

**Proposed Sign Code Revisions**  
**For Council April 5, 2022**

Text underlined is proposed to be added, text ~~stricken~~ is proposed to be removed

**18.08.830 Sign.** "Sign" means a medium including its structure and component parts, which is used or intended to be used to attract the attention of the public ~~to the subject matter for advertising purposes~~.

A. Sign, Abandoned. "Abandoned sign" means any sign which is no longer standing erect, is not adequately maintained and/or may be deemed hazardous or unsafe by the Town Administrator.

B. Sign, Animated. "Animated sign" means a sign which has any visible moving part, flashing or oscillating lights, visible mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent visible movement achieved by any means. Animated signs include, but are not limited to, changing or moving pictures, drawings, and designs regardless of the means and mechanisms of the animation; and message display changes at intervals. Also, digital sign.

C. Sign, Awning "Awning sign" means any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by an awning.

D. Sign, Banner. "Banner sign" means a generally rectangular, temporary sign other than a flag made of paper, cloth, thin plastic or similar lightweight material. ~~fabric or a non-rigid material and mounted to allow movement of the sign by weather.~~

E. Sign, Changeable Message Board. A "Changeable Message Board" means a sign face designed to hold readily changeable sign graphics allowing frequent changes of copy.

F. Sign, Commercial. "Commercial sign" is a sign displayed for the purpose of identifying a commercial use, or advertising a service, product, business or venture that is offered for trade or sale.

~~(B) Sign, Community Announcement. “Community announcement sign” means a sign identifying or advertising an event sponsored by the Town or a nonprofit organization based in Town.~~

~~(C) Sign, Entrance. “Entrance sign” means a permanent sign located at the access to an apartment complex, subdivision or business complex stating its name.~~

G. Sign, Digital. See Sign, Animated.

H. Sign, Feather banner. “Feather banner” means a sign attached to a support post with or without characters, letters, illustrations or ornamentations applied to cloth, paper, flexible plastic, or fabric of any kind with only such material for backing.

I. Sign, Flag “Flag” means any sign printed or painted on cloth, plastic, canvas, or other like material with distinctive colors, patterns, or symbols attached to a pole or staff and anchored along only one (1) edge or supported or anchored at only two (2) corners.

J. Sign, Flashing “Flashing sign” means an illuminated sign using action or motion, or light or color a sign or any portion of a sign that changes light intensity in sudden transitory bursts, or switches on and off in a constant pattern (e.g., strobe lights). Changeable electronic message boards are not considered flashing signs for the purposes of this Chapter.

K. Sign, Flush Mounted. “Flush mounted sign” means a sign which projects fewer than twelve (12) inches from the building and is attached to or erected against any exterior wall or window of a structure, with the exposed face of the sign parallel to the plane of the wall and/or window. A flush mounted sign is the same as a wall sign.

L. Sign, Freestanding “Freestanding sign” means a sign that is self-supported on a structure used exclusively or primarily for the support of the sign or for a group of signs and detached from any building or structure.

M. Sign, Garage or yard sale. “Garage or yard sale sign” means a temporary sign announcing an event, use or condition of personal concern to the sign user, including but not limited to “garage sale,” “yard sale” or “lost animal” signs.

N. Sign, Ground. "Ground sign" means a sign supported by one (1) or more uprights, poles or braces in or upon the ground that is fewer than forty-two (42) inches from the ground to the top of the sign.

O. Sign, Illuminated. "Illuminated sign" means any sign from which artificial light emanates either by: (1) means of exposed lighting on the surface of the sign, (2) through transparent or translucent materials from a source within the sign, or (3) a sign which reflects artificial light from a source not readily visible, intentionally directed upon it.

~~(G) Sign, Incidental. "Incidental sign" means a sign of noncommercial nature intended primarily for the convenience of the public. "Incidental signs" include signs designating address numbers, discouraging trespass, identifying a house name, an occupant's name, entrances to buildings, hours of operation, help wanted, public telephones, public rest rooms and similar signs as determined by the Building Official.~~

P. Sign, Indirectly illuminated "Indirectly illuminated sign" means an illuminated non-flashing sign whose illumination is derived entirely from an external artificial source and which is arranged so that no direct rays of light are projected from such source into residences or the street.

