# ORDINANCE NO. 8485-73

# AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, after due publication, a public hearing was held on March 21, 1985 and continued to April 4, 1985, concerning a proposed amendment to the text of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Urbana, Illinois, in Plan Case #1199-T-85, and

WHEREAS, the Urbana Plan Commission has recommended the adoption of the following changes to the text of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Urbana, Illinois,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, that:

- 1. In Article II, entitled "Definitions," numbers 1 through 8 of the definition section relating to "Signs" in Section II-3, is hereby repealed upon the effective date of this Ordinance and in its place is hereby enacted that which is shown on the attached Exhibit A.
- 2. Article IX, entitled "Comprehensive Sign Regulations," is hereby repealed upon the effective date of this Ordinance and Article IX, entitled "Comprehensive Sign Regulations," on the attached Exhibit B is enacted in its place.
- 3. In Article X, entitled "Nonconformities," Section X-9, entitled "Nonconforming Signs," is hereby repealed upon the effective date of this Ordinance and Section X-9, entitled "Nonconforming Signs," on the attached Exhibit C is enacted in its place.
- 4. In Article XI, Section XI-3, entitled "Board of Zoning Appeals," Subsection C., 2., j., 18), is hereby enacted as shown on the attached Exhibit D.

The City Clerk of the City of Urbana, Illinois is hereby authorized and directed to cause this Ordinance to be published in pamphlet form.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the terms of Section 1-2-4 of the Illinois Municipal Code.

This Ordinance is hereby passed by the affirmative vote, the "ayes" and "nays" being called, of a majority of the Members of the Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, at a regular meeting of said Council on the 

PASSED by the City Council on this 15 th day of \_ G

APPROVED by the Mayor this 22 day of \_

## CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

Ruth S. Brookens, City Clerk

Opril 19, 1985

## Section II-3 Definitions

- 1. Free-standing sign and Free-standing Outdoor Advertising Sign Structure -- Any sign or outdoor advertising sign structure completely or principally self-supported by posts or other supports independent of any building or other structures.
- 2. Wall or Wall-Mounted Sign and Wall Mounted Outdoor Advertising Sign Structure -- A sign displayed on or visible through a wall of a building or structure so as to be seen primarily from the direction facing that wall. A wall sign or outdoor advertising sign structure attached to the exterior wall of a building or structure, which (in a plane parallel to the plane of said wall) does not extend or project more than eighteen (18) inches.
- Roof sign -- A sign erected, constructed, or maintained upon or over a roof, and more than one-half  $(\frac{1}{2})$  of whose height is above the building height. A sign mounted on a roof which does not qualify as a roof sign shall be considered a wall sign.
- 4. Permanent Sign -- A sign which is permanently affixed or anchored to the ground, building or other structure.
- 5. Projecting sign -- A sign, other than a wall sign, which projects from and is supported by, or attached to, a wall of a building or structure.
- 6. Portable sign -- A free-standing sign not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or structure.
- 7. Shopping Center/Commercial PUD Sign -- A sign designed for the purpose of advertising an entire shopping center. Individual businesses may list but an individual listing may not exceed 50% of the area of any face of the sign.
- 8. Temporary Sign -- A sign intended for a limited or intermittent period of display which is readily moveable and is not permanently anchored to the ground, building or other structure. Such sign is not a portable sign.
- 9. Outdoor Advertising Sign Structure -- (OASS) A standardized outdoor advertising display, including the permanent framework, structural members, support or supports, foundation, scaffolding and illumination, facing or panels, and message, which is intended and whose customary use is to mount periodically changing commercial or noncommercial displays and which is made generally available for display to the public by an Outdoor Advertising Sign Company on a short term basis. Such OASS's shall be limited to two standardized structures:
  - a. the "30 sheet poster panel" or painted bulletin, whose outside dimensions, including trim, if any, but excluding the base, apron, supports and other structural members is approximately twelve (12) feet by twenty-five (25) feet, containing approximately 300 square feet of total display-area;
  - b. the "Junior panel" whose outside dimensions, including trim, if any, but excluding the base, apron, supports and other structural members is approximately six (6) feet by twelve (12) feet, containing approximately 72 square feet of total display-area.
- 10. Outdoor Advertising Sign Company -- A commercial enterprise which owns, maintains, erects, and manages outdoor advertising sign structures which are designed, intended and customarily used to mount periodically changing commercial or noncommercial messages, such standardized signs and sign space to be made generally available to the general public.

- 11. Commercial Sign -- A sign which directs attention to or identifies a commodity, service or entertainment to be sold or offered for sale. Any sign displaying the name of a business enterprise shall be conclusively presumed to be a commercial sign.
- 12. Noncommercial Sign -- Any sign not defined as a commercial sign.
- 13. Community Event Sign -- A sign advertising or announcing a special community event or activity conducted by or sponsored by or on behalf of a unit of local government, institution of an educational, philanthropic, or eleemosynary nature, a charitable organization or a not-for-profit corporation. A special community event or activity is one which occurs not more than twice in any twelve (12) month period and which seeks to attract donations, participants, customers or an audience throughout the community.

