

SECTION 9: SIGN ORDINANCE

Section 901: Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to regulate signs, as defined in Section 908, in order to:

- A. Preserve and protect the public health, safety and welfare within the City of Avondale;
- B. Encourage development of private property in harmony with the desired character of the City, while providing due regard for the public and private interests involved.
- C. Promote the effectiveness of signs by preventing their over-concentration, improper placement, and excessive size;
- D. Protect the general public from damage and injury which may be caused by the faulty and uncontrolled construction of signs within the City of Avondale; and
- E. Protect pedestrians and motorists of the City of Avondale from damage or injury caused, or partially attributable, to the distraction and obstructions which are caused by improperly situated signs.

Section 902: Interpretation of Avondale Sign Regulations

- A. Where there is a conflict between provisions of this Ordinance and provisions of other regulations of the City of Avondale, the provisions of this Ordinance shall apply.
- B. The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to the erection, construction, alteration, use, location and maintenance of all signs within the City of Avondale, except as specified in Sections 904, 905 and 906.
- C. If any court of competent jurisdiction determines any provision of this Ordinance to be invalid, such determination shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance not specifically included in the court's judgment.
- D. If any court of competent jurisdiction determines any provision of this Ordinance to be invalid as applied to any particular sign, such determination shall not affect the application of such provision to any other sign not specifically included in the court's judgment.

Section 903: Requirement of Conformity

It shall be illegal for a sign to be placed or maintained in the City of Avondale except as provided by this Ordinance.

- A. All signs maintained contrary to the provision of this Ordinance are declared to be nuisances, and such nuisance may be abated as provided by law.
- B. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this Ordinance or failing to comply with any order or regulation made hereunder shall be subject to prosecution under the procedures set forth in Section 1.9 of the Avondale City Code.
- C. Notwithstanding the above, any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this Ordinance or failing to comply with any order or regulation made thereunder shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Section 904: Exceptions and Prohibited Signs

- A. Exceptions. The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to:
 - 1. Flags, pennants or insignias of any nation, state, county, city or other political unit, or any church or religious organization.
 - 2. Tablets, grave markers, headstones, statuary or re-remembrances of persons or events non-commercial in nature.
 - 3. Works of fine arts when not displayed in conjunction with a commercial enterprise where direct commercial gain may be derived from such display.
 - 4. Temporary decorations or displays (banners) celebrating the occasion of traditionally accepted patriotic, religious or local holidays or events.
 - 5. The erection, construction, and maintenance of official traffic, fire and police signs, signals and devices and markings of the State of Arizona and the City of Avondale or other authorized public agency, or the posting of notices as required by law.

6. Non-illuminated directional or informational signs of public or quasi-public nature which do not include directions to commercial establishments, and which do not exceed six (6) square feet.
- B. Prohibited Signs. Except as non-conforming uses, signs which are prohibited include:
1. "A" frames and portable signs of more than four (4) square feet in area.
 2. Banners, pennants, fixed balloons and flags other than provided in Section 906 of this Ordinance; but excluding temporary banners, pennants, fixed balloons and flags that are used for specific sales events or promotional programs.
 3. Outlining of a building by means of exposed incandescent lighting.
 4. Vehicle signs, except for advertising or identification markings which are painted on or permanently or magnetically attached to a business or commercial vehicle. Vehicle with vehicle signs as authorized by this Ordinance shall not be primarily or consistently parked for display of sign message.
 5. All permanent off-premise (billboard) signs.
 6. Freestanding pole signs.

Section 905: Nonconforming Signs

- A. Any nonconforming sign, as defined in this Ordinance, may be continued in use, and reasonable repair and maintenance shall be made to same.
- B. If a nonconforming sign is damaged or vandalized, such sign must be restored in alike manner within sixty (60) days, or it shall lose its nonconforming status and it shall be removed at the owner's expense; or the nonconforming signage shall be replaced with sign(s) that are in compliance with this Ordinance.

Section 906: Signs Authorized Without Permits

- A. Permits shall not be required for the following signs or

situations, provided, however, that such signs shall be subject to any and all applicable provisions of this Ordinance.

1. Name plates for residential use less than four (4) square feet or less in sign area not otherwise prohibited by this Ordinance.
 2. Any signs four (4) square feet or less in sign area not otherwise prohibited by this Ordinance.
 3. Standard sign maintenance other than the changing of sign wording or composition (except changeable copy signs).
 4. Sign relocation as required by the City.
 5. Signs erected on site as identification of temporary sales areas.
- B. While no permit is required, every building or group of buildings in any residential, commercial or industrial zoning district must be identified by a street number. This sign shall not be computed as part of the total sign area permitted.

