

Ordinance No: 15-88
Zoning Text Amendment No: 06-23
Concerning: Signs- Place of Assembly
Draft No. & Date: 2 – 10/17/06
Introduced: August 1, 2006
Public Hearing: 9/21/06; 7:30 p.m.
Adopted: October 17, 2006
Effective: November 6, 2006

**COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PORTION OF
THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT WITHIN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmembers Leventhal, Knapp and Silverman

AN AMENDMENT to the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of:

- defining a place of assembly;
- allowing temporary signs totaling 50 square feet at any place of assembly; and
- generally amending provisions related to signs for a place of assembly.

By amending the following sections of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 59 of the Montgomery County Code:

ARTICLE 59-F	“SIGNS”
DIVISION 59-F-2	“Definitions”
DIVISION 59-F-4	“PERMANENT SIGN – DESIGN ELEMENTS AND LIMITATIONS”
Section 59-F-4.2.	“By zone”
<u>DIVISION 59-F-5</u>	<u>“LIMITED DURATION SIGNS”</u>
<u>Section 59-F-5.2</u>	<u>“General Requirements for Limited Duration Signs on Private Property</u>
DIVISION 59-F-6	“TEMPORARY SIGNS”
Section 59-F-6.2	“Requirements by Zone”

EXPLANATION: **Boldface** indicates a heading or a defined term.
Underlining indicates text that is added to existing laws by the original text amendment.
[Single boldface brackets] indicate text that is deleted from existing law by the original text amendment.
Double underlining indicates text that is added to the text amendment by amendment.
[[Double boldface brackets]] indicate text that is deleted from the text amendment by amendment.
* * * indicates existing law unaffected by the text amendment.

OPINION

Zoning Text Amendment No. 06-23 was introduced on August 1, 2006 for the purpose of defining a place of assembly; allowing temporary signs totaling 50 square feet at any place of assembly; and generally amending provisions related to signs for a place of assembly.

The Montgomery County Planning Board in its report to the Council recommended that the text amendment be approved.

The County Council held a public hearing on September 21, 2006, to receive testimony concerning the proposed text amendment. The text amendment was referred to the Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee for review and recommendation.

The Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee held a worksession on September 28, 2006 to review the amendment. The Committee recommended approval of ZTA 06-23 with amendments. The Committee recommended establishing a 24-square-foot limit on the total area of temporary signs for places of assembly and retaining a 10-square-foot limit for limited duration signs in residential zones.

The District Council reviewed Zoning Text Amendment No. 06-23 at a worksession held on October 17, 2006, and agreed with the recommendations of the Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee except that the Council approved a 50 square foot limit on the total area of temporary signs. The Council believed that a 50 square foot temporary sign would aid communication particularly along major roadways.

For these reasons and because to approve this amendment will assist in the coordinated, comprehensive, adjusted and systematic development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District located in Montgomery County, Zoning Text Amendment No. 06-23 will be approved as amended.

ORDINANCE

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, sitting as the District Council for that portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District in Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following ordinance:

Sec. 1. Article 59-F. is amended as follows:

ARTICLE 59-F. SIGNS.

* * *

DIVISION 59-F-2. DEFINITIONS.

* * *

Place of assembly: Any place of worship, school, library, museum, or hospital.

Any other publicly owned facility is also a place of assembly.

* * *

Sec. 2. Division 59-F-4 is amended as follows:

DIVISION 59-F-4. PERMANENT SIGN – DESIGN ELEMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.

* * *

59-F-4.2. By zone.

* * *

(a) Residential Zone.

* * *

(3) Entrance Signs.

* * *

(B) [Public Facilities and] Place[s] of Assembly Location Sign.

Additional sign area is permitted for a permanent location sign for [public facilities or] any place[s] of assembly[, such as places of worship, schools, libraries, museums, and hospitals].

The sign must be a ground sign or a wall sign located at an entrance to the building or driveway to identify the location of the building for a user[s] of the facility.

* * *

Sec. 3. Division 59-F-6 is amended as follows:

Sec. 4. Division 59-F-6 is amended as follows:

DIVISION 59-F-5. LIMITED DURATION SIGNS.

* * *

Sec. 59-F-5.2. General Requirements for Limited Duration Signs on Private Property.

* * *

(b) Area. The area requirements are the same as those for temporary signs in the zone in which the sign is erected. However, in residential zones, the total sign area of limited duration signs must not exceed 10 square feet.

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DIVISION 59-F-6. TEMPORARY SIGNS.

* * *

59-F-6.2. Requirements by Zone.

The following requirements apply in the zones specified:

(a) Residential Zone.

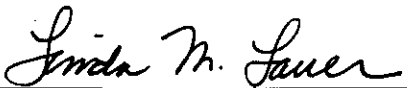
(1) The number of signs is not limited.

(2) Total sign area must not exceed 10 square feet. However, the total sign area at any place of assembly must not exceed 50 square feet.

* * *

Sec. 5. Effective date. This ordinance takes effect 20 days after the date of Council adoption.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council