#### ARTICLE IX

#### COMPREHENSIVE SIGN REGULATIONS

Section	Subject
1	Legislative Intent and Findings
2	General Prohibition
3	Measurement Standards
4	General Sign Provisions for Signs and Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures Allowed in Specific Districts with a Permit
5	Signs Allowed without a Permit Subject to Certain Regulations
6	Use of Noncommercial Signs in Business and Industrial Zoning Districts
7	Prohibited Signs
8	Permits for Signs
9	Enforcement and Penalties

## Section IX-1 Legislative Intent and Findings

The purpose of this Article is to establish regulations and controls which promote the goals, objectives and policies of the City of Urbana Comprehensive Plan and to permit and regulate signs in such a manner as to support and complement the land use policies set forth in Article I, Section I-1. To these ends, this Article regulates the size, number and spacing of signs which is intended to: aid in traffic safety by avoiding uncontrolled proliferation of signs which distract and endanger safety and traffic flow; reduce congestion of land, air and space; preserve and protect property values; establish reasonable standards for the use of signs in order to maintain and encourage business activity and development; protect and enhance the physical appearance of the community and the scenic value of the surrounding area; and regulate signs located near or visible from public property such as streets, highways, parks and schools where such signs could jeopardize the public's investment in these facilities.

The sign regulations expressly distinguish between "signs" and "Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures" based on the specific finding that outdoor advertising sign structures represent a separate and unique communication medium available to the general public for the periodic display of signs for announcements of both a commercial and noncommercial nature, utilizing nationally standardized signs or painted panels. At the same time, the regulations recognize that a limitation upon the size, number and spacing of such structures is consistent with and will further the goals expressed herein.

These sign regulations recognize the basic guaranteed right of freedom of speech and therefore are not intended to control the content of any message displayed on signs or outdoor advertising sign structures and do not discriminate between on-premise and off-premise signs.

## Section IX-2 General Prohibition

Any sign or outdoor advertising sign structure not expressly permitted by or in compliance with this Article is prohibited in the City of Urbana.

## Section IX-3 Measurement Standards

- A. Measurement of Area of Sign -- the area of a sign shall be computed as:
  - 1. Flat sign -- the area of the smallest convex geometric figure encompassing the sign; or
  - 2. Volumetric sign -- the area of the smallest convex geometric figure encompassing the maximum projected area of the volume on a flat plane which completely encloses the extreme limits of the sign, including any frame, structural trim, or other material forming an integral part of the display as used to differentiate such sign from the background against which it is placed. Such measurement shall exclude the necessary supports or uprights on which the sign is placed, unless the supports or uprights constitute part of the display.
- B. Height Measurement of Free-standing Sign and Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures --

the height of free-standing signs and outdoor advertising sign structures shall be the distance from the top of the highest portion of the sign or structure to:

- 1. The grade at the foundation of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure; or
- 2. The average grade of the lot, whichever is less.
- C. Measurement of Outdoor Advertising Sign Structure Surface Display Area --

The surface area of a sign or surface display area of an outdoor advertising sign structure shall be the area of the smallest convex geometric figure encompassing the maximum projected area of the volume on a flat plane which completely encloses the extreme limits of the surface display area of writing, representation, emblem or other figure of similar character or potential display area of an outdoor advertising sign structure, together with any material forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate such sign or outdoor advertising sign structure from the background against which it is placed. Such measurement shall exclude the necessary supports or uprights on which the sign is placed, unless the supports or uprights constitute part of the display because of the predominant overall concept of the sign, and shall exclude the apron if any, which itself covers structural members, supports or uprights.

D. Measurement of Business Frontage --

Business frontage is the lineal footage of a lot, facing the public right-of-way, owned or rented by a person, business, or enterprise, and intended for business usage.

Section IX-4 General Sign Provisions for Signs and Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures Allowed in Specific Districts with a Permit

A. Signs located within a Residential Planned Unit Development or signs and/or Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures located within a Planned Unit Development, shall be subject to the provisions applicable to the zoning district in which the PUD is located.

- B. Signs shall be subject to the provisions and standards specified in Tables IX-1 through IX-4 and IX-6. Future OASS's shall be subject to the standards specified in Table IX-5.
- C. Sign standards for permitted and conditional uses in the AG Agriculture District shall be identical to the standards for the same use in the most restrictive district within which the use is permitted by right.
- D. In lieu of B above, Shopping Centers/Commercial PUD signs may alternatively comply with the standards set forth in Table IX-9. The erection of signs authorized under Table IX-9 precludes the erection of any free-standing signs authorized under Table IX-1.