~~(H) Sign, Miscellaneous. "Miscellaneous sign" means a sign advertising a garage, rummage, yard or estate sale and other types of similar sales.~~

Q. Sign, Marquee "Marquee sign" means any sign painted on, attached to, or supported by a roof-like projection over the entrance to a building.

R. Sign, Monument "Monument sign" means a freestanding sign which is affixed in or upon the ground with no air space between the ground and the sign face.

S. Sign, Nonconforming. "Nonconforming sign" means a legally installed sign that, on the effective date of this chapter, does not conform to one or more of the regulations set forth in this chapter.

T. Sign, Pole. "Pole sign" means a sign which is permanently supported in a fixed location by a structure of poles, uprights or braces from the ground and not supported by a building that is mounted on a freestanding pole or other support so that the bottom edge of the sign face is six feet or more above grade.

U. Sign, Portable. Portable sign means. “Portable sign” means a freestanding sign made of any material, which by its design is readily movable and is not permanently affixed to the ground.

V. Sign, Projecting. “Projecting sign” means a two-sided sign projecting more than twelve (12) inches from a structure or building which is supported by a wall of the structure.

~~(L) Sign, Real Estate. “Real estate sign” means a sign identifying or advertising real property for sale, rent or lease.~~

W. Sign, Real estate, off-site. “Real estate, off-site sign” means a portable or temporary sign announcing the proposed sale of property other than the property upon which the sign is located and providing directions to the subject property.

X. Sign, Real estate, on-site. “Real estate, on-site sign” means a sign placed on the subject property and announcing the sale or rental of the subject property.

Y. Sign, Roof. “Roof sign” means a sign or sign structure erected upon, against or directly above a roof or above the vertical parapet wall of a building, including a sign affixed to any structure erected upon a roof.

Z. Sign, Sandwich Board. “Sandwich board sign” means a portable sign which consists of a single board or two connected boards.

AA. Sign, Sidewalk See Sign, Sandwich Board.

BB. Sign, Temporary. “Temporary sign” means a sign intended to be displayed for a limited period of time, not to exceed 3 months. Temporary signs ~~identify an establishment and/or services or products provided on a site,~~ but are not permanently affixed to the ground or a building.

CC. Sign, Traffic or traffic control. “Traffic sign” or “traffic control sign” means a sign erected by a governmental authority to aid or direct vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

DD. Sign, Wall See Sign, Flush Mounted.

EE. Sign, Window. "Window sign" means an interior sign affixed to or ~~within three feet~~ of a window for advertising purposes.

#### **18.24.010 Purposes and Intent.**

1. The purposes of this chapter ~~is~~ are to provide standards for signage that further Comprehensive Plan goals and policies relating to community design. ~~These standards are intended to preserve the unique character of Steilacoom by regulating the size, height, design, quality of materials, construction, location, electrification and maintenance of all signs and sign structures~~

These regulations:

A. Balance multiple goals including promoting economic development by enhancing the Town's appearance and creating an attractive community;

B. Provide minimum standards to safeguard life, health, property and the general welfare by regulating and controlling the design, quality of materials, construction, location, electrification and maintenance of all signs and sign structures;

C. Protect the public from hazardous conditions resulting from signs that are structurally unsafe, obscure vision of motorists, distract motorists, or interfere with traffic signs and signals;

D. Minimize overhead clutter for drivers and pedestrians;

E. Provide for types and sizes of signs appropriate to the land uses and zoning districts of the Town;

F. Encourage properly maintained signs that are compatible both with surrounding land uses and the buildings to which they are appurtenant they are associated with;

G. Encourage compatibility of signs with the architectural and historical qualities of the Town's Historic District;

H. Encourage signs which are compatible with the natural quality of the shoreline environment and adjacent land and water uses;

I. Provide the public with means to help them easily and safely locate businesses and other locations in Steilacoom;

J. Recognize free speech rights by regulating signs in a content-neutral manner.

K. Promote fair and consistent enforcement of these sign regulations.

**18.24.020 Permit required.** ~~No All signs, unless such sign is exempt per SMC 18.24.050, shall be erected, re-erected, constructed, altered, or repaired~~ must have a Town of Steilacoom permit prior to placement, installation, alteration or repair except as provided in this chapter., ~~and a permit for same has been issued by the Town of Steilacoom.~~

~~(1) Signs within the MPD zoning district are governed according to the MPD permit issued in accordance with Chapter 14.34 SMC, and are exempt from this chapter.~~

**18.24.030 Permit application.** ~~To obtain a permit, the applicant shall first file an application in writing on a form furnished by the Town of Steilacoom for that purpose. Every such application shall:~~

A. Application. An application for a sign permit must be filed with the Town of Steilacoom on forms furnished by the Town. The applicant must provide sufficient information to determine if the proposed sign is allowed under this code and all other applicable laws, including the Town Building Code, regulations and ordinances. A complete application includes all of the following items:

~~(1) Identify and describe~~ A description of the sign to be covered by the permit for which application is made.

