

Section 17A.020.010 "A" Definitions

A. Abandoned Sign Structure.

~~A sign structure where no sign has been in place for a continuous period of at least six months.~~
[See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

Section 17A.020.020 "B" Definitions

A. Backed Sign.

~~A sign where the faces of the sign are parallel or within twenty degrees of parallel to each other.~~
[See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

B. Balloon Sign.

~~A sign that is blown up with air or gas.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

F. Banner.

~~A sign made of fabric or other similar non-rigid material with no enclosing framework or electrical components that is supported or anchored on two or more edges or at all four corners. Banners also include non-rigid signs anchored along one edge, or two corners, with weights installed that reduce the reaction of the sign to wind. See also Flag.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

Section 17A.020.030 "C" Definitions

Y. Community Banner.

~~A temporary banner made of sturdy cloth or vinyl that is not commercial advertising that has the purpose of the promotion of a civic event, public service announcement, holiday decorations, or similar community and cultural interests and is placed on a structure located in the public right-of-way, subject to procedures authorized by city administrator.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

PP. Copy.

~~Letters, characters, illustrations, logos, graphics, symbols, writing, or any combination thereof designed to communicate information of any kind, or to advertise, announce or identify a person, entity, business, business product, or to advertise the sale, rental, or lease of premises~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015](#)

Section 17A.020.040 "D" Definitions

Z. Directional Sign.

~~A sign exclusively limited to guiding the circulation of motorists or pedestrians on the site.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

Section 17A.020.050 "E" Definitions

H. Electric Sign.

~~Any sign containing electrical wiring, lighting, or other electrical components, but not including signs illuminated by a detached exterior light source.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

Section 17A.020.060 "F" Definitions

A. Facade.

~~All the wall planes of a structure as seen from one side or view. For example, the front facade of a building would include all of the wall area that would be shown on the front elevation of the building plans.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

F. Fascia Sign.

~~A single faced sign attached flush to a building or other structure or a sign consisting of light projected onto a building or other structure. Fascia signs do not include signs that are attached to or projected onto structures defined as sign structures by this chapter.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

M. Flag.

~~A sign made of fabric or other similar non-rigid material supported or anchored along only one edge or supported or anchored at only two corners. If any dimension of the flag is more than three times as long as any other dimension, it is classified and regulated as a banner regardless of how it is anchored or supported.~~ See also "Banner." [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

X. Freestanding Sign.

~~A sign on a frame, pole, or other support structure that is not attached to any building.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

Section 17A.020.090 "I" Definitions

Q. Interpretive Signs.

~~A sign that identifies historic buildings or sites where important events occurred or which serve educational, cultural, historical, or scientific purposes.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

Section 17A.020.130 "M" Definitions

E. Marquee Sign.

~~A sign incorporated into or attached to a marquee or permanent canopy.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

R. Monument Sign.

~~A freestanding sign where the base of the sign structure is on the ground or a maximum of twelve inches above the lowest point of the ground adjacent to the sign. The width of the top of the sign structure can be no more than one hundred twenty percent of the width of the base.~~ [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)

Section 17A.020.140 "N" Definitions

P. Nonconforming Sign.

~~A sign that was created and issued a permit in conformance with development regulations, but which subsequently, due to a change in the zone or land use regulations, is no longer in conformance with the current applicable development standards. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

Section 17A.020.160 "P" Definitions

A. Painted Wall Highlights.

~~Painted areas that highlight a building's architectural or structural features and that do not convey a message or image. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

B. Painted Wall Sign.

~~A sign applied to a building wall with paint or a thin layer of vinyl, paper, or similar material adhered directly to the building surface and that has no sign structure. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

J. Pedestrian-Scaled Signs

~~Permanent, first-floor, exterior signs designed and placed to address pedestrian traffic; may be mounted flush with or projecting from a column, building wall, awning or transom. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

O. Permanent Sign.

~~Any sign not classified as a temporary sign. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

AU. Projecting Sign.

~~A sign attached to and projecting out from a building face or wall, generally at right angles to the building. Projecting signs include signs that are totally in the right-of-way, partially in the right-of-way, or fully on private property. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

Section 17A.020.180 "R" Definitions

~~B. Real Estate Sign.~~

~~A sign indicating that a property or any portion thereof is available for inspection, sale, lease, rent.~~

~~AF. Roof Top Sign.~~

~~A sign on a roof that has a pitch of less than one-to-four.~~

Section 17A.020.190 "S" Definitions

A. Sandwich Board Sign.

~~A self-supporting A-shaped freestanding temporary sign with only two visible sides that are situated adjacent to a business, typically on a sidewalk. See SMC 17C.240.015.~~

A. Sign.

~~1.—Materials placed or constructed or light projected, but not including any lawful display of merchandise, that:~~

~~a.—Conveys a message or image, and~~

~~b.—Is used to inform or attract the attention of the public~~

~~2.—Some examples of signs are materials or lights meeting the definition of the preceding sentence and which are commonly referred to as signs, placards, A-boards, posters, murals, diagrams, banners, flags, or projected slides, images, or holograms.~~

~~3.1. The scope of the term sign does not depend on the content of the message or image conveyed. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

B. Sign – Animated Sign.

~~A sign that uses movement, by either natural or mechanical means, to depict action to create a special effect or scene. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

C. Sign – Electronic Message Center Sign.

~~An on-premises sign capable of displaying words, symbols, figures, or images that can be electronically or mechanically changed by remote or automatic means including signs using a video display method. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

D. Sign Face.

~~The portion of a sign which contains lettering, logo, trademark, or other graphic representations. (See [SMC 17C.240.140](#), Sign Face Area.) [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

E. Sign – Flashing Sign.

~~1.—A pattern of changing light illumination where the sign illumination alternates suddenly between fully illuminated and fully non-illuminated in a strobe-like fashion for the purpose of drawing attention to the sign.~~

~~2.—Time and temperature signs are excluded from this definition.~~

~~3.1. For the purpose of this title, electronic message centers consistent with the standards of [SMC 17C.240.240\(J\)](#) shall not be considered flashing signs. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

F. Sign Maintenance.

~~Normal care needed to keep a sign functional, such as cleaning, painting, oiling, and changing of light bulbs. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

G. Sign – Off-premises.

~~A sign relating, through its message and content, to a business activity, use, product, or service not available on the premises upon which the sign is erected. [See SMC 17C.240.015.](#)~~

H. Sign Repair.

~~Fixing or replacement of broken or worn parts. Replacement includes comparable materials only. Repairs may be made with the sign in position or with the sign removed. See SMC [17C.240.015](#).~~

I. Sign Structure.

~~A structure specifically intended for supporting or containing a sign. See SMC [17C.240.015](#).~~

A. Special Event Sign.

~~A temporary sign used to announce a circus, a carnival, festivals, or other similar events. See SMC [17C.240.015](#).~~

J. Structural Alteration.

~~1.—Modification of a sign, sign structure, or awning that affects size, shape, height, or sign location.~~

~~2.—Changes in structural materials; or~~

~~3.—Replacement of electrical components with other than comparable materials.~~

~~4.—The replacement of wood parts with metal parts, the replacement of incandescent bulbs with light emitting diodes (LED), or the addition of electronic elements to a non-electrified sign would all be structural alterations.~~

~~5.1. Structural alteration does not include ordinary maintenance or repair, repainting an existing sign surface, including changes of message or image, exchanging painted and pasted or glued materials on painted wall signs, or exchanging display panels of a sign through release and closing of clips or other brackets. See SMC [17C.240.015](#).~~