## Section IX-5 Signs Allowed without a Permit Subject to Certain Regulations

A. Noncommercial Signs not Subject to Section IX-6

Noncommercial signs not subject to Section IX-6 shall be permitted in all zoning districts without a permit, subject to certain regulations. In AG, CRE and Residential zoning districts noncommercial signs may be free-standing or wall signs; they shall be limited to six (6) square feet in area and, if free-standing shall not exceed a height of five (5) feet. Further, in residential zoning districts no permanent noncommercial sign shall be located in any required yard nor be illuminated.

B. Signs allowed in all districts subject to certain regulations

The signs specified in the following subsections are allowed in all zoning districts without a permit but are subject to the conditions and limitations set forth herein.

- Official Signs. Signs of a public, noncommercial nature erected by or on order of a public officer in the performance of a public duty. Such signs shall include but not be limited to safety signs, danger signs, traffic signs, memorial plaques or signs indicating a scenic or historical point of interest.
- 2. Flags. Flags bearing the official design of a nation, state, municipality, or noncommercial organization or institution.
- 3. Identification Signs. Signs which identify the business, owner, manager, or resident and set forth the address of the premises where the sign is located, and which contain no other material; there may be two (2) such signs per premise, in accordance with Section IX-5 B.12, and the total height of such a sign, if free-standing, shall not exceed five feet (5').
- 4. Integral Signs. Names of buildings, dates of construction, commemorative tablets and the like, when carved into stone, concrete, or similar material or made of bronze, aluminum, or other permanent type of construction and made an integral part of the building or structure.
- 5. Institutional Signs. Any sign or bulletin board setting forth or denoting the name of or simple announcement for any public, charitable, educational, or religious institution, when located on the premises of such institution, provided such sign or bulletin board or both shall not exceed a total of twenty (20) square feet in display surface. If building mounted, these

signs shall be flat wall signs, and shall not project above the roof line or front facade of the building. If free-standing, the total height shall not exceed six feet (6').

- 6. Private Traffic Direction Signs and Related Signs. Signs directing traffic movement onto a premise or within a premise, when such signs are located on the premise, do not exceed 5 square feet in area for each sign and, if freestanding, do not exceed five feet (5') in total height. Such signs are considered to include parking directions, exit or entrance signs, drive-up window signs, rest-room signs, and the like. Horizontal directional signs on the flush with paved areas are exempt from these standards.
- 7. Individual Property Sale or Rental Signs. Any sign announcing the name of the owner, manager, realtor, or other person directly involved in the sale or rental of the property, or announcing the purpose for which it is being offered. Such signs may be free-standing or wall-mounted only. Signs may not emit direct illumination, and must be removed within fourteen (14) days after the sale or rental of the property. Property sale or rental signs shall be subject to the standards and provisions specified in Table IX-7.
- 8. <u>Home Occupation Signs</u>. Home occupation signs, either wall-mounted or free-standing, not to exceed one (1) per premise, and not to exceed one (1) square foot in area.
- 9. Subdivision Sign. Any sign announcing the names of architects, engineers, contractors, or other individuals or firms, involved with the subdivision of property (but not including any advertisement of any product) or announcing the character of the subdivision or the purpose for which it is intended.
  - a. These signs shall be confined to the site of the subdivision, and shall be permitted for one (1) year from the date of erection of the first of such signs. If development of the subdivision is not completed within one (1) year after erection of the signs, the sign shall be permitted to exist an additional period, not to exceed one (1) year.
  - b. Subdivision signs shall be subject to the provisions and standards specified in Table IX-8.
- 10. Construction Signs. Any sign announcing the names of architects, engineers, contractors, or other individuals or firms involved with the construction, alteration, or repair of a building (but not including any product) or announcing the character of the building enterprise or the purpose for which the building is intended, or to indicate the presence of underground public utility structures to avoid damage to structures by excavation.
  - a. Such signs shall be confined to the site of the construction, alteration, or repair, and shall be removed within twenty-one (21) days after completion of the work.
  - b. Signs shall conform with the standards provided for individual property sale or rental signs, in 7 above.

- 11. Underground Public Utility Warning Signs. Standard types of warning signs marking the routes of underground public utility pipes, conduits, and cables.
- 12. House or Building Address. Any sign which sets forth the house or building address, provided that the individual characters of the signs do not exceed six inches (6") in height.