~~(2) Describe~~ A description of the land on which the proposed sign is to be located by legal description, street address or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or sign.

~~(3) Provide sign drawings to scale,~~ Scaled drawings of the sign showing display faces, with the ~~proposed message and design~~ accurately represented as to size, area, and proportion and color.

~~(4) Be accompanied by~~ Plans, elevations, diagrams, light intensities, computations, specifications and other data as required by the Town of Steilacoom.

(5) ~~Be signed by~~ The signature of the applicant or authorized agent.

(6) ~~Be accompanied by~~ Payment of the sign permit fee.

B. Review and Time Limits. The Town Administrator or designee will promptly review the application upon the receipt of a completed permit application and payment of the permit fee by the applicant. The Town Administrator or designee will grant or deny the permit application within twenty (20) days from the date the completed application and fee are received.

1. If the application is rejected, the Town Administrator or designee must provide a list of the reasons for the rejection in writing. An application may only be rejected for noncompliance with the terms of this code, the building code, or other applicable law, regulation or ordinance.

C. Time Limit for Installation. If a sign is not installed within six (6) months following the issuance of a sign permit (or within thirty (30) days for temporary signs), the permit is void. The holder of a void permit must re-apply for a new permit.

D. Revocation of Permit. The Town Administrator may revoke a sign permit upon by notifying the owner of the sign in writing and providing verifiable evidence of any of the following.

1. Materially false information in the application;

2. Installation or construction of the sign not in conformance with the sign permit application;

3. Violation of this code, the Town Building code, or other applicable law, regulations or ordinance; or

4. Improper maintenance of the sign or supports resulting in a potentially dangerous condition.

E. Appeal of Sign Permit Determinations. Final decisions regarding revocation of a sign permit application may be appealed to the Town Council pursuant to SMC 14.32.

**18.24.040 General requirements applicable to all signs.** ~~All signs shall comply with the following general requirements~~ The following provisions apply to all signs.

A. View Protection. Each sign located within a building setback area described in SMC 18.20.020 ~~shall must~~ be designed ~~so as not to partially or totally~~ to not obstruct marine and/or mountain views from neighboring properties. Obstruction of views as determined by the Town of Steilacoom Administrator or designee is ~~shall be~~ grounds for denial or modification of the sign permit.

B. Sound Systems. No public address system or sound device ~~to advertise a business or product shall be~~ is permitted.

C. Location of signs. Commercial signs ~~may~~ must be located ~~only~~ on the property being advertised, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Signs ~~may be located~~ are allowed within the building setback area described in SMC 18.20.020.

~~(d) Sign Maintenance. All signs and support structures, both existing and new, and all parts thereof shall be maintained in a safe and good condition. All devices or safeguards which are required by code shall be maintained in conformance with the code under which it was installed. The owner or designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of the sign. To determine compliance with this section, the building official may cause any sign to be reinspected. Failure to comply will result in the enforcement and removal according to SMC 18.24.100.~~

D. Illumination. Except in the Historic District, sSigns may be internally or indirectly illuminated. Only indirect illumination is allowed in the Historic District Overlay Zone. Indirect sign illumination must be directed only towards the sign face or freestanding letters and must be shielded in ways to prevent light and glare on adjacent properties.

E. Structural elements. The construction and structural components of all signs ~~shall~~ must be in accordance with the standards and regulations of the ~~uniform Town~~ building codes as adopted by SMC 15.04.010.

F. Sign height. The maximum height for a freestanding sign shall be ~~is~~ twenty (20) ten (10) feet, as measured from the ~~prevailing grade to the top edge of the sign~~ from the lowest finished grade before any berming at the base and the highest point of the sign. ~~No sign shall be lower than eight (8) feet above a walkway intended for public use.~~



Signs overhanging public walkways must be at least eight (8) feet above the walkway.  
Signs attached to a building are not permitted to exceed the height of the building.