Section 907: General Provisions

- A. Churches and similar religious institutions shall be permitted entrance identification signs in accordance with Section 909(B) of this Ordinance.
- B. The source of an indirectly illuminated sign shall not be visible beyond the lot boundary. The source of a directly illuminated sign shall not be visible to any residential district adjacent to the lot or parcel on which said sign is located.
- C. No on-premise sign shall be located within five (5) feet of an interior property line with the leading edge.
- D. A comprehensive sign plan may be submitted by any applicant utilizing the City's Planned Area Development District (P.A.D.D.); or by the developer of a shopping center or an industrial park. Such a plan shall include the location, size, height, color, lighting and orientation of all proposed signs, in addition to any other information deemed necessary, and may be submitted in conjunction with the required

preliminary site plan for the development. The Planning Commission may approve such a comprehensive sign plan, upon finding that the sign areas and densities shown on the plan are in conformity with the requirements of this Ordinance, and that the proposed signage will result in an improved relationship between the various parts of the plan.

- E. Buildings of more than three (3) stories shall be identified by building or building complex only.
- F. In order to encourage and promote a harmonious relationship between buildings and signs, the Planning Commission shall have the authority to review and recommend issuance of a Special Use Permit for signs which are designed into and are a part of an integrated architectural feature of a building where the provisions of this Ordinance would otherwise prohibit such signs. In making such findings, the Commission shall determine that the overall signage in such a request shall not undermine the sign area and height standards provided in this Ordinance. Final approval of such request for said Special use Permit shall be made by the City Council.
- G. On corner lots in commercial and industrial districts, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-premise signs is permitted for each street frontage. Sign maximum allowances, however, are not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.
- H. On buildings in commercial and industrial districts having frontage on more than one street, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-premise signs are permitted for each street frontage. Said maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one building frontage to another or from one occupancy to another occupancy.
- I. When a sign is erected at the street corner of a parcel, or at a building front corner, and is situated at an angle so as to be visible from both streets or both frontages, said sign shall not exceed the maximum area allowed for the longest front footage of building occupancy or street frontage.
- J. A free standing sign may consist of more than one sign panel, provided all such sign panels are attached to one common integrated sign structure. The total area of all such panels shall not exceed the maximum allowable sign area specified for a free standing sign on said parcel. Where a sign message

consists of separate and individual letters, modules, or symbols, each portion of said sign message shall not be considered as a one-sign panel. In such cases, an angle continuous perimeter completely surrounding the sign message shall be used to determine its sign area.

K. Freestanding signs shall be monument style only, and match the architectural design of the structure.

L. If a shingle sign is used to identify a business whose front is under a roof overhang, covered walkway or covered porch, it may be placed either perpendicular or parallel to the street, and shall be adjacent to the business which it identifies.

1. The sign shall be suspended from a roof overhang, covered walkway or covered porch. No part of a suspended sign shall extend beyond the edge of the overhang. Signs placed parallel to the street may be attached to the fascia, provided no part of the sign extends above or below the fascia. A minimum clearance of six (6) feet shall be maintained between the bottom of the sign and the nearest grade or sidewalk.

2. The sign must consist only of the name of the individual business, building or building complex.

M. The following locational requirements shall apply to all signs:

1. No sign or structure shall erected in such a manner that any portion of its surface or supports will interfere in any way with the free use of any fire escape, exit or standpipe.

2. No sign shall obstruct traffic by obstructing the vision of motorists as determined by the City traffic engineer.

3. No person, firm or corporation shall erect or cause to be erected any sign which projects over any public sidewalk, street, alley or public place.

4. No sign shall be erected or attached to any vehicle except for advertising or identification markings which are painted on or permanently attached to a business or commercial vehicle. The primary use of such vehicles shall be in the operation of the business and not in advertising or identifying the business premises.

5. No sign shall be erected or maintained in the public right-of-way except as provided hereafter in this Ordinance.

Section 908: Definitions

- A. Abandoned Sign shall mean any signs which no longer correctly directs or exhorts any person, advertises a bona fide business, lessor, owner, product, activity conducted or product available on the premises where such sign is displayed.
- B. Area of Sign shall mean the entire area within a single continuous perimeter composed of parallelograms, circles, ellipses, trapezoids and triangles, or a combination of two (2) of the above or regular portions thereof, per sign panel which enclose the extreme limits of the advertising message, announcement, declarations, display, illustration, insignia, surface or space of a similar nature; together with any frame or other material, color or condition which forms an integral part of the display and is used to differentiate such sign from the wall or background against which it is displayed. The necessary supports or uprights on which such sign is placed are excluded from the sign area. Where a sign has two or more faces, the area of all faces shall be included in determining the area of the sign, except that only one face of a double-faced sign shall be considered in determining the sign area when both faces are parallel and the distance between faces does not exceed two feet.

