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## ARTICLE XIV

### SIGN REGULATIONS

**SECTION 14.0 SCOPE OF REGULATIONS:** The regulations set forth herein shall apply and govern signs in all zones, except as otherwise specifically provided within this ordinance.

**SECTION 14.1 GENERAL RULES, REGULATIONS, AND LIMITATIONS**

- A. All business and identification signs shall be deemed accessory uses and all advertising signs shall be deemed non-accessory uses.
- B. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued unless it is in full compliance with the regulations for the zone in which it is located, all applicable provisions and regulations of this ordinance or any other applicable laws, codes, or ordinances of the legislative body. The zoning administrator shall have the duty and authority to remove, or cause to have removed, any sign not in full compliance with all applicable provisions and regulations of this ordinance or any other applicable laws, codes, or ordinances of the legislative body when the owner or agent has failed to comply within the time specified by the zoning administrator to make said sign comply. Said owner or agent shall bear full costs of such removal and shall be billed accordingly.
- C. No signs shall be erected, maintained, replaced, relocated, repaired, or restored within a distance of six hundred sixty (660) feet of the right-of-way of any interstate highways, limited access highway, or turnpike, except as provided for in KRS 177.830 - 177.890 and approved of by the Kentucky Department of Transportation, Bureau of Highways, District Office Number 6, as amended.
- D. **TIME SCHEDULE FOR COMPLIANCE OF SIGN REGULATIONS:** Compliance with the provisions of this article of the ordinance shall be according to the following time schedule:
  - 1. All new signs shall comply when erected.
  - 2. Advertising signs, as defined herein, which become nonconforming after the effective date of this ordinance, and located in any residential zone, shall be required to conform to the requirements of this ordinance within twelve (12) consecutive calendar months after the effective date of this ordinance.

3. Advertising signs, as defined herein, which become nonconforming after the effective date of this ordinance, and located in any zone other than a residential zone, shall be required to conform to the requirements of this ordinance within thirty-six (36) consecutive calendar months after the effective date of this ordinance.
4. Business and identification signs, as defined herein, which become nonconforming after the effective date of Ordinance Number 1981-13, shall be required to conform to the requirements of this ordinance within sixty (60) consecutive calendar months after the effective date of this ordinance.

All signs becoming nonconforming due to this ordinance shall be registered by owner or agent with the zoning administrator within six (6) consecutive calendar months of the effective date of this ordinance.

- E. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued in any zone which constitutes a nuisance, because of light, glare, focus, noise, animation, flashing, intensity of illumination, as to unduly disturb the use of surrounding properties, as determined by the zoning administrator, or causing a traffic hazard.
- F. No radio, phonograph, tape recorder, whistle, bell, gong, siren, or other sound or noise-making or transmitting device or instrument shall be allowed, permitted, or continued in connection with any sign or may it be used separately for advertising purposes in any zone.
- G. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued which constricts the flow of air through any window or door.
- H. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued which is misleading, fraudulent, obscene, immoral, indecent, or unsightly in character, as determined by the zoning administrator.
- I. No advertising sign, except those of a governmental entity, shall be erected, maintained, or continued unless the following provision is complied with; and said provision shall go into effect ninety (90) consecutive calendar days after the effective date of this ordinance:
  1. The name of the company or person owning, maintaining, or erecting said sign is plainly displayed thereon.
- J. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued over or into any street, public

way, or alley right-of-way, unless specifically provided for within this ordinance.

- K. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this ordinance for any person to fasten, place, paint, or attach in any way: any sign, handbill, poster, advertisement, or notice of any kind, whether political or otherwise, or cause the same to be done in or upon any curb-stone, lamp post, telephone pole, telegraph pole, electric light or power pole, hydrant, bridge, culvert, public drinking fountain, public trash container, courtesy benches, rest station building, tree, or in or upon any portion of any public sidewalk, street, or sign, except as specifically permitted within this ordinance.
- L. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued upon the inside of a curve of a street which causes any interference to sight distance.
- M. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued displaying flashing or intermittent lights, or lights of changing degrees of intensity, with changes alternating on not less than a five (5) second cycle.
- N. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued in any zone which does not comply fully with Section 13.0 of this ordinance, except as specifically permitted within this ordinance.
- O. Signs shall be permanently attached to the ground or on the building which the sign is to serve. Signs located on portable type vehicles shall not be permitted, or continued in any zone.
- P. No sign shall be erected, maintained, or continued in any zone except as provided for in Section 14.1, D., unless the sign complies with all of the following regulations:
1. Is erected and maintained to advertise a use specifically permitted in the zone in which the sign is located, or for a nonconforming use subject to the limitations contained in Section 9.12, E., of this ordinance, regarding nonconforming signs;
  2. Is clearly incidental, customary to, and commonly associated with the operation of the use being advertised;
  3. Is established and controlled under and by the same ownership as the use being advertised;
  4. Is limited in location to the premises on which the use being advertised is located;