Table IX-1, Standards For Free-standing Signs

Districts Permitted	Maximum Number Permitted	Maximum Area of Sign	Maximum Height of Sign	Location of Sign
B-1 Neighborhood Business	Each business is permitted one sign per business front- age up to 300 feet, and one additional sign for each 300 feet of business	32 square feet	15 feet at minimum set-back line & l foot per 2 feet additional set-back, up to 25 feet maximum.	Signs shall not extend over the public right-of-way, and shall conform to the setback requirements for structures in the applicable district.
B-2 Highway Business  B-3 General Business  B-4 Central Business	frontage thereafter; except that no freestanding sign is permitted if a projecting, or roof sign exists on the same frontage.	50 square feet	25 feet at minimum set-back line & l foot per 2 feet additional set-back, up to 35 feet maximum.	No freestanding signs permitted within 50 feet of any residential district where the nearest lot contains a dwelling unit, public school, park, hospital, or nursing home.
IN Industrial		150 square feet	25 feet at minimum set-back line & 1 foot per 2 feet additional set-back up to 40 feet maximum. See note below.	

Note: If a sign in the B-2, Highway Commercial, or B-3, General Business, or IN, Industrial, zone is: 1) directed primarily toward the users of an Interstate Highway; 2) within two thousand feet (2000') of the centerline of an interstate highway; and 3) more than five hundred feet (500') from any residential district, school, park, hospital, or nursing home, it may rise only to such a height as to be visible from within one-half (1/2) mile away along the highway, but not to exceed a height of seventy-five feet (75') and an area of one hundred fifty (150) square feet.

Table IX-2, Standards For Wall Signs and Wall Mounted Signs

Districts	Maximum	Total Maximum	Maximum Height
Permitted	Number	Area of all Wall	and Location
	Permitted	Signs per Frontage	of Signs
R-6B, Restricted Business B-1 Neighborhood Business		10% of wall area, not to exceed 150 sq. ft. maximum	
B-2 Highway Business B-3 General Business	No limit.	10% of wall area, not to exceed 175 sq. ft. maximum	Signs shall not extend beyond the top or ends of the wall surface on which they are placed.
B-4 Central Business			
IN Industrial		15% of wall area, not to exceed 200 sq. ft. maximum	

Table IX-3, Standards For Projecting Signs

Districts Permitted	Maximum Number Permitted	Maximum Area of Sign	Maximum Height & Projection of Sign	Location of Sign
B-1 Neighborhood Business  B-2 Highway Business  B-3 General Business  B-4 Central Business  IN Industrial	One per business frontage, except that no projecting sign is permitted if a freestanding or roof sign exists on the same frontage. Upper level businesses are not allowed projecting signs.	32 square feet  50 square feet  100 square	9 foot minimum clearance above ground. No sign shall extend above that portion of the roof immediately adjacent to the sign. No sign shall project more than 5 feet from the face of the building to which it is attached.	Not to extend over any public right- of-way.

Table IX-4, Standards For Roof Signs

Districts Permitted	Maximum Number Permitted	Maximum Area of Sign	Maximum Height of of Sign	Location of Sign
B-2 Highway Business B-4 Central Business	One per premise, except no roof sign is permitted if a free-	75 square feet	9 feet as mea- sured from that part of roof immediately below sign, but in no case shall	Sign must be located wholly within the roof area of struc-
B-3 General Business	standing or project- ing sign exists on the same frontage.	50 square feet	the height exceed maximum height authorized in zoning district.	ture.
IN Industrial		100 square feet	Il feet as mea- sured from that part of roof immediately below sign, but in no case shall height exceed maximum height authorized in zoning district.	

Table IX-5, Standards For Future Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures  $^{6}$ 

Districts	7	Maximum	Maximum	Maximum	Location of
Permitted	Туре	Number	Area of	Height	OASS and
		Permitted	OASS	OASS	Separation
Such new	Wall	l per wall	300 sq. ft.	Not to project	OASS shall conform
OASS's		provided no	300 040 100	above roofline	to the setback
shall be		other exterior		or edges of wall	requirements for
allowed		wall signs are		upon which OASS	buildings in the
only along		on display.		mounted.	IN, B-2 and B-3
FAP or FAI			·		zoning districts.
routes, as					No OASS shall be
designated					permitted within
by IDOT as					50' of any resi-
of March 1,					dential, CRE or
1981, in					AG zoning district,
areas					Further such
zoned B-3					OASS's shall
(General					not be located
Business),	r				within 250'
B-2 (High-		·			of any free-
way Busi-					standing or wall
ness) and			THE PARTY OF THE P		mounted OASS. <sup>3</sup>
IN (Indus-					
trial) and				·	
within 660'		·			
of either		·			
side of					
such FAP/					
FAI routes;			·		
in B-2,					
B-3, and IN					
districts					
along					
Lincoln					`
Avenue north					
of Bradley					
Avenue; and					
in B-3, B-4,			]	j	

Table IX-5, Standards For Future Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures<sup>6</sup> (Continued)

Districts Permitted	Туре	Maximum Number Permitted	Maximum Area of OASS	Maximum Height OASS	Location of OASS and Separation
and IN districts along Vine Street bet- ween Main Street and University Avenue <sup>2,4,&amp;5</sup>					
	Free Stand- ing	2 per OASS	300 sq. ft. (back-to- back dis- plays shall be deemed to be a single structure	IN-40 feet <sup>2</sup> B-2, B-3, B-4 - 35 feet	Same as wall OASS's.

