

**ZOA-11-04**  
**Adopted December 10, 2011**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REENACT AND RECODIFY THE ARLINGTON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTIONS 20 (APPENDIX A) AND 34 IN ORDER TO PERMIT TEMPORARY SIDEWALK SIGNS, COMMERCIAL MESSAGES ON UMBRELLAS AND COORDINATED SIGNS FOR PUBLIC PARKING GARAGES; IN ORDER TO REDUCE OR PREVENT CONGESTION IN THE STREETS, TO ENCOURAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND FOR OTHER REASONS REQUIRED BY THE PUBLIC NECESSITY, CONVENIENCE AND GENERAL WELFARE, AND GOOD ZONING PRACTICE.**

Be it ordained that the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance provisions in Sections 20 (Appendix A) and 34 are hereby amended, reenacted and recodified as follows in order to permit temporary sidewalk signs, commercial messages on umbrellas and coordinated signs for public parking garages; in order to reduce or prevent congestion in the streets, to encourage economic development; and for other reasons required by the public necessity, convenience and general welfare, and good zoning practice:

\* \* \*

- Text denoted with underline or ~~striketrough~~ is text that was added or ~~deleted~~, respectively.
- Text denoted with ~~double-striketrough~~ or double-underline or is text from the existing ordinance that was ~~removed from one subsection~~ of the Ordinance and relocated to another, respectively.

1 **SECTION 20 (APPENDIX A) THE COLUMBIA PIKE SPECIAL REVITALIZATION**  
2 **DISTRICT FORM BASED CODE**

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6 **VI. ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS**

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8 \* \* \*

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10 **F. Signage**

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12 \* \* \*

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14 **2. STANDARDS FOR SIGNAGE (WHERE CLEARLY VISIBLE FROM THE STREET)**

15 Signs that are permitted in Section 34.A.1, 34.A.4, 34.D.4, 34.E, 34.F.1, 34.F.5, 34.F.7  
16 and 34.J of the Zoning Ordinance are permitted on property developed under the Form  
17 Based Code.

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22 **SECTION 34. NAMEPLATES, SIGNS, AND OTHER DISPLAYS OR DEVICES TO**  
23 **DIRECT, IDENTIFY, AND INFORM\***

24 \* \* \*

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26 **B. Definitions.**

27 \* \* \*

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30 Commercial message. A sign, wording, logo, or other representation that, directly or  
31 indirectly, names, advertises, or calls attention to a business, product service or other commercial  
32 activity.

33  
34 Establishment. A business or organization offering goods or services to the public,  
35 including non-profit organizations.

36 \* \* \*

37  
38 Landscape and utility zone. The area of the sidewalk bounded by the edge of the curb  
39 and a line parallel to the curb formed by connecting the edge of the street tree pits or landscape  
40 strips farthest from the curb, where landscaping, street trees, utilities, and other elements, such as  
41 but not limited to benches, parking meters, bicycle racks, streetlights, garbage cans, signs and  
42 bus shelters, are located.

43 \* \* \*

44  
45 Temporary sidewalk sign. A temporary, self-supporting sign made of durable material  
46 and located on the sidewalk in front of a use for which such a sign is allowed.

47 \* \* \*

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50 **E. Signs Permitted in All Districts Without Permits.**

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52 No permit shall be required for any of the following signs and the same may be displayed as  
53 freestanding signs on private property, unless otherwise specifically noted, in any district, unless  
54 otherwise specified below:

55 \* \* \*

60 16. Temporary Sidewalk Signs meeting all of the standards in 34.E.16.a and b below  
61 shall be permitted only for Establishments (but not for home occupations pursuant  
62 to 31.A.12) in C, M, RA-H-3.2, RA4.8, R-C, Public and Special Districts

63 a. General Standards

<u>Maximum size</u>	<u>7 sq. ft. per side (may be two-sided)</u>
<u>Maximum height</u>	<u>3.5 ft.</u>
<u>Number allowed</u>	<u>One per public entrance directly from sidewalk into establishment</u>
<u>Separate lighting?</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>Commercial messages?</u>	<u>Yes, related to establishment for which sign is allowed</u>

64 b. Other Standards:

- 65 1) No more than one temporary sidewalk sign is permitted for each  
66 public entrance to an establishment. For purposes of this  
67 subsection 34.E.16.b.1 , a parking garage is an establishment and  
68 public entrance includes a vehicular entrance;
- 69 2) If an establishment has more than one public entrance and two or  
70 more of the public entrances face the same street and are located  
71 within 200 feet or less of each other, then a sign shall be allowed  
72 for only one of the public entrances;
- 73 3) Such signs may be placed on the sidewalk only during hours the  
74 establishment is open;
- 75 4) Temporary sidewalk signs shall be permitted only on sidewalks  
76 where there is an existing minimum six-foot clear walkway (an  
77 unobstructed area serving as circulation space for pedestrians). In  
78 order to provide adequate clearance for pedestrians and persons  
79 with visual and mobility disabilities, such signs shall not be placed  
80 within any required clear walkway for the site, and shall be located  
81 either entirely within two feet of the building face, or within the  
82 landscape and utility zone such that there is at least one foot  
83 between the sign and the edge of the curb (on sidewalks where  
84 there is no landscaping, sidewalk signs may be placed within four  
85 feet of the edge of the curb if such placement maintains the clear  
86 walkway required in this subparagraph and maintains at least one  
87 foot between the sign and the edge of the curb);
- 88 5) Temporary sidewalk signs shall not be placed in tree pits that are  
89 not covered with hard grates;
- 90 6) Such signs shall be self-supporting with legs or supports that are  
91 continuous with the plane of the sign face; and
- 92 7) Any sign found by the Zoning Administrator to be unsafe or to  
93 present a hazard or to impair a required clear walkway shall be  
94 removed immediately.

95 17. In permitted outdoor cafes, umbrellas may include commercial messages related  
96 to the dining facility or products served there or noncommercial messages.

provided that the messages are no greater than a total of four square feet on any individual umbrella.

\* \* \*

**F. Signs Permitted in All Districts, Unless Otherwise Specified, With Permits**

\* \* \*

7. ~~All public parking facilities in the Rosslyn Metro Station area, bounded by North Rhodes Street, Lee Highway, Arlington Boulevard and Arlington Ridge Road may obtain a sign permit from the Zoning Administrator for the signs described below and subject to the following regulations:~~

- a. ~~One (1) building sign or projecting sign per garage entrance to a public parking facility which identifies the location of publicly accessible parking. For purposes of this Section 34.K, 34.F.7 a public parking facility is defined as a garage that provides parking for members of the general public, at a minimum, after business from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and either all weekend or for at least eight (8) hours, in total, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The sign shall meet all standards prescribed for Arlington County Way Finding Signs. Compliance with these standards shall be determined by the Zoning Administrator including, based on factors that include but are limited to: location; color; size; shape and lettering. The sign shall not exceed six and one-half (6.5) square feet in size nor shall any dimension of the sign exceed four (4) feet.~~
- b. ~~When a sign for a public parking facility is approved and placed pursuant to this Section 34.K, 34.F.7 no other parking garage identification signs may be on the exterior of the building.~~
- c. ~~Amendments to approved comprehensive sign plans shall not be required for signs permitted by this Section 34.K-34.F.7., but such signs shall be permitted in addition to the signs allowed under a comprehensive sign plan.~~

\* \* \*

~~**K. Signs Permitted in Specified Areas with Permits.**~~

~~Public parking facilities in the Rosslyn Metro Station area, bounded by North Rhodes Street, Lee Highway, Arlington Boulevard and Arlington Ridge Road may obtain a sign permit from the Zoning Administrator for the signs described below and subject to the following regulations:~~

- 1. ~~One (1) building sign or projecting sign per garage entrance to a public parking facility which identifies the location of publicly accessible parking. For purposes of this Section 34.K, a public parking facility is defined as a garage that provides parking for members of the general public, at a minimum, after business from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and either all weekend or for at least eight~~

142 ~~(8) hours, in total, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The sign~~  
143 ~~shall meet all standards prescribed by the Zoning Administrator including, but not~~  
144 ~~limited to: location; color; size; shape and lettering. The sign shall not exceed six~~  
145 ~~and one half (6.5 square feet in size nor shall any dimension of the sign exceed~~  
146 ~~four (4) feet.~~  
147 ~~2. When a sign for a public parking facility is approved and placed pursuant to this~~  
148 ~~Section 34.K, no other parking garage identification signs may be on the exterior~~  
149 ~~of the building.~~  
150 ~~3. Amendments to approved comprehensive sign plans shall not be required for~~  
151 ~~signs permitted by this Section 34.K.~~  
152 ~~4. Any sign permitted in Section 34.K shall not be counted in calculating the~~  
153 ~~permitted number of signs or the sign area for limitations set forth in Sections~~  
154 ~~34.E., 34.G, or 34.H.~~