

SIGN APPLICATION & PERMIT

City of Carson

Fee \$ _____

Application Date _____

Permit Approval Date _____

LOCATION OF SIGN _____ ZONING DISTRICT _____

OWNER OF
PROPERTY _____

name address phone #

APPLICANT _____

name address phone #

SIGN ERECTOR _____

name address phone #

TYPE OF SIGN:

- Ground
- Wall
- Roof
- Projecting

DESCRIPTION & PLACEMENT OF
PROPOSED SIGN:

SIZE

Height _____ feet
 Width _____ feet
 Area _____ sq. ft.
 SIGN SET BACK
 _____ feet

PERMIT FEES:
 5 CENTS PER SQ. FT.
 OF TOTAL DISPLAY
 SPACE. MINIMUM
 FEE OF \$5.00.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Illumination
 - Internal
 - External
 - None

IS THERE AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT REQUIRED?

YES NO

COMMENTS:

THIS SIGN PERMIT WILL NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS:

1. One blueprint or ink drawing of the plans and specifications and method of construction and attachment to the building or in the ground.
2. Copy of stress sheets and calculations showing the structure is designed for dead load, wind pressure, and icing in any direction in the amount required by City of Carson Zoning Ordinance Chapter 10 and all other ordinances of the City.
3. Written consent of the owner of the building, structure or land on which the structure is to be erected.
4. Position of the sign or other advertising structure in relation to nearby buildings or structures.
5. Such other information as the building official shall require to show full compliance with this chapter and all other ordinances of the City.

I hereby certify that I have read and examined this application and know the same to be true and correct. All provisions of laws and ordinances governing this type of work will be complied with whether specified herein or not. The granting of a permit does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of any other state or local law regulating construction or the performance of construction.

X _____
 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE

X _____
 SIGNATURE OF CITY BUILDING OFFICIAL

CHAPTER 169

ZONING CODE – SIGN REGULATIONS

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169.01 REAL ESTATE SIGNS. In any district, real estate signs are permitted, advertising the sale, lease, or rental of premises or buildings on which they are located. In addition, the following signs are allowed in each district below.

169.02 DEFINITIONS. The following terms have the following meanings:

1. “Erect” means to build, construct, attach, hang, suspend, or affix, and also includes the painting of wall signs.
2. “Facing” or “surface” means the surface of the sign upon, against or through which the message is displayed or illustrated on the sign.
3. “Ground or temporary sign,” as regulated by this chapter, means any sign placed upon the ground and not attached to any building.
4. “Illuminated sign” means any sign which has characters, letters, figures, designs, or outline illuminated by electric lights or luminous tubes as a part of the sign proper.
5. “Incombustible material” means any material which will not ignite at or below a temperature of 1200° Fahrenheit and will not continue to burn or glow at that temperature.
6. “Projecting sign,” as regulated by this chapter, means any sign which is attached to a building or other structure and extends beyond the line of said building or structure or beyond the surface of that portion of the building or structure to which it is attached.
7. “Roof sign,” as regulated by this chapter, means any sign erected, constructed and maintained wholly upon or over the roof of any building with the principal support on the roof structure.
8. “Sign” means and includes every sign, billboard, ground sign, wall sign, roof sign, illuminated sign, projecting sign and temporary

sign, and includes any announcement, declaration, demonstration, display, illustration or insignia used to advertise or promote the interests of any person when the same is placed out of doors in view of the general public.

9. “Street line” means the place where the public sidewalk begins and the private property line ends.

10. “Structural trim” means the molding, battens, capping, nailing strips, latticing and platforms which are attached to the sign structure.

11. “Wall sign,” as regulated by this chapter means all flat signs of solid face construction which are placed against a building or other structure and attached to the exterior front, rear or side wall of any building or other structure.

169.03 PERMITS REQUIRED. It is unlawful for any person to erect, repair, alter, relocate, or maintain within the City any sign or other advertising structure as defined in this chapter, without first obtaining a permit from the building official and making payment of the fee required by Section 169.07.

169.04 APPLICATION FOR ERECTION PERMIT. Application for permits shall be made upon blanks provided by the building official and shall contain or have attached thereto the following information:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant.
2. Location of building, structure or lot to which or upon which the sign or other advertising structure is to be attached or erected.
3. Position of the sign or other advertising structure in relation to nearby buildings or structures.
4. One blueprint or ink drawing of the plans and specifications and method of construction and attachment to the building or in the ground.
5. Copy of stress sheets and calculations showing the structure is designed for dead load and wind pressure in any direction in the amount required by this chapter and all other ordinances of the city.
6. Name of person, firm, corporation or association erecting structure.
7. Written consent of the owner of the building, structure or land on which the structure is to be erected.
8. Any electrical permit required and issued for said sign.