Notes: No Outdoor Advertising Sign Structures shall be erected on a roof or marquee. Further these regulations must be interpreted consistent with the injunction issued in Champaign County Circuit Court 76 C 1060, C-U Poster versus Urbana.

<sup>1</sup>"Back to back" shall mean faces erected at a parallel plane separated by no greater than three (3) feet, or faces erected at no greater than a 45<sup>0</sup> angle to each other.

<sup>2</sup>If a OASS is: 1) directed primarily towards users of an interstate highway, 2) within two thousand feet (2,000') of the centerline of the highway, and 3) more than five hundred feet (500') from any residential district, school, park, hospital, or nursing home, then a) a maximum area of twelve hundred (1,200) square feet is permitted, or b) The sign may be erected to such height as to be visible from within one-half  $(\frac{1}{2})$  mile away along the highway, but not to exceed a height of seventy-five feet (75') and an area of three hundred (300) square feet.

<sup>3</sup>For purposes of determining separation measurements, the following shall apply:

- a. Separation measurements between OASS's shall be measured along same side of a street.
- b. Measurements from wall OASS's, shall be made from the closest edge or projection of the OASS to the OASS from which it is being separated.
- c. Measurements from Free-Standing OASS's shall be made from the closest ground projection or support of the structure to the structure from which it is being separated.

<sup>4</sup>Said FAI and FAP areas include Routes 45, 150 and 10 (University Avenue from Wright Street to I-74); all of Route 45 (Cunningham Avenue) north of University Avenue; and I-74. For purposes of future OASS erection, South Philo Road shall not be included as FAP, although it may be or may have been so designated by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

<sup>5</sup>OASS's along Vine Street between Main Street and University Avenue shall be located within 100 feet of the centerline of Vine Street.

<sup>6</sup>This table sets standards for future outdoor advertising structures. Except for those outdoor advertising sign structures which are to be removed pursuant to the Settlement Agreement arising out of the litigation in 76-C-1070, existing outdoor advertising sign structures in the City of Urbana are expressly permitted and in compliance with this Article.

Table IX-6, Standards For Signs Attached to Canopies and Entrance Structures

Districts	Maximum	Maximum	Height	Location
Permitted	Number	Area of	of	of Sign
	Permitted	Sign	Sign	
R-6B, Restricted Business B-1 Neighbor- hood Business	One sign per business	10 sq. feet	9 foot minimum clearance	No sign may project more than 2 feet
B-2 Highway Business B-3 General Business	frontage up to 100 feet. One addi- tional sign for each 100	to 100 feet. One additional sign 15 sq.	to ground.	from any canopy, or other such structure.
B-4 Central Business	after.			
IN Industrial		20 sq. feet		

Table IX-7, Standards For Property Sale and Rental Signs

Districts Permitted	Maximum Number Permitted	Maximum Area of Sign	Maximum Height of Freestanding Sign (See Note 2)	Location of Sign
R-l & R-2 Single Family & R-3 Single & Two Family Residential	One per dwelling	3 square feet	5 feet	10 foot minimum setback from curb line but wholly upon the premises.
R-4, R-5 & R-6 Multiple Family Resi- dential R-6B, Re- stricted Business & R-7 Dormitory	One per apart- ment building or dwelling	10 square feet	10 feet	10 foot minimum setback from curb line but wholly on premises
AG Agri- culture	One per 660 foot frontage	32 square feet	15 feet	
B-l Neigh- borhood Business	One per frontage	32 square feet	15 feet	Signs shall conform
B-2 Highway Business				to the setback requirements for structures in the applicable
B-3 General Business	One per frontage (See	50 square feet	25 feet	districts.
B-4 Central Business	note 1)			
IN Industrial		150 sq. feet	25 feet	

Notes: 1) An apartment complex, shopping center, highway plaza, or industrial complex is permitted one sign per frontage, up to 200 feet, and one additional sign for each 300 feet thereafter. 2) Wall signs shall not extend beyond the top or ends of the wall surface on which they are placed.