G. Signs located within sight distance triangles described in SMC 18.20.090 shall are not permitted to exceed forty-two (42) inches in height.

#### H. Sign Area Calculations.

1. The area of a sign means the area within a continuous perimeter enclosing the outer limits of the sign face, but not including structural elements which are not a part of the display.

2. When two (2) identical sign faces are placed back to back, the sign area is computed by the measurement of one of the sign faces. No more than two (2) faces are permitted per freestanding sign. The sign area of a spherical, cubical or polyhedral sign equals one-half the total surface area.

3. The area of a sign whose individual letters or graphic components are painted on, attached to, or inscribed into a building surface is that of the smallest circle, triangle, or rectangle that will encompass the letters, graphics, or borders, if any.

**18.24.050 Exempt signs.** The following types of signs do not require a sign permit. Exempt signs must comply with the general requirements of SMC 18.24.040 and the maintenance provisions of SMC 18.24.055.

A. Traffic and directional signs installed by a governmental entity;

B. Temporary traffic control signs approved by the Public Works Director;

C. Town-operated public notice signs;

D. Signs not readable from a public right-of-way or waterway;

E. Signs within a building not facing a window

F. Non-illuminated signs in a window covering less than 50% of the window area;

G. Flags without commercial content;

H. Legal notices required by law;

I. Historical site plaques;

J. Address markers;

K. Gravestones; or

L. Sign graphics or symbols painted directly onto or flush-mounted magnetically onto a motor vehicle operating in the normal course of business.

M. Holiday decorations;

N. Signs posted on Town-maintained bulletin boards or kiosks, provided the signs are no larger than 8 ½ inches by 11 inches and are posted for no more than 30 days. Such signs must include the date of posting.

~~(1) Flags, symbols or crest of nations, states, cities or political, fraternal, religious or civic organizations unless the use is for advertising or commercial purposes.~~

~~(2) Decorations customarily and commonly associated with a national, local or religious federal, state, local or seasonal holiday provided that such decorations shall not be displayed for more than sixty (60) days.~~

~~(3) Legal notices, identification, informational, directional, traffic, public safety or other signs erected or required by governmental authority under any law, statute or ordinance.~~

~~(4) Time or temperature signs not exceeding three (3) square feet.~~

~~(5) Non-illuminated window signs covering no more than fifty percent (50%) of the inside window area, including glass doors.~~

~~(6) Real estate signs meeting all the following standards shall be exempt:~~

~~———— (A) No larger than six (6) square feet in area;~~

~~———— (B) No more than one (1) sign per street frontage;~~

~~———— (C) No taller than seventy-two (72) inches in height;~~

~~———— (D) Located on the property for sale;~~

~~———— (7) In the CG, CS, P/QP and PROS zoning districts, two (2) incidental signs, not more than three (3) square feet each, per adjoining thirty (30) feet of street frontage.~~

~~(8) Signs indicating lost or found items such as pets will be permitted. Such signs shall not exceed 8-1/2" by 11" in size and shall be posted for no more than fourteen (14) days. Such signs shall include the name and telephone number of the person posting the sign and the date the sign was posted.~~

~~—(9).Town of Steilacoom maintained bulletin boards or informational kiosks used to advertise community events and the private sale of miscellaneous items not related to a business~~

~~(10) In the R-7.2, R-9.6 and MF zoning districts, signs comprising not more than three (3) square feet in area advertising the sale of miscellaneous items not related to a business or home occupation.~~

~~(11) Neon signs displaying "OPEN" and not exceeding two (2) square feet, may be installed on the interior side of the window and lighted during business hours only.~~

~~(12) On property owned by a governmental entity, advertising signs approved by the entity, so long as such signs are not visible from the public right of way. Signs not visible from the public right of way.~~

#### **NEW SECTION. SMC 18.24.055 Maintenance.**

a. All signs must be maintained in a safe condition and in good repair. Any sign that is damaged must be restored to a safe condition immediately. Failure to maintain a sign in a safe condition and in good repair is grounds for revocation of a sign permit. Any temporary sign that is poorly maintained must be replaced or is subject to removal.

i. All signs must be free of tears, holes, chipping, cracking, peeling, fading or discoloration, graffiti, rust on any functional or nonfunctional component, and must not be battered, shredded or damaged.

ii. Any sign that has fallen is subject to removal.

iii. All illuminated sign faces must maintain a consistent level of illumination.

b. Unsafe Signs. No sign or sign structure is allowed to be constructed in such a manner or at such a location that it obstructs access to any fire escape or other means of ingress or egress from a building or any exit corridor, exit hallway, or exit doorway. No sign or supporting structure is allowed to cover, wholly or partially, any window or doorway in any manner that will substantially limit access to the building in case of fire.