5. Is limited in subject matter to the name, design, picture, or phone number and address of the owner, operator, builder, sales agent, managing agent, lessor, lessee, of the premises or of the activities (including merchandise handled or services rendered) on the premises on which such sign is located and does not include any general commercial advertising unrelated to or extending in substantial degrees beyond the specifically permitted subject; and
  6. Compliance with the exemptions listed in Section 14.2 of this article of the ordinance.
- Q. When any sign becomes defective or dangerous, as determined by the building department, the zoning administrator shall have the power and the authority to remove, or cause to have removed, such sign when the owner or agent has failed to comply within the time specified by the zoning administrator to repair or make said sign safe or has failed to satisfy the building department that the sign is not defective or dangerous. The owner or agent of said sign shall bear the full costs of such removal and shall be billed accordingly. If the building department determines that said sign is of possible immediate danger to persons or vehicles, which may be passing nearby, the zoning administrator shall place, or cause to have placed, signs or barriers indicating such danger.
- R. Whenever any sign, which does not comply with the provisions and regulations of this ordinance, collapses, burns, or if said sign is removed from its location, except for normal maintenance, said sign shall not be replaced or reconstructed, except in full compliance with all of the provisions and regulations of this ordinance.
- S. The zoning administrator shall have the power and authority to remove, or cause to have removed, any and all signs which have been determined to be a traffic hazard, when the owner or agent responsible for the maintenance of said sign has failed to eliminate such traffic hazards within two (2) weeks from the date that the written notice is mailed by the zoning administrator. Said owner or agent shall bear the full costs of such removal and shall be billed accordingly.
- T. Except as otherwise specified in this ordinance, signs shall be in conformance with the building code, where applicable, and shall be subject to the inspection and approval by the building inspector.

**SECTION 14.2 SPECIAL SIGNS:** The following signs may be permitted in any zone without a fee, but will require an application for a sign permit, as provided in Section 14.4.

- A. One (1) real estate sign per acre not exceeding eight (8) square feet in outside area; single or double faced; maximum height of four (4) feet, which advertises the sale, rental or lease of the premises on which said sign is located. Said sign shall not be animated; may be illuminated but only by concealed lighting. Such signs shall be removed by owners or agent within ten (10) consecutive calendar days after the sale, rental, or lease of the premises.
- B. Professional name plates, not exceeding one (1) square foot in outside area, single or double faced. Shall not be animated nor illuminated.
- C. Bulletin board, not over twelve (12) square feet in outside area, single or double faced, maximum height of eight (8) feet, for public, charitable, or religious institutions, when the same is located on the premises of said institution. Said sign shall not be animated; may be illuminated, but only by concealed lighting.
- D. Signs, not over twenty (20) square feet in outside area, single or double faced, maximum height of eight (8) feet, denoting the person/firm, architect, engineer, or contractor, when placed upon the premises where construction work is being performed. Said sign shall be removed by owner or agent within ten (10) consecutive calendar days after completion of project or that person/firm's part of the project.
- E. Memorial signs or tablets, containing the name of the building and the date of erection when built into the walls of the building and constructed of bronze, brass, marble, stone, or other incombustible materials.
- F. Traffic signs, provided that said signs are designed and located in accordance with the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways", U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.
- G. Temporary signs, where permitted or required by the zoning administrator, to fulfill requirements of this ordinance or other resolutions or regulations imposed by a governmental entity.
- H. Repainting or cleaning of an advertising structure, or the changing of the advertising copy or message thereon, unless a structural change is made.
- I. Signs inside a building, but shall not include signs within open malls or open courts.

**SECTION 14.3 SIGN PERMIT REQUIRED FOR ERECTION OF SIGNS:**  
No sign shall be erected, except as exempted or specified within this ordinance, until

all required fees have been paid to the proper authorities, or their agents, and a permit has been issued for such, by the building department.