Table IX-8, Standards For Subdivision Signs

Districts	Maximum	Maximum	Maximum	Location
Permitted	Number Permitted	Area of Sign	Height of Sign	of Sign
R-l & R-2 Single Family & R-3 Single & Two Family Residential	One sign per street bordering or enter- ing the	50 square feet	10 feet	10 foot minimum setback but wholly upon the
R-4, R-5 & R-6 Multiple Family Residential R-6B, Restricted Business &	subdivi- sion	50 square feet	10 feet	premise
R-7 Dormitory  AG Agri- culture B-1 Neigh- borhood Business				Signs shall conform to the setback requirement for structures in applicable district.
B-2 Highway Business B-3 General Business		50 square feet	10 feet	district.
B-4 Central Business		75 sq. feet	15 feet	
IN Industrial		100 sq. feet	20 feet	

## Section IX-6 Use of Noncommercial Signs in Business and Industrial Zoning Districts

- A. Permanent noncommercial signs shall be permitted in all commercial and industrial zoning districts in accordance with the established sign standards by district and by sign type specified in Tables IX-1 through IX-4 and IX-6 and shall require a sign permit. However, with the exception of time and temperature signs up to twenty-six (26) square feet in area, the erection of such signs authorized by this section waives the right to erect any permitted commercial signs of the same type authorized by this Article.
- B. Temporary noncommercial signs may be erected without a permit and without affecting the right to erect any permitted commercial sign or permanent noncommercial sign. Such temporary noncommercial sign shall be limited to six (6) square feet in area.
- C. Community Event Signs Requiring a Permit
  - (1) No community event sign shall be erected or maintained on or over any property owned or controlled by the City or public right-of-way by any person without first obtaining a permit issued by the Zoning Administrator, who shall observe the requirements and restrictions of this subsection of this Article in approving or disapproving the method of display, location, number and sizes of signs. The Zoning Administrator shall require submission of evidence as to general liability insurance or its equivalent which names the City as an additional insured in amounts of no less than combined property damage and personal injury limits of \$200,000 prior to issuance of a permit.
  - (2) Zoning Districts Allowed
    - (a) B-4. Central Business
  - (3) Numbers and Sizes of Signs
    - (a) Permits shall be granted for no more than ten (10) community event signs to be displayed on any day. Where approved applications are received from more than one (1) organization for such signs to be displayed on the same day, and the total number exceeds the maximum provided in this section, each organization shall receive a permit for a pro-rata number of such signs.
    - (b) Community event signs shall be no larger than fifty (50) square feet in display area.
  - (4) Length of Time of Display
    - (a) Community event signs shall be displayed for not more than a consecutive thirty (30) day period.
    - (b) No more than two (2) days following the community event for which a sign permit is granted pursuant to this section, such special event signs shall be removed and the area where such signs have been displayed shall be cleaned and restored to its condition prior to display of such signs.

## Section IX-7 Prohibited Signs

- A. The following signs are specifically prohibited by this Ordinance:
  - Any sign which, by reason of its size, location, movement, content, coloring, or manner of illumination, constitutes an obvious traffic hazard or a detriment to traffic safety by obstructing or detracting from the visibility of any official traffic control device;
  - 2. Any sign which contains or is an imitation of an official traffic sign or signal, except for private traffic direction signs specifically permitted in Section IX-5 B.6;
  - 3. Any sign which moves or rotates in any way, provided, however that a sign which revolves three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) but does not exceed eight (8) revolutions per minute is permitted, except within fifty feet (50') of any public street or where the nearest lot contains a residential dwelling unit, public school, park, hospital, or nursing home.
  - 4. Any sign which contains blinking, flashing lights, unless such lights are permitted in Section IX-5.
  - 5. Any sign which contains or consists of banners, pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or similar devices, unless such signs are permitted in Sections IX-5 and IX-6;
  - 6. Any sign which for thirty (30) consecutive days has directed attention to a product, place, activity, person, institution, or business which was formerly but is no longer in operation or existence on the premises;
  - 7. Any sign not in compliance with the requirements of Section IX-4, IX-5, or IX-6.
- B. Removal of Prohibited Signs
  - 1. If a sign shall become prohibited under Section IX-7 A.6, notice shall be given to the land owner, sign owner, or lessee, under Section IX-9 C., and he shall have fifteen (15) days from the date of notice in which to remedy or remove the sign.
  - 2. All other signs prohibited by this Section shall be brought into conformity as provided for in Section X-9.

Table IX-9
Free-Standing Shopping Center Signs

CLASS OF SHOPPING CENTER/PUD	DISTRICTS PERMITTED	MAX. # PERMITTED	MAXIMUM <sup>1</sup> AREA	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	LOCATION	INDIVIDUAL <sup>3</sup> BUSINESS MAY LIST
General Shopping Center	R-6B - S B-2 - S B-3 - S B-4 - S IN - S	Two Signs per front- age	150 sq. ft.	30 feet at min- imum set- back line plus one addition- al foot per 2 ft. addition- al set- back thereaf- ter up to 40 feet Maxi- mum.	Signs shall not extend over the public right-of-way, and shall conform to the setback requirements for structure in the applicable district. No freestanding signs permitted within 50 feet of any residential district where the nearest lot contains a dwelling unit, public school, park, hospital, or nursing home.	Yes
Convenience Shopping Center	R-6B - S B1 - S B2 - S B3 - S B4 - S IN - S	Two Signs per front- age	75 sq. <sup>2</sup> ft.	H H	65 26 12	Yes

#### NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Maximum area refers to combined area of both signs, or of one sign if there is only one.

