

HELPFUL HINTS FOR DEALING WITH ZONING...



Signs are regulated by your local planning, building or zoning department. With very few exceptions, you will be required to obtain a permit to install or alter your signs. Before you commit to finding your new signs, you should investigate your local sign code and make sure you're fully aware of any requirement or restrictions that may apply to your location.

Size

- How many square feet of sign face is allowed?
- How is that measured? By the cabinet only? By each side if the sign (faces)?
- How is the allowed footage determined? Is it a percentage of the building frontage? Is it a set size based on location or type of business?

Height

- Is there a minimum or maximum height restriction?
- Is it measured from the base of the sign to grade level? Or from grade level to the top of the sign?

Style

- Pole signs typically have different height and size requirements and may only be available within certain areas. Some jurisdictions may only allow "monument" style signs at a limited height.

Setback

- Are there set-back requirements? Is there a minimum distance required from the roadway or sidewalk?
- Are you on a State or County road? Is there a specific setback required from the State / County Department of Transportation?

Illumination

- Is internal illumination allowed?
- Is external illumination allowed?

LED Signs

- Are you allowed to have an LED sign?
- Are there any specific restrictions or requirements for the use of an LED sign?

Permit Acquisition

- Can anyone from your organization pull a permit or is a licensed installer/contractor required?
- Can your organization install the sign?
- Are sealed engineered prints required for your permit? Will they accept a copy?
- Do they have to be signed by an engineer in your state?

Additional Considerations

- Is this a second sign for your location? Can you have more than one sign?
- Is your awning considered a sign? Does it count towards your square footage allowance?