9. Such other information as the building official shall require to show full compliance with this chapter and all other ordinances of the City.

169.05 ILLUMINATED SIGNS; APPROVAL BY BUILDING OFFICIAL. The application for a permit for erection of a sign or other advertising structure in which electrical wiring and connections are to be used shall be submitted to the building official. The building official shall examine the plans and specifications respecting all wiring and connections to determine if the same complies with the Electrical Code of the City, and shall approve said permit if the said plans and specifications comply with said code or disapprove the application if noncompliance with the code is found. This action of the building official shall be taken prior to approval of the application.

169.06 PERMIT ISSUED. It shall be the duty of the building official, upon the filing of an application for an erection permit, to examine such plans and specifications and other data and the premises upon which it is proposed to erect the sign or other advertising structure, and if it shall appear that the proposed structure is in compliance with all the requirements of this chapter and all other ordinances of the City, the building official shall then issue the erection permit. If the work authorized under an erection permit has not been completed within six (6) months after date of issuance, the permit shall become null and void.

169.07 PERMIT FEES. Every applicant before being granted an erection permit, shall pay to the city clerk the permit fee, for each such sign or other advertising structure regulated, of five (5) cents per square foot, total display space will determine square feet, provided that, in no event shall the minimum fee for each sign be less than five dollars (\$5.00).

169.08 ANNUAL INSPECTION AND FEES. The code official shall inspect annually, or at such times deemed necessary, each sign or other advertising structure regulated by this chapter for the purpose of ascertaining whether the same is secure or insecure, and whether it is in need of removal or repair.

169.09 UNSAFE AND UNLAWFUL SIGNS. If the building official shall find that any sign or other advertising structure regulated hereunder is unsafe or insecure or is a menace to the public, or has been constructed or erected or is being maintained in violation of the provisions of this chapter, the building official shall give written notice thereof to the permit holder. Such notice shall include a statement explaining the alleged violations and deficiencies, an order to repair or remove said sign, and an explanation of the consequences of failure to comply with said order. If the permit holder fails to remove or alter said sign

so as to comply with the order within ten days after such notice, said sign or other advertising structure may be removed or altered to comply by the building official at the expense of the permit holder or owner of the property on which it is located. The permit holder may appeal the order of the building official to the Council, and, if such an appeal is on file, the ten-day compliance period shall be extended until ten days following the Council's decision on the matter. If, however, the building official finds that any sign or other advertising structure poses a serious and immediate threat to the health or safety of any person, the building official may order the removal of such sign summarily and without notice to the permit holder. Such an order may be appealed to the Council, and if the Council reverses, it shall order restitution at the City's expense.

169.10 PERMIT REVOCATION. Any permit holder who fails to comply with a valid order of the building official within the allotted time period, or who fails to pay reasonable removal or repair expenses assessed under the preceding section, shall have the permit as to such sign or signs revoked, and another permit for the erection or maintenance of such sign or signs shall not be issued to said permit holder for a period of one year from the date of revocation.

169.11 WIND PRESSURE AND DEAD LOAD REQUIREMENTS. All signs and other advertising structures shall be designed and constructed to withstand a wind pressure of not less than forty (40) pounds per square foot of area, and shall be constructed to receive dead loads as required in the Building Code or other ordinances of the City.

169.12 REMOVAL OF CERTAIN SIGNS. Any sign now or hereafter existing which no longer advertises a bona fide business conducted or a product sold, shall be taken down and removed by the owner, agent, or person having the beneficial use of the building or structure upon which such sign may be found within ten (10) days after written notification from the building official, and, upon failure to comply with such notice within the time specified in such order, the building official is hereby authorized to cause removal of such signs, and any expense incident thereto shall be paid by the owner of the building or structure to which such sign is attached.

169.13 EXEMPTIONS. The provisions and regulations of this chapter shall not apply to the following signs, provided, however, said signs shall be subject to the provisions of Section 169.10.

1. Real estate signs not exceeding eight (8) square feet in area which advertise the sale, rental, or lease of the premises upon which said signs are located only.