 $<sup>^2\</sup>mathrm{Size}$  of sign may be increased to 150 square feet under special use procedures.

 $<sup>^3\</sup>mathrm{Individual}$  businesses may list, but an individual listing may not exceed 50% of the area of any face of the sign.

## Section IX-8. Permits for Signs.

## A. Requirements.

It shall be unlawful for any person to install, construct, erect, alter, reconstruct or relocate any sign or outdoor advertising sign structure without first obtaining a valid permit, in writing, from the Zoning Administrator, and making payment of the fees required by Section XI-8 of this Ordinance, unless such signs or outdoor advertising sign structures are permitted without a permit by Section IX-5 B.

Relocation or reconstruction of signs or outdoor advertising sign structures to conform with the requirements of this Ordinance, when such signs or outdoor advertising sign structures existed at the time of enactment of this Ordinance, is excepted from the requirement for a permit as described, provided such signs and outdoor advertising sign structures conform to all requirements of this Ordinance thereafter. A permit is required for relocation of nonconforming signs and outdoor advertising sign structures as provided in Section X-98.6 of this Ordinance.

#### B. Application for a Permit.

Application for a sign permit shall be filed by the owner of the sign or an outdoor advertising sign structure or by his/her agent with the Zoning Administrator of the City of Urbana. The application shall contain the following information:

- Name, address and telephone number of the owner of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure and agent, if any;
- 2. Location of building, structure or lot to which or upon which the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure is to be attached or erected;
- 3. Position of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure in relation to nearby buildings or structures.
- 4. Two (2) prints or ink drawings of the plans and specifications indicating the method of construction and attachment to the buildings or in the ground. No such prints or ink drawings shall be required for Section IX-5 signs, unless such signs require a permit, for signs the fair market value of which is less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and which are erected in compliance with a standard method, the plans for which are now with the City, or for signs or outdoor advertising sign structures where drawings are already on file with the Zoning Administrator.
- 5. Name of person, firm, corporation or association erecting sign or outdoor advertising sign structure;
- 6. Evidence of written consent of the owner of the building, structure or land to which or on which the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure is to be erected.
- 7. Such other information as the Zoning Administrator shall require to show full compliance with this and all other laws and ordinances of the City.

#### C. Inspection upon Completion.

The applicant who has been issued a permit for construction, installation, erection, relocation or alteration of a sign or outdoor advertising sign structure shall, upon completion of the work, notify the Zoning Administrator, who shall inspect the

condition of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure with respect to its safety and location and if he/she finds that the same has been constructed in compliance with the ordinances of the City, he/she shall then issue such applicant a permit in writing, authorizing such applicant to operate and maintain the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure.

#### D. Nullification.

If the work authorized under a permit to build has not been substantially completed within six (6) months after the date of its issuance, the permit shall become void.

#### E. Permit Exceptions.

The following operations shall not be considered as "installing, constructing, erecting, altering, reconstructing, relocating" or creating a sign or outdoor advertising sign structure and shall not require a permit, notwithstanding the foregoing requirements of Section IX-8.A.:

- 1. The changing of the advertising copy, facial panel or panels, or message on an outdoor advertising sign structure, painted or printed sign or on changeable letter panels or bulletin boards specifically designed for the use of replaceable copy.
- 2. Painting, repainting, cleaning and other normal maintenance and repair of a sign, sign structure or outdoor advertising sign structure.
- 3. Existing OASS's (other than those to be removed by Settlement Agreement arising out of litigation in case No. 76-C-1070) may continue to be maintained in all respects; may be rebuilt for any reason; but may not be enlarged.

#### F. Issuance of Permit.

The permit shall be issued by the Zoning Administrator within thirty (30) days of application once all of the above requirements are met.

#### Section IX-9. Enforcement and Penalties.

A. The Zoning Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to administer and enforce all the provisions of this Article. Whenever necessary, the officials of other departments of the City shall give such assistance as is consistent with the usual duties of their respective departments.

Upon presentation of proper credentials, the Zoning Administrator or his/her duly authorized representative may enter at reasonable times any premises when necessary to perform any duty imposed upon him/her by this Article.