Further, where a sign consists only of individual letters, numerals, symbols, or other similar components and is painted on or attached flat against the wall of a building, and where such individual components are without an integrated background definition and are not within a circumscribed frame area, the total area of the sign shall be the sum of the areas of the squares or rectangles surrounding each individual component.

Where statuary, either real or simulated, is used as a sign, the area of said sign shall be the three vertical sides of the smallest right rectangle enclosing the figure that is most visible from the public right-of-way.

- C. Attached Sign shall mean any sign which is fastened, attached, connected, or supported in whole or in part by an attached

- building or structure other than a sign structure which is supported wholly by the ground.
- D. Banner shall mean a temporary sign of fabric, plastic, paper, or other light pliable material, not enclosed in a rigid frame, but mounted so as to allow movement of the sign by atmospheric movement.
 - E. Building Line shall mean a line established by Ordinance beyond which no building may extend. A building may be a property line.
 - F. Change Panel Sign shall mean a sign designed to permit immediate change of copy which may be other than the name of the business.
 - G. Commercial center shall mean a property with a minimum land area of ten (10) acres which is zoned for commercial use.
 - H. Commission shall mean the Planning Commission of the City of Avondale.
 - I. Council shall mean the City Council of the City of Avondale.
 - J. Curb Line shall be the line at the face of the curb nearest the street or roadway. In the absence of a curb, the curb line shall be established by the City Engineer.
 - K. Direct Lighting shall mean a sign designed to provide artificial light through exposed lighting on the sign face, such as neon.
 - L. Directional Sign shall mean a sign of non-commercial nature which indicates the location of public or educational institutions, historical areas of structures, or public parks; or which indicates access to parking and loading areas or indicates traffic circulation patterns.
 - M. Directory Sign shall mean a sign designed to show the relative locations of the several commercial activities within a shopping center or other multi-tenant development.
 - N. Electrical Sign shall mean any sign or advertising device which has electrical wiring in or attached to it.
 - O. Embellishment shall mean letters, figures, characters or representations in cutouts or irregular forms or similar

ornamentation whether or not attached to, affixed to, or superimposed upon, advertising signs.

- P. Fascia shall mean a parapet-type wall used as part of the fascia of a flat roofed building and projecting not more than six (6) feet from the building face immediately adjacent thereto. Such a wall shall enclose at least three (3) sides of the projecting flat roof and return to a parapet wall or the building.
- Q. Flashing Sign shall mean an illuminated sign which exhibits changing light or color effect by blinding or by any other means so as to provide inconstant illumination.
- R. Freeway shall mean a highway, in respect to which the owners of the abutting lands have no right or easement of access to or from their abutting properties, or in respect to which such owners have only limited or restricted right or easement of access, the precise route of which has been determined and designated as a freeway by an authorized agency of the State or a political subdivision thereof. The term shall include the main traveled portion of the traffic way, and all ramps and appurtenant land and structures.
- S. Freeway Commercial Corridor shall mean those areas located within Commercial and PAD Districts, which abut the right-of-way of Interstate 10 and extend to a depth of up to one thousand (1,000) feet.
- T. Front Foot (of a building or parcel of land) shall mean the maximum width measured on a straight line parallel to the street.
- U. High Rise Building shall mean any building or structure with more than four (4) stories above ground.
- V. Illegal Sign shall be defined as all signs except the following:
 - 1. Allowed by this Ordinance and not requiring a permit.
 - 2. Allowed by this Ordinance with permit and carrying a valid permit.
 - 3. Not allowed by this Ordinance but legalized by variance and proper permit.

4. Allowed by this Ordinance, subject to a Use Permit or a Special Use Permit, providing the permit has been granted and a proper permit is in force.
 5. A nonconforming sign as defined in this Ordinance.
- W. Incombustible Material shall mean any material which will not ignite at, or below a temperature of 1200 degrees F. during an exposure of five (5) minutes, and which will not continue to burn or glow at that temperature.
- X. Interior Property Line shall mean a recorded property line of a parcel which is located within the area circumscribed by a recorded plat.
- Y. Internal Lighting shall mean a source of illumination entirely within the sign which makes the sign content visible at night by means of light being transmitted through a translucent material, but wherein the source of the illumination is not visible.
- Z. Internal Indirect Lighting shall mean a source of illumination entirely within the sign which makes the design visible at night by means of lighting the background upon which free-standing characters or letters are mounted. The characters or letters themselves shall be opaque, and thus will be silhouetted against the background. The source of illumination shall not be visible.
- AA. Leading Edge shall mean that portion of the sign or the base of the sign that is nearest to the property line.
- BB. Maintenance shall mean the replacing or repairing of a part or portion of a sign made usable by ordinary wear, tear, or damage beyond the control of the owner.
- CC. Marquee shall mean a permanent roof-like structure extending from part or all of the building facade over a public right-of-way and constructed of some durable material such as metal, glass, or plastic.
- DD. Master Planned Community shall mean a self-contained development often with a mixture of land uses, housing types and densities, in which the subdivisions and zoning controls are applied to the project as a whole rather than to individual lots.

