

City of Princeton

Ordinance No. 2009-09-08-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2000-05-21 RELATIVE TO SIGN REGULATIONS; ADOPTING NEW SIGN REGULATIONS TO BE CODIFIED IN CHAPTER 58 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; ESTABLISHING DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISHING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS; AND REGULATING THE HEIGHT, NUMBER OF SIGNS, SIZE, AND PLACEMENT OF SAID SIGNS LOCATED OR TO BE LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS AND ITS EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION; PROVIDING UNIFORM REGULATIONS FOR THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR AN APPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS, REPEALING AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE CAPTION HEREOF.

WHEREAS, the City of Princeton is a Type A General Law Municipality;
and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Princeton, Texas ("City Council") has determined that signs of a certain size, particular type, at particular locations, are detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Princeton, Texas ("Princeton"), constitute traffic hazards, create urban blight, reduce property values and are aesthetically undesirable; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Princeton, has investigated and determined that it will be advantageous, beneficial and in the best interest of the citizens of Princeton to amend Chapter 58 (Signs), of Princeton's Code of Ordinances ("Code"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Princeton, has investigated and determined that it would be advantageous and beneficial to the citizens of Princeton to adopt this ordinance regulating the use, type, placement, height and dimensions of signs within Princeton.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that Section 216.902 of the Local Government Code provides for the application of its outdoor advertising sign regulations to extend into the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1: Purpose

Signs use private land and the sight line created by the public right-of-way to inform and persuade the general public by publishing a message. This Ordinance provides standards for the erection and maintenance of signs. All signs not exempted shall be erected and maintained in accordance with these standards. The general objectives of these standards are to promote health, safety, welfare, convenience and enjoyment of the public, and in part to achieve the following:

1. **Safety:** To promote the safety of person and property by providing that signs:
 - a. do not create a hazard due to collapse, fire, collision, decay or abandonment;
 - b. do not obstruct fire fighting or police surveillance; and
 - c. do not create traffic hazards by confusing or distracting motorists, or by impairing the driver's ability to see pedestrians, obstacles, or other vehicles, or the read traffic signs.

2. **Communications Efficiency:** To promote the efficient transfer of information in sign messages by providing that:
 - a. those signs which provide messages and information most needed and sought by the public are given priorities, e.g. speed limit, traffic control and street signs.
 - b. business and services may identify themselves.
 - c. customers and other persons may locate a business or service.
 - d. no person or group is arbitrarily denied the use of the sight lines from the public right-of-way for communications purposes.
 - e. Persons exposed to signs are not overwhelmed by the number of messages presented, and are able to exercise freedom of choice to observe or ignore said messages, according to the observer's purpose.

3. **Landscape Quality and Preservation:** To protect the public welfare and to enhance the appearance and economic value of the landscape, by providing that signs:
 - a. do not create a nuisance to person using the public right-of-way;
 - b. do not create a nuisance of adjacent and contiguous property by their brightness, size, height, or movement; and
 - c. are not detrimental to land or property values.

SECTION 2: Definitions and Requirements.

For the purpose of this chapter, the words below shall have the following definitions, whether or not capitalized unless the context clearly requires another meaning, ascribed to them and the requirements and regulations set forth for each shall apply in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction:

A. A-frame Sign: A temporary sign used to identify a business name, telephone number, hours of operations, and/or the business' website address. An A-frame sign is made of two pieces of wood, metal or other similar material approved by the building official or his designee connected at the top by hinges or similar devices and may collapse when the connecting devices are overextended or the two pieces of wood, metal or other similar material are against one another. Also commonly referred to as a "sandwich board sign".

1. Time: A sign permit is required. The sign permit number, in numerals not less than one inch in height, shall be permanently affixed on the sign for the purpose of inspection. A sign permit shall not be issued to install or display an A-frame sign until a certificate of occupancy has been issued for the place of business that elects to display the sign. After the issuance of a sign permit, an A-frame sign may be displayed only during the business hours of the permit holder.

2. Place: A-frame signs are permitted in commercial and within nonresidential areas or planned developments used to incorporate the neighborhood center concept as described in the Princeton Zoning Ordinance. A-frame signs must be located a minimum of three feet from any curb to any adjacent street. A-frame signs must be placed on a sidewalk or adjacent to a sidewalk. A-frame signs must provide an unobstructed pedestrian clearance of at least four feet in width. An A-frame sign shall not be placed in any manner to interfere with vehicular traffic or cause a hazard. An A-frame sign shall not be placed in any median. An A-frame sign shall not be placed within a utility or right-of-way easement.

