

- 8 ft.
- The maximum allowance for sign area on each building frontage is not transferable either in whole or in part from one building frontage to another, nor from one occupancy to another occupancy.
  - The sign must be mounted at approximately right angles to the building or structure

### Window Signs

Window signs are allowed subject to the following:

- The area of the window signs will not be deducted from the total area of signs allowed.
- The maximum permitted area of a window sign or signs cannot exceed 25% of the area of the window.
- Signs with flashing or intermittent illumination and those illuminated of such brilliance or position as to blind or dazzle the vision of travelers, cannot be used as window signs. (This does not include Christmas lights).

### Other Provisions

Business/commercial signs must also adhere to the provisions set forth below:

- Any free standing or projecting sign within 25 ft. of a street right-of-way must be so constructed as to allow clear and ample visual lines for driveways and alleys to adjoining traffic lanes.
- A sign may be illuminated, however it must be located and arranged as to avoid glare or reflection onto any portion of the adjacent roadway, or into the path of oncoming vehicles, or onto any adjacent residential property. The illumination may not be flashing or intermittent.
- The sign must be located on the property to which it pertains.
- Signs must not be located within, on, or projecting over any public right-of-way.
- On a corner lot in any zoning district, no sign or other obstruction to vision more than 3 ft. in height may be placed or maintained within the triangular area bounded on two sides by front lot lines, and on the third side by a straight line connecting points on said lot lines (or their projections) each of which points is 25 ft. from the point of intersection of said lot lines.
- All signs and sign structures must be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of the most recent edition of the International Building Code.
- Signs for different businesses located within the same building or shopping center/mall must be of matching design and materials.
- Up to one half of the square footage allowed for a wall sign, monument sign, or free standing sign may include a changeable message sign.

### Permits

- An installation permit and an electrical permit, if

necessary, must be obtained before adding to, erecting, or relocating a sign.

- The Planning and Zoning Department may require the submittal of plans or other pertinent information if such information is necessary to ensure compliance with this code.
- A permit will not be issued for a nonconforming sign unless it is brought into compliance with the appropriate sign regulations, except that the nonconforming sign does not have to comply with the requirements of this section, if the sign is being repainted or its lettering replaced for the purpose of advertising a new business, person, activity, goods, product or service without any alteration or modification of the structural components of the sign or increase in its total square footage.

### Exemptions

An exemption from these some of these regulations may be granted under certain circumstances. Contact a Planner to discuss this provision.

### Fees

Please refer to the fee schedule for applicable fees.

#### INFORMATION PAMPHLETS AVAILABLE

- Single Family Residential
- Multiple Family Residential
- Commercial and Industrial
- Planned Area Development
- Public Lands
- Residential Park
- Parking Regulations
- Parking Spaces Required per Use
- Business Sign Regulations
- Promotional Display Signs
- Subdivision Sign Information
- Off Premise Signs
- Temporary Signs
- Landscaping Regulations
- Plant List
- Screening Regulations
- Garage/Yard Sales and Home Occupations
- Manufactured/Factory Built Home Permits
- Vehicles Sales and Rentals, Watercraft Rentals
- City Organization
- Zoning Regulations for New Businesses
- Alternative Energy Systems

*City of Bullhead City*  
*Development Services*  
*Department*

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## *Business Sign Regulations*



## Zoning Ordinance Information Series

*City of Bullhead City*

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# Business Sign Regulations

## Commercial Sign Regulations

The purpose of these regulations is to provide fair, comprehensive, and enforceable laws that will foster a good visual environment for Bullhead City, thus enhancing it as a place to live and do business. Unless otherwise specified, business signs are allowed in the R2MF, RS, C1, C2, C3, GC, M1, M2, and PL zoning districts with a permit and subject to the regulations set forth below.

## Wall Signs Affixed to Buildings

1. The maximum permitted area of a wall sign or signs must not exceed one square foot for each one linear foot of exterior building frontage, for any one business occupancy. The square footage is calculated on only the portion of the building occupied by the business requesting a permit.
2. The maximum allowance for sign area on each building frontage may be transferred from one building frontage to another building frontage for the same business occupancy requesting a permit. The transferred square footage must not exceed one half square foot for each one linear foot of exterior building frontage for any one business occupancy.
3. Wall signage may also be placed on architectural features of a building. The maximum permitted area of a wall sign on an architectural feature must not exceed one square foot for each one linear foot of exterior frontage of the feature. The wall signage placed on an architectural feature is limited to advertising the business(es) occupying the building to which the architectural feature is attached.
4. The sign must not extend above the roof line.
5. Wall signs are permitted in addition to landscape wall, free standing or monument signs and are allowed on each building frontage in accordance with this chapter.