- EE. Monument Style sign shall mean a sign in which the width of the sign base shall be equal to the sign fascia, and shall be in architectural conformity with the primary structure.
- FF. Multi-Prism Sign shall mean a sign made with a series of triangular vertical sections that turn and strip, or index, to show three pictures or messages in the same area.
- GG. Nonconforming Sign shall mean any sign which is not allowed under this Ordinance, but which, when first constructed, was legally allowed by the City of Avondale or the political subdivision then having the control and regulation over construction of signs, and was in continuous use. To retain conforming status, such signs shall be determined to be in current and continuous use, and shall be subject to the nonconforming sign provisions of this Ordinance.
- HH. Nonstructural Trim shall mean the molding, battens, caps, nailing strips, latticing, cutouts or letters and walkways which are attached to the sign structure.
- II. Off-Premise Sign (Billboard) shall mean a structure portraying information which directs attention to a business, commodity, service, entertainment or product not necessarily related to the other uses existing on the premises upon which the sign is located. A sign shall be classified as an off-premise sign unless at least fifty (50) percent of the advertising area is devoted to identifying a business operation on the premises, or to a product that is manufactured on the premises.
- JJ. On Premise Sign shall mean a sign directing attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered upon the same premises as those upon which the sign is maintained.
- KK. Outdoor Type Business shall be defined as a business where all or most of the business is conducted, or items displayed, in an open area and which is allowed under the Avondale Zoning Ordinance.
- LL. Parapet Wall shall mean a wall extended above the roof line of a building. Maximum height no more than four (4) feet.
- MM. Parcel shall mean a parcel of land shown on a subdivision map, record of survey map, parcel map, or a parcel described by metes and bounds and which constitutes one development site, whether composed of a single unit of land or a contiguous unit

under common ownership.

- NN. Permanent Sign shall mean any sign which is intended to be and is so constructed as to be of lasting and enduring condition, remaining unchanged in character, condition (beyond normal wear) and position, provided the sign is listed as a permanent sign in this Ordinance.
- OO. Portable Sign shall mean any sign not permanently affixed to the ground or structure on the premises it occupies.
- PP. Plastic Materials shall mean those materials made wholly or principally from standardized plastics listed and described in U.B.C. Standard No. 52-1-73.
- QQ. Plate Line shall mean the point at which any part of the roof structure first touches or bears upon an external wall.
- RR. Projecting Sign shall mean any sign attached to a building or other structure and extending in whole or in part more than fifteen (15) inches beyond the building line.
- SS. Reader Board shall mean a business sign listing church services, stating religious activities or those uses allowed by a directory sign.
- TT. Roof Line shall mean the highest point of the main roof structure, not including cupolas, pylons, projections or minor raised portions of the roof.
- UU. Roof Sign shall mean a sign erected in any way upon a building or structure which extends above the plate line of the building or structure, but not including signs defined as wall-mounted signs. The maximum pitch on a roof shall be a five (5) in twelve (12) pitch for roof mounted signs.
- VV. Setback Area shall mean the open space area defined in the Avondale Zoning Ordinance under front, side and rear yard setbacks.
- WW. Sidewalk shall mean that portion of the public right-of-way between the property line and the established street curb, whether paved or not.
- XX. Sign shall mean any device for visual communication that is used for the purpose of bringing the subject thereof to the attention of the public, but not including any flag, badge or

insignia of any government or governmental agency, or of any civic, charitable, religious, patriotic, fraternal or similar organization, and further not including any item of merchandise normally displayed within a show window of a merchant.

The term "sign" shall mean and include any display of any letter, numeral, figure, emblem, picture, outline, character, spectacle delineation, announcement or anything in part or in combination by any means whereby the same are made visible to the eye and for the purpose of attracting attention outdoors to make anything know, whether such display be made on, attached to or as a part of any other structure, surface or thing; including but not limited to, the ground or any rock, tree, or other natural object, when display is visible beyond the boundaries of the lot or parcel of property on or over which the same is made.