- A. If any sign is removed and any new sign is erected in its place, a permit shall be obtained the same as if a new sign were erected at a new location, subject to all requirements enumerated herein.
- B. If any sign is removed for maintenance and replaced on the same supports, a new permit will not be deemed necessary if the size or type of sign is not changed.
- C. If any sign is removed from one location and erected at a new location, a new permit shall be obtained.
- D. Alteration or enlargement of any sign shall require a permit the same as for a new sign.
- E. No permit shall be granted until and after an application has been filed with the building inspector, showing the plans and specifications, including dimensions, materials, and details of construction of proposed structure nor until all provisions herein have been met.

**SECTION 14.4 APPLICATION FOR A SIGN PERMIT**

- A. Application for a sign permit shall be made and submitted at the office of the zoning administrator on the appropriate forms furnished by said administrator.
- B. If any required information is left off of the application, or if any of the submitted information is misrepresented on the application, the permit shall be denied or shall become null and void if already issued, regardless of actual construction being started or completed.
- C. Any sign not erected or constructed as represented on the application upon which the permit was issued shall not be construed as a hardship case, but shall be construed as a misrepresentation of facts on the application and a violation of this ordinance, and the owner or agent shall be given a two (2) week notice to remove said sign or correct the error.

**SECTION 14.5 SIGN PERMIT FEES:** The fee for a sign permit shall be as provided for in the building code or as otherwise established by the legislative body.

**SECTION 14.6 CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS:** The following classification of signs shall be deemed to include all signs permitted in any zone unless other signs

are specifically listed and provided for. The classification of all signs shall be determined by the zoning administrator. (Permitted use and location of signs - see Section 14.7.)

- A. CLASS 1: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 1 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Flat or window sign, single faced only.
  2. Maximum Size Of Sign - One (1) square foot.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade at Top Of Sign - Attached directly to building, parallel to wall face.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign for each separate use that is a permitted use.
  5. Other Limitations - Shall be neither animated nor illuminated.
- B. CLASS 2: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 2 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural type - Only one of the following type signs are permitted in Class 2 per each individual use: Flat, window, or projecting sign, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Two (2) square feet.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Attached to building and projecting not more than eighteen (18) inches from the wall face of the building.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign for each separate use that is a permitted use.
  5. Other Limitations - Shall be neither animated nor illuminated.
- C. CLASS 3: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 3 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Flat, ground, or pole sign, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Six (6) square feet in outside area.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Twelve (12) feet.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign for each curb cut, plus any number within the off-street parking areas.
  5. Other Limitations
    - a. May be illuminated, but only from a concealed light source and

- b. shall not be flashing, glaring, nor animated.
  - b. Shall be limited in subject matter to off-street parking directions and instructions and shall have no merchandise, manufacturing, or service advertising.
  - c. No part of any ground or pole sign shall be closer than five (5) feet from any property line.
  - d. No pole shall be at its lowest point, less than ten (10) feet from the ground.
- D. CLASS 4: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 4 and shall be only business and identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Only one (1) of the following signs are permitted in this class per each individual use: Flat, window, or ground sign, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Twelve (12) square feet in outside area, except as specified in Subsection D., 4. of this section.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Twenty (20) feet.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Total Area Of Signs - The total area of all signs, in a single designated land area, shall not exceed in square feet the product of the number of acres, or fractions of acres, in the designated land area multiplied by twenty-five (25), provided, however, that the aggregate area of any such sign or signs may have an area of at least six (6) square feet, and provided further, that no single sign shall have an area of more than thirty-five (35) square feet on premises of already developed use or an area of not more than seventy-five (75) square feet on premises not developed.
  5. Other Limitations
    - a. Shall not be animated; may be illuminated, but only from a concealed light source and only until 10:00 PM.
    - b. Shall be temporary only, for advertising development, new construction, or the sale, lease, rental, remodeling and re-building of designated structures or a designated land area. Permits shall be temporary, and shall be valid for a period not exceeding one hundred eighty-two (182) consecutive calendar days, but are renewable one (1) time only for an additional one hundred eighty-two (182) consecutive calendar days. Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) consecutive calendar days after the completion of the project.
    - c. Shall be located only on the premises of the property being referred to.



