



Jasper County Planning Department

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Jasper County Planning Commission Staff Report

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| Meeting Date: | August 11, 2009 |
| Project: | Zoning Ordinance Amendment- Article 15: Sign Standards |
| Submitted For: | Action- Recommendation to County Council |
| Recommendation: | Review and Recommendation |

Description: Article 15, Sign Standards, has been revised to better regulate signs and billboards in Jasper County. Regulations relating to signage in County Code Chapter 22, Highway Corridor Overlay District, Article 17 Sexual Oriented Businesses and Article 15 Sign Standards, have been combined into one comprehensive signage section which is included in the amended Article 15 of the Zoning Ordinance. Specifically, this Ordinance amendment seeks to:

1. Encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication in the unincorporated areas of Jasper County;
2. Maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment and the County's ability to attract sources of economic development and growth;
3. Improve pedestrian and traffic safety;
4. Minimize the possible adverse effect of signs on nearby public and private property; and
5. Enable the fair and consistent enforcement of these sign restrictions.

The objective of this Ordinance is to:

1. Establish a permit system to allow for a variety of signs which are subject to standards in this article. This includes submission requirements and approval authority of Staff and the Planning Commission.

2. Establish regulations regarding types of signs which are allowed, allowed temporarily, prohibited and those which are exempt from Article 15.
3. Establish sign standards governing: size, content, height, area, location, lighting, maintenance and setbacks.

Outside Review: Outside planning consultants are scheduled to review this ordinance after the preparation of this Staff Report but prior to the Planning Commission meeting. Some modifications may be presented during the 8-11-09 meeting.

Recommendation: Planning staff recommends the proposed Ordinance, except for the digital sign provisions.

Attachments:

1. Sign Ordinance