- YY. Sign Height shall mean the vertical distance measured from the adjacent street grade or upper surface of the curb, whichever permits the greatest height, to the highest point of said sign, excluding embellishments.
- ZZ. Sign Structure shall mean the supports, uprights, braces, and framework of the sign.
- AAA Shopping Center shall mean a commercial development whereupon are located a number separate commercial activities, in which there are appurtenant shared facilities, such as parking and pedestrian walkways, and in which the public can obtain varied products and services. Distinguishing characteristics of a shopping center may, but need not, include common ownership of the real property upon which the center is located, common wall construction, and multiple-occupant commercial use of a single structure.
- BBB. Structure shall mean that which is built or constructed, an edifice or building or any kind, or any piece of work artificially built up or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner.
- CCC. Temporary Signs shall mean any sign, banner, pennant, balance or advertising display constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other like materials, with or without frames, intended to be displayed for a short period of time only, not to exceed a period of sixty (60) days.

- DDD. Uniform Building Code shall mean the current edition of the Uniform Building Code.
- EEE. U.B.C. Standards shall mean the standards set forth in the current edition of the Uniform Building Code adopted for use by the City of Avondale.
- FFF. Vehicle Sign shall mean signs mounted upon, painted upon, or otherwise erected on a trailer, truck, automobile or other vehicle so parked or placed so that the signs thereon are visible from a public street or right-of-way.
- GGG. Wall-Mounted shall mean a sign mounted flat against, or painted on the wall of a building or structure with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the face of said wall. No wall-mounted sign shall be located above the plate line or project more than fifteen (15) inches from the wall.
- HHH. Window Sign shall mean any sign affixed to the interior or exterior of a window, or any sign located inside a building within six (6) feet of the interior side of the window and displayed so as to attract the attention of persons outside the building.
- III. Building Facade shall mean the exterior space or elevation of a building structure excluding any porches, overhangs, or covered walkways, or drive thru covers.
- JJJ. Free Standing Building shall mean the lot and building being owned by the same owner that is not part of shopping center.

Section 909: Signs Allowed With Permit

A. Residential Districts

1. Permanent identification signs for Master Planned Communities are subject to the following:
 - a. A maximum of two (2) signs are permitted for each entry. The maximum area of such sign shall be fifty (50) square feet and the maximum height shall be five (5) feet.
 - b. Such signs shall be of the monument type, or consist of individually mounted letters on entry perimeter walls.

- c. If such signs are of the monument type, they shall be located in a landscaped area of at least two (2) square feet per each one (1) square foot of sign area.
 - d. The final location of such signs shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.
 - e. Said signs are permitted on arterial and collector streets only.
2. Permanent subdivision identification signs for recorded subdivisions, subject to the following:
- a. The maximum area of such sign shall be forty (40) square feet, and the maximum height of six (6).
 - b. Such signs shall be of the monument type, or consist of individually mounted letters on a free standing wall.
 - c. If such signs are of the monument type, they shall be located in a landscaped area of at least two (2) square feet per each one (1) square foot of sign area.
 - d. The final location of such signs shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.
3. In multi-family districts, the provisions of Section 909(A)(1) shall apply. In addition, identification signs for apartments and condominium complexes shall be allowed, subject to the following:
- a. A free standing identification sign, not to exceed forty (40) square feet in total area, and not to exceed ten (10) feet in width or six (6) feet in height. Such signs shall be located at least five (5) feet from any property line.
 - b. In addition to (a) above, a wall-mounted identification sign shall be permitted, not to exceed twenty four (24) square feet in area, and not extend above the roof line.

- c. Free standing signs shall be located in a landscaped area of at least two (2) square feet for each one (1) square foot of sign area.
 - d. The final location of such signs shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.
4. In mobile home subdivisions and mobile home parks, the provisions of Sections 909(A)(1) and 909(A)(2) shall apply. In addition, an identification sign for the entrance to the subdivision or park shall be permitted, not to exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in area, and not to exceed five (5) feet in height or ten (10) feet in width.
- a. Such identification sign shall be located in a landscaped area of at least two (2) square feet for such one (1) square foot for sign area.
 - b. The final location of such signs shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.

B. Non-Residential Districts

1. In all commercial and industrial districts, the following identification signs shall be permitted:
- a. Each free standing building shall be allowed twenty-four (24) square feet of signage or one (1) square foot of signage for each linear foot of building frontage adjacent to an arterial. Maximum allowable square footage shall not be calculated on more than three (3) building elevations. For buildings with a floor area of 0 to 49,999 square feet, the maximum allowable signage shall not exceed 250 square feet. For buildings with a floor area of 50,000 square feet of floor area or more, the maximum allowable square footage shall not exceed 500 square feet. The allowable square footage may be transferred to any building elevation of the building occupied by the tenant except any elevation directly adjacent to any residential area shall not have signage. No wall sign shall be allowed to extend above the roofline.
 - b. One free standing identification sign, not to exceed a maximum of forty (40) square feet in area,

and not to exceed a maximum of six (6) feet in height. Two free standing identification signs shall be permitted on properties whose frontage exists on two (2) arterial streets. Such free standing identification signs shall be set back at least five (5) feet from any property line with the leading edge.

