

How to Use the 2020 Sign Code

Below are some common scenarios and frequently asked questions in using the City of Overland Park Sign Code. If you have additional questions regarding the new Sign Code, please contact the Planner-of-the-Day at 913-895-6217 or pod@opkansas.org.

Scenario A

You need to know what signs would be allowed for a certain address/location or if the sign allowance for your location has changed:

1. For Temporary Signs, see Scenario C below.
2. See the [Zoning Map](#) to determine the zoning district for your location.
3. Refer to the tables in Sections 18.440.070 through 18.440.120 for the allowed Sign Types in the zoning district for the location of your search.
4. See a Sign Type listed at the bottom of the table without any specific requirements? Some Sign Types have the same size and number limits regardless of the zoning district. Those details can be found in the tables in Section 18.440.060.
5. Don't be surprised if additional signs or new Sign Types are available under the new Sign Code for the location you have searched!

Scenario B

You know what the sign type is called under the current code and can't find it in the new code:

1. See the **Guide to Sign Types**.

Scenario C

You want to put up a temporary sign and wonder if the rules have changed:

1. See the [Zoning Map](#) to determine the zoning district for your location.
2. See Section 18.440.130 and find the subsection that applies to your location or situation.
3. Don't be surprised if you have gotten a special event permit in the past and no longer need one! Many temporary signs will no longer need a special event permit under the

new Sign Code, subject to the size, location, and time restrictions listed. A special event permit could still be issued for installations or durations other than those allowed.

Scenario D

You want to know what signs are already at a specific location to determine what, if any, new or additional signs would be allowed:

1. See [ePlace](#) and search the permit records for a specific address.
2. If sign permits have not been issued in the last few years for your location, and you do not find what you are looking for in ePlace, see the **Guide to Sign Types** to determine what signs you already have. Then look at the new Sign Code to see if any new or additional sign types are allowed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a permit for every sign?

For permanent signs, most likely yes. The permanent signs that do not require permits are listed in Section 18.440.030. Many temporary signs will not require permits but will be required to meet size and duration limits. See Section 18.440.130.

Now that I can have more than one sign on a wall in my zoning district, how do I calculate the sign area?

Sign area calculations and other measurement information is located in Section 18.440.050.

What if I cannot find the Sign Type I want to use at my location?

That Sign Type may not be allowed at your location. See also the list of Prohibited Signs in Section 18.440.020.

Can I install signs on property owned by someone else?

Temporary signs may be installed on someone else's property, provided you have permission from that property owner. The signs must meet the requirements that apply to that location. Signs are not allowed in the City's right-of-way or other public property.

Are there any changes I might need to make to an existing sign on my property?

Potentially. If you have an existing permanent sales or leasing sign, that sign is now allowed as an Incidental Sign under the new Sign Code. Ground-mounted incidental signs mounted on posts are required to have stained or painted posts with decorative caps. The sign panel is to be mounted

between the two posts. Example pictures are provided in the Sign Code in Section 18.440.060.B.1.b. Existing nonconforming signs of this type would need to be removed or updated by January 1, 2022.

Are digital signs allowed under the new Sign Code?

In some circumstances, yes. As listed in the table in Section 18.440.060.B, kiosks, point-of-activity signs, and detached canopy signs on canopies over 200 square feet in area could incorporate a digital display, subject to the standards in Section 18.440.050.F. A Special Use Permit could also be issued for digital display to be included on Highway Monument Signs or buildings located along a highway, following the public hearing approval process, and subject to the standards in Section 18.440.120.C. A Special Event Permit could be issued for the temporary use of a digital display with City Council approval (see Section 18.380.060).