**~~18.24.060 Signs requiring permits in commercial zoning districts.~~**

~~(a) Each individual business in the CG and CS zoning districts may have no more than thirty-two (32) square feet of signage requiring a permit per street frontage, except as provided by SMC 18.24.060(b) and 18.24.060(c). Signage found on outdoor vending machines visible from a street frontage shall be considered part of the total sign area.~~

~~(b) The amount of signage permitted for an individual business will be decreased to twenty-four (24) square feet if any signs for the business are internally illuminated, except for outdoor vending machines visible from a street frontage and as provided by SMC 18.24.060(c).~~

~~(c) Due to the significance of the display of gasoline prices, gasoline stations are allowed additional sign square footage for the sole purpose of displaying gasoline prices.~~

~~——(1) In addition to the signage allowed in SMC 18.24.060(a) or 18.24.060(b), gasoline stations may have an additional two-sided thirty-six (36) square foot sign to display gasoline prices.~~

~~——(2) The gasoline price sign may be internally illuminated during business hours only.~~

~~(d) Individual businesses may use any combination of the following types of signs: flush mounted wall signs, ground mount and pole signs, projecting signs, sandwich board signs, awnings, flags and canopies, or marquees as long as the total square footage of all signs requiring a permit do not exceed the applicable size requirements of SMC 18.24.060(a), 18.24.060(b), or 18.24.060(c).~~

~~(e) Awnings and canopies which by their design features are so conspicuously different from the building to which they are attached so as to direct attention to and to promote the sale of goods or services shall be considered signs in their entirety.~~

~~——(f) Awnings and canopies which are not described by SMC 18.24.060(e) shall not be considered a sign, except for any area of the awning or canopy which displays the name of the business or other advertising copy.~~

~~(g) In addition to the individual business sign, a business complex may erect one (1) ground mount or pole sign identifying the name of the business complex and the occupants in the development, provided:~~

~~—— (1) No individual business of the complex has a pole sign.~~

~~—— (2) The portion of the sign identifying the name of the business complex is no larger than ten (10) square feet, and the portion of the sign identifying the name of the individual businesses is no larger than two (2) square feet per business.~~

~~—— (3) Information displayed for each individual business shall not exceed the business name and/or logo.~~

~~—— (h) During the construction or sale of a business, one (1) temporary development or real estate sign per street frontage may be installed, provided:~~

~~—— (1) The sign does not exceed thirty two (32) square feet.~~

~~—— (2) The sign does not exceed seven (7) feet in height.~~

~~(3) The sign is removed after the construction or sale is completed.~~

**NEW SECTION 18.24.065 Permanent signs or continuous displays**

A. The permanent sign standards tables below show the dimensional standards and permit requirements by zoning district for signs that are permanently installed or otherwise permitted for display without time restriction.

B. Residential zones – Residential-7.2, Residential-9.6 and Multifamily, including within the Historic District Overlay Zone

<b>Place</b>	<b>Type of Sign</b>	<b>Number allowed</b>	<b>Sign size</b>	<b>Maximum height</b>	<b>Permit required</b>
<b>Subdivision Entrance</b>	<b>Monument</b>	1 per primary entrance	Up to 20 square feet	48 inches	Yes
<b>Multi-family complex</b>	<b>Monument</b>	1 per primary entrance	Up to 32 square feet	48 inches	Yes

<b>Residential units</b>	<b>Flush Mounted</b>	Any number, up to allowed square footage	Total area of all signs cannot exceed 3 square feet	n/a	No
<b>Home Occupations</b>	<b>Flush Mounted</b>	1 per residential unit	Up to 150 square inches – non-illuminated	Height of building to which sign is attached	Yes
<b>Bed &amp; Breakfast Inns</b>	<b>Flush Mounted</b>	1	Up to 6 square feet	Height of building to which sign is attached	Yes