- c. For free standing signs, a landscaped area shall be provided at the base of the free standing sign, with said landscaped area to be a minimum of four (4) square feet for each one (1) square foot of sign area.
 - d. Final location of permitted signs as cited above shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.
2. In addition to the above, a total of three (3) square feet of non-illuminated sign area shall be permitted on each building frontage, adjacent to the premise entry. Such area shall be used for identification of the establishment only.
 3. In addition to the above provisions, an identification directory sign shall be permitted, where appropriate, not to exceed twelve (12) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. Such directory sign shall be located behind the required front yard setback. Location of directory signs shall be approved by the Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer.
 4. On free standing signs, the sign structure may extend above the maximum allowable height of the sign for embellishment purposes. Such embellishment shall not extend more than twenty (20) percent of the height of the design, and shall not include thereon any symbol, representation, logogram, insignia, illustration, or other form of advertising message.
 5. Notwithstanding the provisions above, no more than two (2) temporary signs may be painted on or otherwise displayed from the surface of any window, for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. The area of such signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the area of the window on which displayed. The area of said signs shall be deducted from the total allowed sign area.

6. Statues, either real or simulated, and used for advertising and industrial purposes, are permitted in commercial and industrial districts by Special Use Permits. Said statues shall be low profile and the area of said statue shall be deducted from the total allowable sign area.
7. Menu Boards for Drive-thru Restaurants:
 - a. One (1) preview menu board and one (1) ordering menu board is allowed per business. Such signs may be free standing or wall-mounted.
 - b. The maximum area for each sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
 - c. The maximum sign height shall not exceed six (6) feet for freestanding signs.
 - d. Such signs shall not be visible from the street by a screen wall or landscaping.

C. Special Purpose Signs

1. For commercial centers, one free standing identification sign per street frontage shall be permitted, subject to the following:
 - a. The total sign area of one (1) face of a free standing identification sign shall not exceed one-hundred (100) square feet, and shall not exceed a height of twenty-four (24) feet.
 - b. A commercial center whose land area is a minimum of thirty (30) acres and whose property line is within one (1) mile of Interstate 10, and within one-quarter (1/4) mile of a road of regional significance (Dysart Road and 99th Avenue) one (1) free standing double sided, monument type sign per arterial street, identifying the name of the center and the individual tenants, subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) The ratio of height to width shall not exceed 2.8:1, with a maximum overall height of sixty (65) feet, and a maximum overall width of twenty-three (23) feet.
 - (2) The total signage area, per face, shall not exceed forty-five (45%) percent of the gross sign area.
 - (3) The sign must be designed and constructed in architectural conformity with the overall design of the commercial center.
 - (4) At the base of the freestanding sign, a landscape area must be provided, extending to a minimum of four feet beyond the perimeter section of the sign structure at its widest point.
- c. Such free standing identification sign shall identify the center only, and shall not be included as part of the total identification signage permitted individual tenants within the commercial center.
- d. For said free standing sign, a landscaped area shall be provided, on-premise at the street frontage at the base of the sign, which shall consist of four (4) square feet of landscaped area for each one (1) square foot of sign area.
- e. Within a commercial center, all wall, fascia-mounted or mansard signs for individual tenants shall be uniform in terms of colors, shapes and maximum vertical dimension with all other such signs in the center. Each tenant shall be allowed twenty-four (24) square feet of signage or one (1) square foot of signage for each linear foot of store frontage adjacent to an arterial, whichever is greater. Maximum allowable square footage shall not be calculated on more than three (3) building elevations. For tenants with a floor area of 0 to 49,999 square feet, the maximum allowable signage shall not exceed 250 square feet. For tenants with a floor area of 50,000 square feet of floor area or more, the maximum allowable square footage shall not exceed 500 square feet. The allowable square

footage may be transferred to any building elevation of the building occupied by the tenant except any elevation directly adjacent to any residential area. No wall sign shall be allowed to extend above the roofline.