- d. No part of any ground sign shall be closer than five (5) feet from any property line.
- E. CLASS 5: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 5 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Individual letters only, single faced only.
  2. Maximum Size Of Individual Sign
    - a. One (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.
    - b. Maximum size of letters shall be thirty-six (36) inches in height.
    - c. The total size for individual letter signs shall be computed by taking the area enclosed within a rectangle that is needed to completely encompass each letter or insignia of the sign.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Attached flat to building, but shall not extend above the top or ends of the wall surface on which the sign is placed.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign for each street frontage of the lot on which the primary permitted use is located, except that where a complex of buildings is an attached shopping complex or an attached group of buildings, only one (1) such sign shall be permitted for each individual separate business building. Separate business building shall be construed to mean space allotted to the operation of one (1) firm, company, or incorporation having separate ownership, or separate rental or lease. A professional office building within such a complex, if permitted within the zone under consideration, shall not be considered as containing separate businesses for this purpose, but shall have only one (1) such sign, regardless of how many firms, companies, or incorporations having separate ownership, rental, or lease within said office building.
  5. Other Limitations
    - a. Shall be neither flashing nor animated.
    - b. May be illuminated, but only from a concealed light source.
    - c. Shall not extend outward from the building wall more than twelve (12) inches, except that if the sign is illuminated, the reflectors may project not more than four (4) feet beyond the face of the sign.
- F. CLASS 6: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 6 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined

herein:

1. Structural Type - Flat sign, single faced only.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - One (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Attached to building, but shall not extend above the top or ends of the wall surface on which the sign is placed.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign for each street frontage of the lot on which the primary permitted use is located, except that where a complex of buildings is an attached shopping complex or an attached group of buildings, only one (1) such sign shall be permitted for each individual separate business building. Separate business building shall be construed to mean space allotted to the operation of one (1) firm, company, or incorporation having separate ownership, or separate rental or lease. A professional office building within such a complex, if permitted within the zone under consideration, shall not be considered as containing separate businesses for this purpose, but shall have only one (1) such sign, regardless of how many firms, companies, or incorporations having separate ownership, rental, or lease within said office building.
  5. Other Limitations
    - a. Shall be neither flashing nor animated.
    - b. May be illuminated, but only from a concealed light source.
    - c. Shall not extend outward from the building wall more than twelve (12) inches, except that if the sign is illuminated, the reflectors may project not more than four (4) feet beyond the face of the sign.
- G. CLASS 7: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 7 and shall be only business and identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Pole sign or ground sign, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Sixty (60) square feet.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Pole: twenty (20) feet; Ground: ten (10) feet.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - One (1) sign may be erected for each street frontage of the lot or building site on which the primary permitted use is located.
  5. Other Limitations

- a. Such sign shall be neither flashing nor animated.
  - b. No part of any ground or pole sign shall be set back closer than five (5) feet from any property line.
  - c. All signs shall be located in such a manner that they are wholly visible from the centerline of the abutting street which the sign faces from a minimum distance of two hundred fifty (250) feet. No sign shall be located in such a manner that it partially or wholly obstructs adjacent signs as viewed from the centerline of the abutting street from a minimum distance of two hundred fifty (250) feet.
- H. CLASS 8: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 8 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Ground sign, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Twenty-five (25) square feet.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Ten (10) feet.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs
    - a. One (1) sign may be erected for each street frontage of the lot or building site on which the primary permitted use is located.
    - b. One (1) sign may be erected for identification purposes of a residential development for each major entrance.
  5. Other Limitations
    - a. Shall be neither flashing nor animated.
    - b. May only be illuminated from a concealed light source.
    - c. No part of any ground sign shall be closer than five (5) feet from any property line.
- I. CLASS 9: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 9 and shall be only business or identification signs, as defined herein:
1. Structural Type - Pole or ground signs, single or double faced.
  2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - One hundred fifty (150) square feet.
  3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Pole: thirty (30) feet; Ground: ten (10) feet.
  4. Limitations On Number Of Signs
    - a. One (1) sign may be erected on each abutting major street

identifying a shopping complex of three (3) or more businesses located in a unified building or an attached group of buildings.

- b. One (1) sign may be erected along each abutting arterial street entrance into an Industrial Zone for the purposes of identifying an industrial development.

5. Other Limitations

- a. Shall be neither flashing nor animated.
- b. May only be illuminated from a concealed light source.
- c. No part of any ground or pole sign shall be closer than five (5) feet from any property line.
- d. No pole sign shall be, at its lowest point, less than ten (10) feet from the ground.

