

## Electronic Signs suggestion for amendment ZC-2024-2

### Exhibit A

Additions are highlighted in yellow

Deletions are in red text and ~~strikeout~~.

#### 9.00.0 SIGN DEFINITIONS

**ELECTRONIC CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN** A sign designed to display multiple or changing messages whether by manual, mechanical or electronic means. Such signs are characterized by changeable letters, symbols or numerals that are not permanently affixed to the structure, framing or background allowing the letters, characters, or graphics to be modified from time to time manually or by electronic or mechanical devices. Electronically changed signs may include either electronic message boards or digital displays (which both may be referred to as "electronic display").

~~**ELECTRONIC READER BOARD.** A sign displaying a variable message that utilizes computer generated messages or some other electronic means of changing copy.~~

## **Existing Zoning Regulations:**

**9.01.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SIGNS.** No sign shall be allowed within the Township, except as provided herein. All signs shall be posted on private property only with the permission of the owner or agent of such property. The following regulations shall apply to all signs in all zoning districts:

- A. No zoning certificate shall be required for the change of content or subject matter of a sign provided that there is no structural or design alteration of said sign.
- B. All signs except temporary signs shall be constructed of durable material and kept in good condition and repair. Electric wiring shall be installed and maintained in accordance with local electrical codes. Signs and supports shall be structurally designed to withstand a wind force of seventy-five (75) miles per hour. Written verification of compliance with the foregoing shall be submitted to the Zoning Inspector.
- C. Should any sign be or become unsafe or be in danger of falling, the owner of the real property upon which the sign is located shall, upon receipt of written notice from the Zoning Inspector, proceed at once to put such sign in a safe and secure condition or remove the sign.
- D. Billboards in accordance with the conditions in Sections 6.07.03 and 6.08.02, shall be posted on private property only with permission of the owner or agent of such property.
- E. Abandoned signs and supporting components relating to any use which has moved or discontinued operations shall be removed by the property or building owner or his agent within ninety (90) days after such vacation or discontinuance.
- F. Vehicle signs. The following provisions shall apply for all vehicle signs:
  - 1. The vehicle on which the sign is displayed must be parked in a lawful or authorized location or must be parked in a manner that is in conformity with the identified parking spaces on the lot; and
  - 2. The vehicle on which the sign is displayed must be regularly used for transportation associated with the use it advertises; and
  - 3. The vehicle on which the sign is displayed cannot be a junk vehicle as defined by this resolution.
- G. Only permanent signs shall be illuminated. Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall employ only light emitting a constant intensity and no sign shall be illuminated by or contain flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving lights. In no event shall an illuminated sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination therefrom to be directed upon a public or private road or adjacent lots so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard, nuisance or distraction. Also, see Section 5.00.02.1.

## **Suggestion for future proposed amendment:**

- G. Only permanent signs shall be illuminated. **Except as permitted for electronic changeable copy signs in 9.06.0 A. 2. a.,** Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall employ only light emitting a constant intensity and no sign shall be illuminated by or contain flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving lights. In no event shall an illuminated sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination therefrom to be directed upon a public or private road or adjacent lots so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard, nuisance or distraction. ~~Also, see Section 5.00.02.1.~~

## **Existing Zoning Regulations:**

**9.02.0**            **PROHIBITED SIGNS IN ALL DISTRICTS.** The following signs shall be prohibited in all districts:

- A. Signs which prevent the driver of a vehicle from having a clear and unobstructed view of approaching or merging traffic.
- B. Signs which interfere with, obstruct the view of, imitate or resemble an official governmental sign, signal, or device.
- C. Signs illuminated so as to interfere with the effectiveness of or which obscure an official governmental sign, signal, or device.
- D. Roof signs and integral roof signs.
- E. Portable or mobile signs.
- F. Projecting signs.
- G. Electronic reader boards.
- H. Animated signs

## **Suggestion for future proposed amendment:**

F. Projecting signs.

~~G. Electronic reader boards.~~

**G** Animated signs

## **Existing Zoning Regulations:**

### **9.06.0 SIGNS PERMITTED IN THE COMMERCIAL AND SHOPPING CENTER ZONING DISTRICTS. (See also Section 9.04.0)**

A. Only the following types and designs of signs may be located, erected, moved, constructed, reconstructed, extended, enlarged, converted, or structurally altered in the commercial and shopping center districts upon the issuance of a zoning certificate and fee, provided however, that all other regulations in this Section shall apply to such signs, including but not limited to location requirements and sign prohibitions; and subject to the following limitations:

1. Each commercial or shopping center lot may be permitted only:

- a. One (1) wall sign per building occupant with a maximum area of three-fourths (.75) square feet per sign face for each lineal foot or part thereof of building frontage occupied, but not exceeding a maximum of seventy-five (75) square feet per sign face, or;
- b. One (1) sign on a mansard centered in the area with a height not greater than one-fourth the mansard height, with a maximum area of three-fourths (.75) square feet per sign face for each lineal foot or part thereof of building frontage occupied but not exceeding a maximum of seventy-five (75) square feet per sign face, or;
- c. One (1) canopy sign per business with a maximum of eight (8) square feet per sign face and a minimum clear height of eight (8) feet.

2. In addition to the regulations in Section 9.06.0 A.1., there shall be permitted one (1) ground sign with a maximum of thirty-six (36) square feet per face area per business lot or combination of lots or portions thereof combined to form one (1) parcel with a street frontage of four hundred (400) feet or less. One additional primary ground sign shall be permitted for lots that have street frontage greater than four hundred (400) feet. For corner lots, each street frontage shall be calculated separately and shall not be combined. Ground signs on the same lot shall be separated by a minimum of two hundred (200) feet, as measured along the street right-of-way line.

### **Suggestion for future proposed amendment:**

2. In addition to the regulations in Section 9.06.0 A.1., there shall be permitted one (1) ground sign with a maximum of thirty-six (36) square feet per face area per business lot or combination of lots or portions thereof combined to form one (1) parcel with a street frontage of four hundred (400) feet or less. One additional primary ground sign shall be permitted for lots that have street frontage greater than four hundred (400) feet. For corner lots, each street frontage shall be calculated separately and shall not be combined. Ground signs on the same lot shall be separated by a minimum of two hundred (200) feet, as measured along the street right-of-way line.

a. Electronic changeable copy sign (s) shall conform to the following regulations:

- i. Each message or copy shall remain fixed for at least twelve (12) seconds. Messages shall not flash, include moving video displays or animation, or emit intermittent light.
- ii. Changes to messages, copy, or images shall be accomplished in not more than three (3) seconds.
- iii. Each such sign must be capable of regulating the digital display intensity and the light intensity level of the display must automatically adjust to natural ambient light conditions in order to avoid excessive glare.
- iv. No such sign shall be of such intensity as to create a distraction or nuisance for motorists, as determined by Chester Township Zoning Department and/or Chester Township Safety Forces.
- v. Displays shall not emulate traffic control devices.
- vi. Such signs shall contain a default design that will freeze the sign in one position or display a black screen if a malfunction occurs.
- vii. The entire message shall change at once.
- viii. The changeable copy portion of any free-standing ground sign shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the area in each sign face.