- f. A proposal for a complete signage, prepared in conjunction with a development plan, shall be submitted for review to the Avondale Community Development Department, which shall make a report of findings to the Council regarding its overall compliance with the intent and purpose of this Ordinance.
 - g. Commercial center free standing identification signs shall require a Sign Permit.
2. Sale, lease or rent signs shall be non-illuminated and not exceed six (6) square feet in area and five (5) feet in height. On properties with one (1) or more acres said sign area shall be increased to thirty-two (32) square feet, and the maximum height allowable shall be eight (8) feet. Such signs shall pertain only to the land or building upon which such sign is displayed. Such signs shall not require a sign permit.
3. Recorded Subdivisions
- a. On-Premise Signs
 - i. One (1) on-premise sign per Developer not exceeding forty-eight (48) square feet in area and twelve (12) feet in height.
 - ii. On-premise signs shall be removed within two (2) years or when ninety-five (95) percent of the lots of the Development being advertised are sold.
 - iii. On-premise signs shall not be illuminated.
 - iv. On-premise directional sign plan shall be permitted through the special use permit process, subject to Section 909.C.3.c.iii.
 - v. Sign permit required.

b. Off-Premise Signs

- i. No off-premise signs shall be permitted except off-premise signs, subject to Section 909.C.3, existing at the time of this ordinance shall be removed within six (6) months after the adoption of this ordinance.
- ii. No off-premise animated signs shall be permitted. Animated signs shall include, human signs or signs carried, worn or placed on any other object, person or animal.

c. Off-Premise Kiosk Signs

- i. No off premise kiosk signs shall be placed within three-hundred (300) feet of another, except when across the street from one another.
- ii. Community Kiosk Signs
 - 1. Sign panels on city-approved kiosk structures may be permitted for the purpose of providing directional information to community facilities and attractions and residential developments including mobile home parks and apartment developments within the first two (2) years after approval of the first building permit for the site.
 - 2. Community kiosk signs shall not exceed twelve (12) feet in height and five (5) feet six (6) inches in width.
 - 3. Community Kiosk signs shall be located within the public right-of-way of a minor arterial or higher street classification. Right-of-way permit required.
 - 4. A community kiosk location plan shall be prepared showing the site of each kiosk and shall be submitted and approved by the Development Services Department prior to issuance of a sign permit.

5. An approved community kiosk sign plan shall be resubmitted for approval every twelve (12) months.
6. A minimum of thirty (30) inches at the top of each kiosk signs shall be reserved for the placement of an approved city logo and a twenty-four (24) inch clearance shall be provided on the bottom of each community kiosk.
7. Sign panels advertising residential developments shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches in height.

iii. Neighborhood Kiosk Sign

1. Sign panels on city-approved kiosk structures may be permitted for the purpose of providing directional information to community facilities and attractions and residential development including mobile home parks and apartment developments within the first two (2) years after approval of the first building permit for the site.
2. Neighborhood kiosk signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and five (5) feet six (6) inches in width.
3. Neighborhood kiosk signs shall be located within the public right-of-way of a collector street of lower street classification.
4. A neighborhood kiosk location plan shall be prepared showing the site of each kiosk and shall be submitted and approved by the Development Services Department prior to issuance of a sign permit.
5. An approved Community Kiosk Sign Plan shall be resubmitted for approval every twelve (12) months.
6. A minimum of twenty-four (24) inches at

the top of each kiosk sign shall be reserved for the placement of an approved city logo and a twelve (12) inch clearance shall be provided on the bottom of each community kiosk.

7. Sign panels advertising residential developments shall not exceed twelve (12) inches in height.
4. One (1) construction sign located along a street frontage and denoting architects, engineers, contractors, and other related subjects shall be permitted only until an occupancy permit for the referenced project is obtained. Said sign shall not exceed forty-eight (48) square feet and shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.
5. Political signs may be placed in any zoning district, without obtaining a Sign Permit, subject to the following:
 - a. The permission of the property owner shall be gained in order to place said sign.
 - b. In residential areas, the maximum sign area shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet; and in non-residential areas, the maximum sign area shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet. The maximum sign height shall be ten (10) feet.
 - c. No sign shall be placed within a 25-foot triangle of land area at any intersection, and no sign shall be attached to any freestanding sign.
 - d. All political signs shall be removed within two (2) weeks of the date of the election for which they are placed.
6. For commercial centers and Planned Area Development located within the Freeway Commercial Corridor, supplemental to the provisions of Section 909.C.1. of this Ordinance, the following are permitted:
 - a. For commercial centers whose land area is a minimum of forty (40) acres, one free standing double sided, monument type, freeway facing sign, identifying the name of the center and the