3. Manner: The maximum area of an A-frame sign is twelve (12) square feet. The maximum height of an A-frame sign shall be four (4) feet. The maximum width of an A-frame sign is three (3) feet. An A-frame sign shall not be closer than twenty (20) feet to another A-frame sign. A maximum of one A-frame sign may be placed per business or tenant on the property where the A-frame sign is located. (See sections 1 through 16 for additional information requirements)

B. Abandoned Signs: A sign that had a permit, but the permit has been expired for thirty (30) or more consecutive days and/or does not identify or advertise a bona fide business, lessor, service, owner, product, event, or activity, or pertains to a time, event or purpose which no longer applies. Abandoned signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction. (See section 2AW for addition information regarding neglected and abandoned signs)

C. Apartment Sign: A temporary stake sign made of wood, metal or other similar material approved by the building official or his designee used to convey information that relates to the operations of any apartment community or complex.

1. Time: No sign permit required. Apartment signs may be placed in the front yard of a property developed as an apartment complex no earlier than Friday at 12:00p.m. and shall be removed from the property no later than Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

2. Place: Apartment signs may not be installed on any public property or right-of-way area. Apartment signs shall only be placed on the property for the apartment community to which it pertains. Apartment signs installed within the front of a property shall not be placed closer than sixty (60) feet from another apartment sign. Apartment signs shall not be installed within thirty (30) feet from a side property line.

3. Manner: An apartment sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in total area. The maximum height of an apartment sign shall not exceed four (4) feet. (See section 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

D. Athletic Registration Sign: A temporary stake sign used to convey sport-related, Princeton-based team registrations (i.e. softball, football, soccer, swimming, golf, tennis, etc.) that publicizes dates, times or locations of registrations. Athletic registration signs exclude information pertaining to dates, times and/or locations of scheduled games or award ceremonies.

1. Time: No sign permit required, but prior written permission of the property owners is required.

(a) With prior written permission of the City of Princeton, athletic registration signs may be erected up to seven days prior to the registration and removed no more than 48 hours after the registration.

(b) With prior written permission of a homeowners association (HOA), athletic registration signs may be erected on a subdivision-maintained community park up to seven (7) days prior to the registration and removed no more than 48 hours after the registration.

(c) With prior written permission from a public or private school, athletic registration signs may be erected up to seven (7) days prior to the registration and removed no more than 48 hours after the registration.

2. Place: Athletic registration signs shall not be located within any median, any right-of-way or easement, or on any other public property, except as allowed herein at public parks and public schools.

(a) At city-owned parks, athletic registration signs may be located at the city park exits or other city park approved area.

(b) At HOA-maintained parks or open space areas, athletic registration signs shall be located on private HOA-maintained park property with written approval by the HOA board or his designee.

(c) At public or private school property, athletic registration signs shall be located at a school exit or other area on school property approved by the school authority.

3. Manner: The maximum area of an athletic registration sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet. The maximum height of an athletic registration sign shall not exceed four (4) feet. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

E. Audible Sign: Any sign that emits music, talking, words or other sound or amplification. Audible signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

F. Awning: A retractable or non-retractable projection, shelter or structure of rigid or non-rigid canvas, metal, wood, or other similar material approved by the building official or his designee that extends above a window, door, patio or deck as protection from the weather, used as a decorative embellishment or used for identity, which may be illuminated. An awning requires the issuance of a building permit prior to installation, unless approved with the initial building permit.

G. Awning Sign: A permanent sign that is directly applied, attached or painted onto an awning that covers a pedestrian walkway, intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, projecting from a wall or roof of a structure over a window, walk, door, or the like. An awning sign is used to advertise the name of the business, hours of operation, business telephone number, business address, and/or website address.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect or place an awning sign onto an awning at a property until a site plan and/or a final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after the issuance of building permit or certificate of occupancy.

2. Place: In no case shall the supporting structure of any awning sign extend into or over the right-of-way. No building shall have both a wall sign and an awning sign on the same building face.