C. Commercial zones – Commercial General and Commercial Shoreline, including within the Historic District Overlay Zone

<b>Types of Sign</b>	<b>Number allowed</b>	<b>Maximum total area</b>	<b>Maximum height</b>	<b>Permit required</b>
<b>Flush mounted, Monument, Projecting, Awnings, Flags, Canopies, or Marquees</b>	Any number, up to allowed square footage	If all signs are non-illuminated - 32 square feet total per street frontage If one or more signs are illuminated – 24 square feet total per street frontage	Monument – 7 feet All other signs – height of building to which sign is attached	Yes

<b>Additional Monument</b>	1	24 square feet If street frontage exceeds 120 feet	7 feet	Yes
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D. Public zones – Public/Quasi-Public and Parks, Recreation and Open Space, including within the Historic Overlay Zone

<b>Types of Sign</b>	<b>Number allowed</b>	<b>Maximum total area</b>	<b>Maximum height</b>	<b>Permit required</b>
<b>Flush mounted, Monument, Projecting, Awnings, Flags, Canopies, or Marquees</b>	Any number, up to allowed square footage	If all signs are non-illuminated - 32 square feet total per street frontage If one or more signs are illuminated – 24 square feet total per street frontage	Monument – 7 feet All other signs – height of building to which sign is attached	Yes

E. Additional Requirements for Commercial zones.

1. Each individual business in the Commercial General and Commercial Shoreline zoning districts, including those within the Historic District Overlay Zone may have up to thirty-two (32) square feet of non-illuminated signage requiring a permit per street frontage, except as provided as provided below. If any sign is illuminated, the maximum square footage is twenty-four (24) square feet.

2. In addition to the signs allowed in E (1) above, one additional monument sign of up to 24 square feet, illuminated or not, is allowed provided the total street frontage is 120 feet or more.

3. Individual businesses may use any combination of the following types of signs: flush mounted, monument, projecting, awnings, flags and canopies, or marquees

as long as the total square footage of all signs requiring a permit does not exceed the applicable size requirements.

F. Additional Requirements and Explanations for Specific Sign Types and Situations.

1. Flush mounted signs are not permitted to project more than eighteen (18) inches from the facade of the supporting structure.
2. Projecting signs are not permitted to extend more than six (6) feet from the attached building.

**~~18.24.070 Signs requiring permits in residential zoning districts.~~**

~~—(a) Real Estate Development Signs (Residential). During the construction or sale of a residential development, one (1) sign per street frontage may be installed, provided:~~

- ~~— (1) The sign does not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.~~
- ~~— (2) The sign does not exceed seven (7) feet in height from the prevailing grade.~~
- ~~— (3) The sign is removed when construction is completed or sale is closed.~~

~~—(b) Entrance Signs (Residential). Each subdivision and apartment complex may have one (1) permanent entrance sign per street entrance not to exceed twenty (20) square feet of sign surface area.~~

~~—(c) For Rent Signs (Multifamily Residential). One (1) Apartment For Rent sign not to exceed twenty (20) square feet of sign surface area may be posted along one (1) street frontage during the time when apartments are available for rent or lease. The sign shall not be posted within the street right of way.~~

~~—(d) Miscellaneous Signs. Up to four (4) garage, rummage, yard, real estate open house, or estate sale signs not to exceed three (3) square feet in size for each sign may be posted within street rights-of-way during the days of the event only.~~

**NEW SECTION 18.24.075 Provisions for temporary signs.**

A. The following tables presents the dimensional standards and permit requirements by zone district for temporary signs.

B. Residential zones – Residential-7.2, Residential-9.6 and Multifamily, including residential zones within the Historic District Overlay Zone



<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>Sign number</b>	<b>Sign Size</b>	<b>Sign Height</b>	<b>Display Duration</b>	<b>Permit Required</b>
<b>Non-Commercial Temporary sign</b>	Any number, up to allowed square footage	7 total square feet	36 inches	3 months	No
<b>Real Estate – On site</b>	1 per agent, per street front	6 square feet	7 feet	Until possession by new occupant	Yes
<b>Real Estate – Off site</b>	4 per agent, per property	3 square feet	36 inches	Limited to day of open house/ sales event. Must be removed each day at end of open house/sales event	Yes
<b>Garage and yard Sale – on site</b>	1	6 square feet	36 inches	Limited to day of sale. Must be removed at end of day	No
<b>Garage and Yard Sale – off site</b>	4 per property	3 square feet	36 inches	Limited to day of sale. Must be removed at end of day	Yes