individual tenants, subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) The ratio of height to width shall not exceed 2.8:1, with a maximum overall height of sixty-five (65) feet, and a maximum overall width of twenty-three (23) feet.
 - (2) The total signage area, per face, shall not exceed forty-five percent (45%) of the gross sign area.
 - (3) The sign must be designed and constructed in architectural conformity with the overall design of the commercial center.
 - (4) At the base of the freestanding sign, a landscaped area must be provided, extending to a minimum of four feet beyond the perimeter section of the sign structure at its widest point.
- b. Within a commercial center whose land area is a minimum of forty (40) acres, individual tenant signs shall be permitted, subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) Two (2) wall mounted tenant identification signs, not on the same elevation, and not to exceed one (1) and one-half (1/2) square foot of signage area for each one (1) linear foot of storefront. Such signs shall not project above the roofline of the building, nor outward from the building surface a distance greater than one (1) foot.
 - (2) The design and construction of tenant identification signs shall conform to the overall architectural design of the commercial center.
 - (3) Individual tenant identification monument signs may be permitted along a frontage road, or arterial street provided such signs are integrated with the overall design of the commercial center development. Such signage shall be subject to restriction as to height,

area, design, and placement as deemed appropriate by the Council.

- c. Within a commercial center whose land area exceeds forty (40) acres, the Council may grant an increase of up to twenty (20) percent in the allowable signage heights, areas and ratios, subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) Any increase shall be considered on a case-by-case basis as part of a proposal for all signage for the entire commercial center.
 - (2) Such increase shall not violate the purpose and intent of this Ordinance.

Section 910: Sign Permits

A. Permits Required

1. No sign shall hereafter be erected, re-erected, constructed or altered except as provided by this Ordinance. Where sign permits are required, a separate permit shall be requested for a sign or signs for each business entity, and/or separate permit shall be required for each group of signs on a single supporting structure. Where signs are illuminated electrically, a separate electrical permit shall be obtained as required by the Electrical Code of the City of Avondale.
2. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the erection, construction, and maintenance of official traffic, fire and police signs, signals, devices and markings of the State of Arizona and the City of Avondale, or other public authorities, or the posting of notices required by law.

B. Permit Application and Expiration

1. Except as otherwise noted in this Ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any persons to erect, alter, construct or relocate any sign within the City without first obtaining a permit. In addition, electrical permits are required for electrically illuminated signs.
2. A Sign Permit shall be made in writing upon forms provided by the Avondale Building Inspector's office. The

application shall contain the location by street and number of the proposed sign, as well as the name and address of the business owner and/or sign contractor. Two copies of plans and specifications shall be submitted with the application for each sign; one (1) copy being returned to the applicant at the time the Permit is issued. All plans shall show complete details, to include size, materials, method of support or attachments, name and address of the persons or firm designing said sign and plot plan showing location of sign on the premises.

3. If actual work is not commenced under any Permit issued under the provision of this Section within ninety (90) days from the date of such Permit, or upon completion of building, such Permit shall become null and void. If the building operations under any Permit issued under this Section are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days, such Permit shall become null and void.
4. Before issuing any Sign Permit required by this Ordinance, the City shall collect a fee in accordance with a sign fee schedule established by the City Council. If work for which a Permit is required by this Ordinance is started before a Permit has been issued, the fees specified above shall be doubled; but the payment of such double fee shall not relieve any persons from in the execution of the work or from any penalties prescribed herein.
5. All signs for which a Permit is required shall be subject to the following inspections:
 - a. Footing inspection on all freestanding signs exceeding fifty (50) square feet in area.
 - b. All signs containing electrical wiring shall be subject to the Avondale Electrical Code, and the electrical components shall bear the label of an approved testing agency.
 - c. Inspection of all braces, anchors, supports and connections, including wall signs.
 - d. Site inspection to ensure that the sign has been constructed according to approved application and a valid Sign Permit.

6. All permanent signs regulated by this Ordinance shall be marked with the maker's name and the person or firm erecting the sign, the date of installation and the permit number. This identification shall be permanently attached to the exterior surface of the sign in a location where the information will be readily visible, legible, and accessible after installation of the sign.
7. Temporary signs shall be marked to show Permit number and expiration date.
8. Each sign shall be maintained in good order and repair at all times so that it constitutes no danger or hazard to public safety.
9. The Avondale Zoning Enforcement Officer may undertake the procedures as provided in Chapter 11, Division 2 of the Avondale City Code to eliminate abandoned signs within the City Limits.

Section 911: Permit Fees

1. Fees for sign permits shall be calculated based upon the following table:

0-32 square feet	\$ 70.00 per sign
33-48 square feet	\$ 100.00 per sign
48+square feet	\$ 150.00 per sign
Plan Review Fee	\$ 30.00 per sign

2. A comprehensive sign package is available for all signage within a development. The fee for a comprehensive sign package shall be \$500.00