J. CLASS 10: The following signs, meeting the following specifications, shall constitute Class 10 and shall be only advertising signs, as defined herein:

1. Structural Type - Ground sign, single or double faced.
2. Maximum Size Of Single Sign - Three hundred (300) square feet.
3. Maximum Height Above Grade At Top Of Sign - Thirty (30) feet.
4. Limitations On Number Of Signs - No sign shall be located closer than two hundred (200) feet from any residential zone as measured along both sides of the street on which the sign abuts.

Only one (1) sign may be erected on any lot, provided that such sign shall meet the minimum requirements of lot area, lot width, front, side, and rear setbacks in the particular zone where such signs are permitted. In addition, advertising signs shall be so located that the entire sign display area is visible at a minimum viewing distance of two hundred fifty (250) feet, as measured along the centerline of the street on which said sign is facing.

5. Other Limitations

- a. No ground sign shall exceed thirty (30) feet in length, except when adjoining such other ground sign at an acute angle.

**SECTION 14.7 PERMITTED USE AND LOCATION OF SIGNS:** The following classes of signs may be erected and maintained in the following zones:

ZONES	USES	PERMITTED SIGN CLASSES
CO	(1) Any use permitted in this zone	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) All the uses permitted or conditionally permitted in this zone	5 and 8 or 6 and 8*
R-RE	(1) Any use permitted in this zone	4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Signs for greenhouses, nurseries, where permitted herein, and other products produced on the premises	8
	(b) Conditional uses permitted in this zone	5 and 8 or 6 and 8*
R-1C, R-1E, R-1F, R-1H	(1) Any use permitted in these zones	4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Conditional uses permitted in these zones	5 and 8 or 6 and 8*
	(b) Off-street parking areas for conditionally permitted uses	3
	(c) Signs for identification of a residential subdivision	8
R-2	(1) Any use permitted in this zone	4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) Conditional uses permitted in this zone	5 and 8 or 6 and 8*
	(c) Signs for identification of a multi - family residential development	8

\* A combination of classes 5 and 6 signs may be used provided that the combined total number of square feet of sign area used shall not exceed one (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.

ZONES	USES	PERMITTED SIGN CLASSES
PUD, RCD	As approved according to the approved Development Plan	
LSC	(1) Any permitted or conditionally permitted use in this zone	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) And all other uses permitted in this zone	5 or 6*
	(c) Signs for identification of a shopping complex (3 or more businesses located in a unified building or attached group of buildings)	7
NC	(1) Any use permitted in this zone	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) Signs for conditional uses and identification of a shopping complex (3 or more businesses located in a unified building or attached group of buildings)	7
	However, each individual business in this complex may have --	5 or 6*
	(c) All other uses not located in a shopping complex (3 or more businesses located in a unified building or attached group of buildings)	5 or 6*

\* A combination of classes 5 and 6 signs may be used provided that the combined total number of square feet of sign area used shall not exceed one (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.

ZONES	USES	PERMITTED SIGN CLASSES
HC and RC	(1) Any use permitted in these zones	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) Signs for identification of a unified complex (3 or more businesses located in a single building or unified group of buildings)	7
	Each individual business in this complex may have --	5 or 6*
	(c) All other uses not located in a unified complex (3 or more businesses located in a single building or unified group of buildings)	5 and 7 or 6 and 7
PO	(1) Any use permitted in this zone	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) Signs for identification of name of office complex (3 or more office uses located in a unified building or attached group of buildings)	7
	However, each individual office including accessory uses as provided herein in this complex may have	5 or 6*
	(c) All other uses not located in an office complex (3 or more offices located in a unified building or attached group of buildings)	5 and 8* or 6 and 8*

\* A combination of classes 5 and 6 signs may be used provided that the combined total number of square feet of sign area used shall not exceed one (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.

ZONES	USES	PERMITTED SIGN CLASSES
IP-1, I-1, I-2 I-4, and I-5	(1) Any use permitted in these zone	1, 2, and 4
	(2) In addition to sign classes permitted in (1):	
	(a) Off-street parking areas	3
	(b) And all other uses permitted in these zones	5 and 8 or 6 and 8*
	(c) Signs for identification of an industrial development or park	9

\* A combination of classes 5 and 6 signs may be used provided that the combined total number of square feet of sign area used shall not exceed one (1) square foot of area for each horizontal linear foot of building wall upon which the sign or signs are to be located.