C. Commercial zones – Commercial General and Commercial Shoreline, outside of Historic District Overlay Zone

<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>Sign number</b>	<b>Sign Size</b>	<b>Sign Height</b>	<b>Display Duration</b>	<b>Permit Required</b>
<b>Feather banners</b>	4 per street frontage	7 square feet each	10 feet	3 months	No
<b>Banners</b>	1 per street frontage	32 square feet	No more than 24 feet from ground to top of banner	3 months	No
<b>Sandwich board or A-frame, non- real estate</b>	1 per street frontage	7 square feet each	42 inches	During business hours only	No
<b>Real Estate – On site</b>	1 per agent, per street front	6 square feet	7 feet	Until possession by new occupant	Yes
<b>Real Estate – Off site</b>	4 per agent, per property	3 square feet	42 inches	Limited to day of open house/ sales event. Must be removed each day at end of open house/sales event	Yes

D. Commercial zones – Commercial General and Commercial Shoreline, within the Historic District Overlay Zone

<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>Sign number</b>	<b>Sign Size</b>	<b>Sign Height</b>	<b>Display Duration</b>	<b>Permit Required</b>
<b>Banners</b>	1 per street frontage	32 square feet	No more than 24 feet from ground to top of banner	3 months	No
<b>Sandwich board or A-frame</b>	1 per street frontage	7 square feet each	42 inches	During business hours only	No
<b>Real Estate – On site</b>	1 per agent, per street front	6 square feet	7 feet	Until possession by new occupant	Yes
<b>Real Estate – Off site</b>	4 per agent, per property	3 square feet	36 inches	Limited to day of open house/sales event. Must be removed each day at end of open house/sales event	Yes
<b>Other temporary signs</b>	Not allowed				

E. Public zones – Public/Quasi-Public and Parks, Recreation and Open Space, including within the Historic District Overlay Zone

<b>Sign Type</b>	<b>Sign Number</b>	<b>Sign Size</b>	<b>Sign Height</b>	<b>Display Duration</b>	<b>Permit Required</b>
<b>Temporary signs</b>	4 per street frontage	7 square feet	36 inches	3 months	No
<b>Banners</b>	1 per street frontage	32 square feet	No more than 24 feet from ground to top of banner	3 months	No
<b>Sandwich board or A-frame</b>	1	7 square feet	42 inches	During business hours only	No

F. Additional Regulations regarding location and placement of temporary signs.

1. Portable temporary signs may be located on sidewalks so long as a minimum of forty-eight (48) inches unobstructed sidewalk is maintained.
2. Temporary sign types are not exempt from SMC 18.24.090, Prohibited signs.
3. Unauthorized signs in the public right-of-way that the Town Administrator determines to be located so as to present a hazard to the public health or safety may be immediately removed without prior notice.
4. All temporary signs must meet the maintenance standards identified in SMC 18.24.055

G. Additional Requirements and Explanations for Specific Sign Types and Situations.

1. Temporary signs that comply with the requirements of this subsection are not included in the determination of the type, number, or area of permanent signs allowed on a property.

2. Permission. The party posting the temporary sign is solely responsible for obtaining the permission of the property owner before posting their temporary sign. The property owner may remove any unauthorized sign on their property.

3. Illumination. Illumination of any temporary sign is prohibited.

4. Sandwich Board or A-Frame Signs.

a. Hours of Display. Sandwich Board or A-Frame Signs are permitted to be displayed on any premises during business hours only.

b. Placement.

i. If a sign is located on a public or private sidewalk, a minimum of four (4) feet of unobstructed sidewalk clearance must be maintained between the sign and any building or other obstruction.

ii. A sign may not be placed on a sidewalk less than four (4) feet wide.

iii. Portable signs must be weighted, temporarily secured, or strategically placed so as to avoid being carried away by high winds.

5. Banners in the public right-of-way and on Town-owned property.

a. The Town Administrator may approve banners to be hung in the public right-of-way from Town-owned light standards, and at Town-owned properties including the Lafayette Street sport court fence.

b. Banners in the public right-of-way and on Town-owned property may be for any civic purpose.