## Free Standing Signs

1. The maximum permitted area of a free standing sign is based on lot size as set forth in the Free Standing Signs Table below.
2. The maximum height of any portion of a free standing sign or sign structure is thirty feet with a minimum ground clearance of ten feet. The ground clearance of the sign may be reduced provided such decrease does not hamper visibility for traffic safety. A minimum ground clearance of seven feet is required in pedestrian traffic areas.
3. All signs must be setback a minimum of five feet as measured from the property line to the structure supporting the sign provided no portion of the sign projects over any portion of the public right-of-way.

4. No more than one free standing sign identifying the business, designating the principal goods, products, or facilities or services available on the premises, is permitted. If the buildings are located on property, which has more than one street frontage, one such sign may be permitted for each frontage, provided such street is recognized as an arterial street as defined in the most current edition of the Bullhead City General Plan.
5. Signs shall be professionally made and other than embellishments, ends, cross bracing or tops and bottoms of parallel or V-shaped signs, structural components must be concealed.
6. If there are separate building pads located on lots or premises that are governed by this section of the code, one additional free standing or monument sign is allowed for each pad, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Free Standing Signs Table below.

**Free Standing Signs Table**

| Lot Size                       | Free Standing Sign (sq.ft) | Other Free Standing Signs (sq.ft) |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5,000 sq.ft. or Less           | 75                         | 0                                 |
| 5,001 sq.ft. to 10,000 sq.ft.  | 75                         | 0                                 |
| 10,001 sq.ft. to 15,000 sq.ft. | 100                        | 0                                 |
| 15,001 sq.ft. to 20,000 sq.ft. | 100                        | 0                                 |
| 20,001 sq.ft. to 40,000 sq.ft. | 125                        | 0                                 |
| Over 40,000 sq.ft.             | 200                        | 75                                |

## Landscape Wall Signs

Landscape wall signs are signs consisting of individual letters mounted on a screening device, which may only identify the name, address, and/or telephone number of the business, center, or mall.

1. The maximum permitted area of a landscape wall sign or signs must not exceed fifty square foot per parcel of land.
2. The maximum height of any portion of a landscape

wall sign must not exceed five feet.

3. The letters of a landscape wall sign must not extend above the height of the screening device to which they are attached.
4. Landscape wall signs are permitted in addition to wall, free standing or monument signs.

## Monument Signs

1. The maximum permitted area of a monument sign is fifty square feet.
2. The maximum height of any portion of a monument sign or sign structure is five feet.
3. A monument sign must not create an obstruction to vision or interfere with traffic.
4. All signs must be setback a minimum of five feet as measured from the property line to the structure supporting the sign provided no portion of the sign projects over any portion of the public right-of-way.
5. No more than one free standing or monument sign identifying the business, designating the principal goods, products, or facilities or services available on the premises, is permitted. If the buildings are located on property, which has more than one street frontage, one such sign may be permitted for each frontage, provided such street is recognized as an arterial street as defined in the most current edition of the Bullhead City General Plan

## Canopy/Marquee Signs

1. The maximum permitted area of a canopy or marquee sign or signs must not exceed one square foot for each one linear foot of the canopy or marquee to which it is attached, for any one occupancy.
2. The maximum permitted area of a canopy or marquee sign or signs attached to the underside of the canopy or marquee must not exceed eight square feet and provide a minimum ground clearance of eight feet, for any one occupancy.
3. Canopy or marquee signs are permitted in addition to free standing or monument signs and are allowed on each building frontage in accordance with this chapter.
4. The maximum allowance for sign area on each building frontage is not transferable either in whole or in part from one building frontage to another, nor from one occupancy to another occupancy.
5. The sign must not extend over a public right-of-way line.

## Projecting Signs

1. The sign must not exceed a total area of 1 sq. ft. for every foot of height of the wall to which it is attached.
2. The sign must not project more than 36 inches from the building.
3. The sign must not extend above the roof line or over a public right-of-way line.
4. The sign must provide a minimum ground clearance of