2. Professional name plates not exceeding one (1) square foot in area.
3. Signs painted on the exterior surface of a building or structure, provided, however, if said signs have raised borders, letters, characters, decorations or lighting appliances, they shall be subject to the provisions of Section 169.20 and all applicable provisions of this chapter.
4. Bulletin boards not over twenty (20) square feet in area for public, charitable, or religious institutions when the same are located on the premises of said institutions.
5. Signs denoting the architect, engineer, or contractor when placed upon work under construction, and not exceeding sixteen (16) feet in area.
6. Occupational signs denoting only the name and profession of an occupant in a commercial building, public institutional building or dwelling house, and not exceeding two (2) square feet in area.
7. Memorial signs or tablets, names of buildings, and date of erection when cut into any masonry surface or when constructed of bronze or other incombustible materials.
8. Traffic or other municipal signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, danger, and such temporary, emergency or non-advertising signs as may be approved by the Council.
9. Signs with historical value that comply with other sections of this chapter.
10. Political campaign signs when placed in accordance with State law and when less than thirty-two (32) square feet in size.

169.14 OBSTRUCTIONS TO DOORS, WINDOWS, OR FIRE ESCAPES. No sign shall be erected, located, or maintained so as to prevent free ingress to or egress from any door, window, or fire escape. No sign of any kind shall be attached to a standpipe or fire escape.

169.15 SIGNS NOT TO CONSTITUTE TRAFFIC HAZARD. No sign or other advertising structure as regulated by this chapter shall be erected at the intersection of any streets in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision; or at any location where, by reason of the position, shape or color, it may interfere with, obstruct the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device; or which makes use of the words, “STOP,” “LOOK,” “DRIVE-IN,” “DANGER,” or any other word, phrase, symbol, or character in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse traffic. No sign or other

advertising structure as regulated by this chapter shall have posts, guides, or supports located within any street or alley.

169.16 FACE OF SIGN SHALL BE SMOOTH. All signs or other advertising structures which are constructed on street lines, or within five (5) feet thereof, shall have a smooth surface and no nails, tacks or wires shall be permitted to protrude therefrom, except electrical reflectors and devices which may extend over the top and in front of the advertising structures.

169.17 GOOSE NECK REFLECTORS. Goose neck reflectors and lights shall be permitted on ground signs, roof signs and wall signs; provided, however, the reflectors shall be provided with proper glass lenses concentrating the illumination upon the area of the sign as to prevent glare upon the street or adjacent property.

169.18 SPOTLIGHTS AND FLOODLIGHTS PROHIBITED. It is unlawful for any person to maintain any sign which extends over public property which is wholly or partially illuminated by floodlights or spotlights.

169.19 GROUND SIGNS.

1. Letters, etc., To Be Secured. All letters, figures, characters, or representations in cut-out or irregular form, maintained in conjunction with, attached to, or superimposed upon any sign shall be safely and securely built or attached to the sign structure.
2. Height Limitation. It is unlawful to erect any ground sign whose total height is greater than twenty (20) feet above the level of the street upon which the sign faces, or above the adjoining ground level, if such ground level is above street level.
3. Space Between Sign and Ground and Other Signs and Structures. Ground signs shall have an open space not less than two (2) feet between the base line of said sign and the ground level. This open space may be filled in with a platform or decorative lattice work which does not close off more than one-half of the square footage of such open space. No ground sign shall be nearer than two (2) feet to any other sign, building, or structure, except temporary signs placed for promotion.
4. Bracing, Anchorage, and Supports. All ground signs shall be securely built, constructed and erected upon posts and standards sunk at least three and one-half (3½) feet below the natural surface of the ground, and shall be supported and braced by timbers or metal rods in the rear thereof, extending from the top thereof to a point in the ground at least a distance equal to one-half the height of such sign, measured

along the ground, from the posts or standards upon which the same is erected, except temporary signs placed for promotion.

5. Setback Line. No ground sign shall be nearer the street than the building line established by law.

6. Temporary Signs. Temporary signs approved for placement upon the public right-of-way are limited to promotional purposes and may be approved for a term not to exceed five (5) days. Said permit is not renewable within 30 calendar days.

7. Supports, etc. To Be Treated with Creosote. All posts, anchors, and bracing of wood shall be treated to protect them from moisture by creosote or other approved methods when they rest upon or enter into the ground.

8. Premises To Be Kept Free of Weeds, etc. All ground signs and the premises surrounding the same shall be maintained by the owner thereof in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition, and be free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish and weeds.

169.20 WALL SIGNS.

1. Limitation on Placement and Area. No wall sign shall cover wholly or partially any wall opening or project beyond the ends or top of the wall to which it is attached, and any one wall sign shall not exceed an area of five hundred (500) square feet.

