fringe suspended from the frame shall be less than seven (7) feet above the sidewalk. Awnings installed shall meet all requirements as set forth in the current edition of the International Building Code as adopted by the City of Cañon City. Signs on awnings shall be treated as wall signs.
- B. Barberpoles and mailboxes attached to a building may be placed over the sidewalk not more than one foot from the property line.

17.30.130 Abandoned signs.

Abandoned signs for which a permit is required but which are not deemed unsafe and abandoned signs painted upon buildings shall be altered by concealing from view, or removal of, any and all messages. At such time as the sign may again be put to use, a permit shall be obtained and said sign shall be brought into full compliance with the requirements of this chapter. Signs which are abandoned by virtue of the seasonal nature of the business it advertises may remain in place with a “closed for the season” statement across the face of the sign.

17.30.140 Unsafe signs.

- A. Any sign existing on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter which shall be dangerous to life or property or create a fire hazard shall be and be deemed an unsafe sign and upon written notice from the Building Inspector and within five (5) days thereafter, a sign owner shall cause any unsafe or insecure sign to be removed. Upon failure of the owner of the sign to remove such sign, the City may do so.
- B. In any case where an inspection reveals that any sign is imminently dangerous to the public, the Building Inspector, with the concurrence of the City Administrator, may order its immediate removal by written communication to the owner. Failure to remove a sign determined to be imminently dangerous within twenty-four (24) hours, may result in removal of same by the City.
- C. In any instance where the City is forced to remove a sign to insure public safety and welfare, the cost of such removal shall be borne by the owner of the sign or the owner of the property upon which the sign is constructed or both.

17.30.150 Nuisance maintenance prohibited.

- A. Any sign erected after September 11, 1991, with respect to which a required permit has not been issued or which is otherwise in violation of the provisions of this chapter, shall be deemed a nuisance, and upon notice by the City to the owner, such nuisance shall, within five (5) days of receipt of such notice, be abated by the owner by removal of the sign or changing, altering, or repairing the same to conform to the provisions of this chapter.
- B. The Code Enforcement Officer may extend the time allowed for abatement of the nuisance up to an additional ninety (90) days upon receipt of a written certification by the sign owner that the nuisance will be abated. Forms for such certification will be provided by the City.

17.30.160 Liability for damages.

Nothing herein contained shall be construed to relieve any person from his or her liability to any other person for damages sustained by such other person by reason of negligence in constructing, erecting or maintaining any sign.

17.30.170 Administration.

- A. The City Council of the City of Cañon City may from time to time by resolution adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the interpretation, administration and enforcement of the provisions of this chapter and all such rules and regulations so adopted shall become binding and enforceable upon the effective date of any such resolution.
- B. All rules and regulations promulgated with respect to this chapter shall be made available for inspection and copying by members of the general public upon request during normal business hours of the City.

17.30.180 Appeal.

Appeals of interpretations of this chapter or decisions of the Sign Enforcement Officer may be made to the Board of Adjustment in the manner and in accordance with the procedures set forth in Chapter 17.36 of this title.

17.30.190 Violation—Penalty.

It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, maintain, replace or alter any sign in the City, or permit the same in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. Any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be punishable in accordance with the provisions of Section 17.44.050 of this title.

17.30.200 Billboard free zones.

All land within the City limits of the City of Cañon City is designated a billboard free zone. Billboard signs are prohibited throughout the City of Cañon City.



CITY OF CAÑON CITY

Community Development

P.O. Box 1460 • 128 Main Street
Cañon City, CO 81215-1460
(719) 269-9011 • Fax: (719) 269-9017

SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

PERMIT NUMBER (ASSIGNED BY CITY PLANNER):	DATE SUBMITTED:
BUSINESS NAME AND JOB ADDRESS:	
PROPERTY OWNER:	PHONE:
OWNER'S ADDRESS:	EMAIL:
CONTRACTOR NAME AND ADDRESS (CONTRACTORS <u>MUST HAVE</u> A CURRENT SIGN CONTRACTOR LICENSE AND SALES TAX LICENSE IN THE CITY OF CAÑON CITY PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF A SIGN PERMIT. SEE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION.)	PHONE/EMAIL:
	SIGN CONTRACTOR LICENSE: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	SALES TAX LICENSE? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:	

NEW SIGN(S): LABOR AND MATERIAL COSTS: \$	No. OF SIGNS
ALTERATION OR REPAIR (INCLUDES MOVING A PERMITTED SIGN WITHIN THE CITY FROM ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER, FACE AND/OR MESSAGE CHANGES AND MOST OTHER ALTERATIONS OR REPAIR OF EXISTING SIGNS): LABOR AND MATERIAL COSTS: \$	No. OF SIGNS
APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: 1) Completed application form, 2) <u>Site plan</u> drawn to scale with the location of the proposed sign(s) and all physical features, structures, traffic patterns etc. on the lot, 3) <u>Sign plans, details and specifications</u> showing structural features, anchoring, supports, wind load resistance, lighting layouts, all dimensions and any additional information determined by the sign code officer to show compliance with the sign code ordinance.	PERMIT FEE:
CONDITIONS:	
The application fee is calculated by the sign code officer and payable upon approval of the sign permit application.	
I hereby certify that I have read this application and understand that I must comply with all provisions of laws and codes governing the construction and maintenance of signs whether specified or not. I also understand that approval of a permit does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of any state or local law governing installation, erection or construction of signs.	
_____ Applicant (Print Name)	_____ Applicant's Signature
APPROVED BY AUTHORIZED SIGN CODE OFFICER:	DATE:

This expires sixty days (60) after issued if not constructed and inspected.

Contact the City of Cañon City Building Department, (719) 276-5253, for information about Contractor Licensing Requirements
Contact the City of Cañon City Finance Department, (719) 276.5296, for information about Sales Tax Licenses
This Sign Code is available on www.canoncity.org, Refer to the Municipal Code, Title 17, Section 30