**~~18.24.080 Signs requiring permits in all zoning districts.~~**

~~—(a) Community announcement signs. Community announcement signs and other temporary signs promoting an event sponsored by a nonprofit organization or the Town of Steilacoom may be permitted if the following standards are met:~~

~~—(1) Not posted for longer than thirty (30) days;~~

~~—(2) No larger than thirty two (32) square feet;~~

~~—(3) Signs will be removed within five days after event;~~

~~—(b) Signs identifying a nonprofit organization in the Town of Steilacoom, e.g. churches, lodges, schools. Signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet per street frontage.~~

### **NEW SECTION 18.24.085 Signage in the Master Planned Development Zone**

A. Signs in the Master Planned Development zone are regulated in the Development Agreement approved by the Town Council as provided in Chapter 14.34 SMC.

B. The regulations within this chapter for exempt and prohibited signs, size, type and number of signs must be used as the basis for the sign regulations within the Development Agreement.

**18.24.090 Prohibited signs.** The following signs shall are not be permitted in any zoning district:

A. Roof signs;

B. Flashing signs or signs with flashing lights;

C. All moving, rotating or animated signs ~~except barber poles at barber shops;~~

D. Signs installed in roundabouts, or traffic islands located within the public right-of-way unless approved by the Public Works Director;

E. Signs posted upon utility poles, traffic control devices, or other public utility devices,

F. Signs affixed to a tree, shrub, rock or other natural object.

G. Public address systems or sound devices used in conjunction with any sign.

H. Abandoned signs.

I. Pole signs

J. Animated signs, ~~except Town-owned or operated Changeable Message Boards~~

K. Signs which pose a hazard to public health or safety, as determined by the Town of Steilacoom, including:

1. Signs located adjacent to a driveway, alley, street or public right of way which interferes with vehicular or pedestrian safety;

2. Signs which obstruct ingress or egress from fire escapes, doors, windows or other exits or entrances;

3. Signs which by reason of size or location ~~or content~~, interfere with the visibility or effectiveness of any traffic sign or control device on public streets;

4. ~~Signs which make use of words such as "Stop," "Look," "One-Way," "Danger," "Yield" or any similar word, phrase, symbol, shape or light so as to interfere or be confused with pedestrian or vehicular public safety signs~~ Signs which, by virtue of their size, location, movement, coloring or manner of illumination, may be confused or conflict with traffic control signs or signals;

~~(e) Signs displaying obscene, indecent, or immoral matter;~~

5. ~~(f)~~ (f) Commercial signs which do not apply to the present business or which are obsolete;

6. ~~(g)~~ Signs located above the parapet of a building;

7. ~~(h)~~ Billboards;

8. ~~(i)~~ Signs with balloons, streamers, flagging, strings of lights, spinners or similar attention getting or moving devices;

9. Signs which emit smoke, visible vapors, particulate matter, odor or contain open flames;

10. Reflective signs or signs containing mirrors;

~~(j) Exterior neon tubing signs.~~

11. The following are prohibited within the Historic District Overlay Zone:

a. Illuminated signs, except indirectly illuminated signs

b. Feather banners.

c. Exterior neon tubing signs

## **NEW SECTION 18.24.095 EXISTING NONCONFORMING SIGNS**

A. Signs lawfully existing at the time of the adoption or amendment of this chapter may be continued although the size or location does not conform to the provisions of this chapter. Such signs are deemed nonconforming uses or structures, and are regulated under SMC 18.16.030. Nonconforming signs must comply with the maintenance provisions of SMC 18.24.055.

B. Nonconforming signs must be brought into conformance with the provisions of this chapter, including an application for a sign permit, when the sign or support structure is replaced.

**18.24.100 Enforcement and removal.** In addition to the enforcement provisions of Chapter 14.32 SMC, the Town of Steilacoom may order the removal of any sign erected or maintained in violation of these standards. The Town of Steilacoom ~~shall~~ must give thirty (30) days' notice in writing to the owner of the sign, or property owner, if sign owner cannot be located. If the sign owner or property owner has not removed or corrected the sign within the thirty (30) day period, the Town of Steilacoom may order the removal of the sign. Expenses incurred by the Town for removal ~~shall~~ will become a lien on the property if payment is not received within sixty (60) days after billing date. The Town of Steilacoom may order immediate removal of any sign found to be in violation of these standards to the extent that it presents an immediate and serious danger to the public. Signs erected on public property, including rights-of-way, in violation of this ~~title~~ chapter may be summarily removed.