B. Whenever it shall appear to the Zoning Administrator that any sign or outdoor advertising sign structure has been constructed or erected or is being maintained in violation of any of the terms of this Ordinance or after a permit for a sign or outdoor advertising sign structure has been revoked or become void or that a sign is unsafe or in such condition as to be a menace to the safety of the public, the Zoning Administrator shall issue a notice in writing to the owner or lessee of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure or the owner of the premises upon which the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure is erected or maintained. Such notice shall inform such person of the violation and shall

direct him/her to make such alteration, repair or removal as is necessary to secure compliance with this Ordinance within a reasonable time limit, which shall not be less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days.

Upon failure of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure owner to comply with the terms of the notice of violation, the Zoning Administrator is authorized and empowered to remove, alter or repair the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure in question so as to make it conform with this Ordinance and charge the expenses for such work to the person named in the notice.

Except as otherwise provided, the Zoning Administrator may remove or cause to be removed a sign or outdoor advertising sign structure immediately and without notice, if, in his/her opinion, the condition of the sign is such as to present an immediate threat to the safety of the public.

- C. A sign shall be removed by the owner of the sign if such sign identifies the location of a product, place, activity, person, institution or business which no longer exists at that location. If the owner or lessee fails to remove the sign, the Zoning Administrator shall notify the owner or lessee, in writing, and allow fifteen (15) days for removal. Upon failure of the owner or lessee to comply with the notice, the Zoning Administrator may remove the sign at cost to the owner or lessee.
- D. Signs and outdoor advertising sign structures may be inspected periodically by the Zoning Administrator for compliance with this Ordinance and with other ordinances of the City. All signs, sign structures and outdoor advertising sign structures and their component parts are to be kept in good repair and in safe, sanitary condition.
- E. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Article shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). Each day such violation is committeed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

## Section X-9. Nonconforming Signs.

- A. Signs which do not conform to the provisions of Article IX as of January 6, 1980, or thereafter, are nonconforming uses.
- B. Unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Zoning Appeals a nonconforming sign or outdoor advertising sign structure may not be:
  - 1. Changed to another nonconforming sign;
  - 2. Structurally altered so as to prolong the life of the sign;
  - 3. Expanded;
  - 4. Re-established after its removal for ninety (90) days;
  - 5. Re-established after damage or destruction, if the estimated expense of reconstruction exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the appraised replacement cost at the time of the damage or destruction;
  - 6. Relocated unless such relocation brings the sign into conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance, except that where a nonconforming sign is located within a right-of-way taken or acquired by a public body for street improvement purposes, then the relocation of such a sign is permitted, provided that the relocation of such a nonconforming sign shall not extend the requirements for removal as set forth in Section IX-9C.1 and C.2.
- C. All nonconforming signs shall be removed or brought into conformity with this Ordinance within the following time periods:
  - For all nonconforming signs: five (5) years from the effective date of annexation or five (5) years from the effective date of an ordinance redistricting a parcel or lot through a zoning map change or five (5) years from the effective date of an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance text; however, no sign controlled by this Article need be removed sooner than ten (10) years from the date the sign permit authorizing the erection of the sign was issued.
  - 2. For all signs existing prior to January 7, 1980, rendered nonconforming as a result of the 1979 Comprehensive Amendment to this Ordinance No. 7980-68; upon voluntary removal, or sudden damage, or sudden destruction or other Act of God where the cost of damage exceeds 60% of the replacement cost of the sign. Further, where any on-premise, free-standing sign has been made nonconforming due to increased yard requirements as a result of Ordinance No. 7980-68, and where on the same property a building was constructed under prior development regulations which required no front yard, at such time said building or structure is damaged and the same is reconstructed or is voluntarily reconstructed to comply with the yard requirements of this Ordinance, such nonconforming on-premise free-standing sign shall also either be removed or brought into conformity with this Ordinance.
  - 3. In light of the final Judgment Order rendered by Circuit Court of the SIxth Judicial Circuit, Champaign County, Illinois, in the suit entitled "C & U Poster Advertising Co., Inc., et al. v. City of Urbana, et al.", No. 76-C-1070, and in light of the Settlement Agreement entered into between the parties, which requires the removal of certain (otherwise non-conforming) outdoor advertising sign structures, outdoor advertising sign structures are not subject to amortization or removal under this section.

Article XI, Section XI-3, Board of Zoning Appeals, Subsection C.,2.,j.,18

18) The Board of Zoning Appeals shall have the power to grant a variance from the provisions of subsection B of Section X-9, Nonconforming Signs so as to permit change, alteration, reestablishment or more than routine maintenance of a nonconforming sign where such change, alteration, reestablishment or maintenance shall not increase the size of the sign or outdoor advertising sign structure, make it radiate or reflect more light or otherwise make it visually more objectionable. No such variance granted by the Board of Zoning Appeals shall in any way postpone the time for removal of the nonconforming sign or outdoor advertising sign structure as provided in Section X-9C., beyond the time when the original sign or outdoor advertising sign structure which was permitted to be changed, altered, reestablished or maintained hereunder would have been required to be removed.