



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Christina Taylor, Deputy City Manager
DATE: September 5, 2023
SUBJECT: Discussion and Direction to Staff on Proposed Amendments to Beaumont Municipal Code Section 17.07 – Signs and Section 8.50 Outdoor Lighting.

Description Review of Beaumont Municipal Code Section 17.07 – Signs for compliance with recent case law pertaining to non-commercial signage and other proposed changes.

Background and Analysis:

This is a continued discussion from July 18, 2023 and April 4, 2023, where the City Council directed staff to further research and make specific changes to the proposed amendment of Municipal Code Section 17.07 – Signs. The proposed amendments to non-commercial signage are necessary for compliance based on recent case law.

Other proposed changes include updating the objectives, definitions, manufacturing and commercial standards, sign program and language related to electronic billboards.

Previous City Council Action:

On July 20, 2021, based on the directives of the Supreme Court, City Staff provided to City Council background on the U.S. Supreme Court holding in *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* and its impact on sign ordinances. In coordination with the City Attorney, City Staff drafted proposed changes to Municipal Code Section 17.07 – Signs to amend the regulations to comply with the U.S. Supreme Court case.

At that meeting, City Council provided further direction to City staff to make edits on proposed changes to Section 17.07 and bring it back for review. Specifically, it believed the 45 days for political signs was insufficient during election time. It also requested consideration of certain modifications to the placement requirements in the right-of-way.

On April 4, 2023, City Council discussed the proposed changes to non-commercial signs within the municipal code and provided direction to staff. The changes included clarifying existing regulations and practices, removing unnecessary definitions or types

of signs, and expanding the definition section of the document to assist with code interpretations.

On July 18, 2023, additional discussion was held and direction provided to staff related to several sections of the sign code including non-commercial signs, electronic signs and commercial signage. This is reflected in the attached redline version of the sign code. Also included in the attachments are proposed amendments to the Outdoor Lighting section of the code to be reflective of and consistent with the proposed changes in the sign code.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff estimates the cost of preparing this staff report to be \$2,000

Recommended Action:

Hold a discussion and provide direction to staff on proposed changes to Municipal Code Section 17.07-Signs.

Attachments:

- A. Proposed Sign Code (Clean Version)
- B. Current Sign Code with Redlines
- C. Proposed Outdoor Lighting code changes