2. Projection Above Sidewalk and Setback Line. No wall sign shall be permitted to extend more than six (6) inches beyond the building line, and shall not be attached to a wall at a height of less than ten (10) feet above the sidewalk or ground.

3. Supports and Attachment. All wall signs shall be safely and securely attached to the building wall by means of metal anchors, bolts or expansion screws of not less than 3/8 inch in diameter embedded in said wall at least five (5) inches; provided, however, such signs may rest in, or be bolted to strong, heavy, metal brackets or saddles set not over six (6) feet apart, each of which shall be securely fixed to the wall as hereinbefore provided. In no case shall any wall sign be secured with wire, strips of wood or nails.

4. Wind Pressure and Dead Load Requirements. All wall signs shall conform to the requirements of Section 169.11 of this chapter.

169.21 ROOF SIGNS.

1. Height and Area Limitations. No roof sign shall have a surface or facing exceeding three hundred (300) square feet or have its highest point extended more than twenty (20) feet above the roof level.
2. Setback from Roof Edge. No roof sign shall be erected or maintained with the face thereof nearer than five (5) feet to the outside wall toward which the sign faces.
3. Space Between Sign and Roof. All roof signs shall have a space at least five (5) feet in height between the base of the sign and the roof level, and have at least five (5) feet clearance between the vertical supports thereof.
4. Prohibited Obstructions. No roof sign shall be placed on the roof of any building or structure in such manner as to prevent free passage from one part of said roof to another part thereof or interfere with openings in said roof and shall comply with Section 169.16 of this chapter.
5. Bracing, Anchorage and Supports. Every roof sign shall be thoroughly secured to the building by iron or other metal anchors, bolts, supports, rods or braces. When erected upon buildings which are not constructed entirely of fireproof material, the bearing plates of the sign shall bear directly upon masonry walls and intermediate steel columns in the building. No roof sign shall be supported or anchored to the wooden framework of a building.
6. Wind Pressure and Dead Load Requirements. All roof signs shall conform to the requirements of Section 169.11 of this chapter.

169.22 PROJECTING SIGNS.

1. Approval Required. Every projecting sign, including the frames, braces and supports thereof, shall be designed by a structural engineer or manufacturer, and shall be approved by the building official as in compliance with the building code and by the electrical inspector as in compliance with the electrical code, shall be constructed of incombustible materials, shall be illuminated, and shall be two-faced.
2. Illumination. The reflectors shall be provided with the proper glass lenses concentrating the illumination upon the area of the sign and preventing glare upon the street or adjacent property; and no floodlights, spotlights or reflectors of the goose neck type shall be permitted on projecting signs.

3. Movable Parts To Be Secured. Any movable part of a projecting sign such as the cover of a service opening shall be securely fastened by chains or hinges.
4. Area Limitations. Projecting signs shall be limited in area as follows:
 - A. Horizontal projecting signs fifty (50) square feet each side. Horizontal projecting sign means any sign which is greater in width than in height.
 - B. Vertical projecting signs one hundred (100) square feet each side. Vertical projecting sign means any sign which is greater in height than in width.
5. Thickness Limitation. The distance measured between the principal faces of any projecting sign shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches.
6. Projection Over Public Property. Every projecting sign shall be placed at least twelve (12) feet above the public sidewalk over which it is erected, and of a distance not greater than two (2) feet from the face of the wall to which it is attached, measuring from the point of the sign nearest thereto, nor less than one (1) foot. Every projecting sign erected over public driveways, alleys and thoroughfares shall be placed not less than fifteen (15) feet above the level of same.
7. Obstructions and Traffic Hazards. Every projecting sign shall be erected in full compliance with Sections 169.16 and 169.17 of this chapter.
8. Bracing, Anchorage and Supports. Projecting signs exceeding ten (10) square feet in area or fifty (50) pounds in weight shall not be attached to or supported by frame buildings or the wooden framework of a building. Said signs shall be attached to masonry walls with galvanized expansion bolts at least 3/8 inch in diameter, shall be fixed in the walls by means of bolts extending through the wall, and shall contain proper size metal washer or plate on the inside of the wall.
9. Anchorage With Wire, etc., Prohibited. No projecting sign shall be secured with wire, strips of wood or nails, nor shall any projecting sign be hung or secured to any sign.
10. V-Shaped Signs Prohibited. V-shaped signs, consisting of two (2) single faced signs erected without a roof or ceiling, shall not be permitted.

169.23 REMOVAL UPON ABANDONMENT OF USE. It is the responsibility of the owner of the sign to remove such sign when its advertising or other commercial use is abandoned.

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