3. Manner: The maximum height of an awning sign shall not exceed four (4) feet. The width of an awning sign shall not exceed 75 percent (75%) in length of any side of an awning. An awning sign shall only be permitted in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district. An awning sign shall be secure and may not swing, sway, or move in any manner. An awning sign shall not contain any moving devices. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

H. Awning Sign Attachments: Awning sign attachments that covers a pedestrian walkway are accessory, supplemental extensions that are attached above or below an awning commonly used in conjunction with a wall sign. Awning sign attachments provide the name of the business.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. Structural drawings, as required by the building official or his designee, sealed by a licensed engineer, must be submitted with the permit application.

2. Place: Awning sign attachments shall only suspend from or extend above the edge of a pedestrian awning. Awning sign attachments installed for pedestrian display located and attached on the underside of a pedestrian awning shall be centered.

3. Manner: Awning sign attachments shall have a maximum height of twelve (12) inches. Suspended or extended awning sign attachments shall not alternate up-and-down at a business' storefront. Suspended awning sign attachments suspended over a pedestrian awning shall maintain a nine (9) foot clearance from

pedestrian grade measured from the lowest hanging portion of the attachment. Awning sign attachments shall not swing, sway, or move in any manner. The structural engineering of awning sign attachment must be approved by the City of Princeton before a sign permit can be granted. Awning sign attachments shall not be used in conjunction with an awning sign. Only one type of awning sign attachment shall be used per storefront. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

I. Balloons and Other Floating Devices: A visible airtight or air-flow through apparatus commonly made of latex, mylar or other similar material that extends by a cord, rope, string, wire or other similar material. No person shall erect, maintain, or allow the installation of any floating devices anchored to the ground, any vehicle, structure or any other fixed object for the purpose of advertising or attracting attention to a business, commodity, service, sale, or product, except as otherwise permitted in this section. Balloons and all other floating devices are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

J. Banner: A temporary sign having characters, letters, or illustrations applied to plastic, cloth, canvas, or other light fabric or similar material, with the only purpose of such non rigid material being for background. A banner advertises the business' name, opening dates, telephone number, hours of operation, and/or type of products offered or sold. A banner does not include a municipal banner.

(See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

1. Time: A sign permit is required for each display period. The sign permit placard must be displayed in a conspicuous place visible from the street for the purpose of walk-up inspection. A sign permit shall not be issued to display a banner at a property until a site plan and/or final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and a building permit is issued. One banner sign may be placed on a building for three (3), 14-day periods per calendar year. The periods may be combined. Each suite within a retail development shall be considered a building and, therefore, shall be allowed to erect a banner accordingly. New businesses shall be permitted to place a banner on their building prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy with the issuance of a sign permit from the building official or his designee. A new business shall be permitted to place one banner on their building storefront up to six (6) weeks after the date of a certificate of occupancy with the issuance of a sign permit. Banners displayed before and immediately following the date of the certificate of occupancy shall not count against the allowances for the three (3), 14-consecutive day periods within a calendar year. Exemption: Religious organizations that temporarily operate in a school or other nonreligious facility may erect a banner no earlier than two (2) hours before worship and remove no later than two (2) hours after worship without the issuance of a sign permit.

2. Place: A banner shall be securely attached to only the front, side or rear face of a building. A banner shall not face a residential neighborhood, unless separated by a major thoroughfare. However, banners are permitted only in

conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district. With prior permission from the City of Princeton, banners may be erected during social or athletic events at a public park or other city-owned property attached to pavilions, fences, stakes, rails, or poles up to two (2) hours prior to the start of the event and shall be removed no later than one (1) hour after the conclusion of the event.

3. Manner: A banner shall not exceed forty eight (48) square feet in area, except that at an individual business with a floor area of 50,000 square feet or greater, a banner shall not exceed 100 square feet in area. A banner shall be placed a minimum of nine (9) feet above grade at any pedestrian traveled way. Where a building wall is nine (9) feet in height or less, is adjacent to an approved parking surface and is not a designated pedestrian walkway, one (1) banner shall be placed a minimum of five (5) feet above the grade above the parking surface. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

K. Billboard: A sign erected in the outdoor environment for the purpose of the display of commercial or noncommercial messages not pertinent the use of products sold on, or the sale or lease of, the property on which it is displayed. Billboards include any of its support, frame or other appurtenances. Billboards are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

L. Building Official or his Designee: The building official or his designees or other city-authorized agent appointed by the City Administrator.

M. Changeable Electronic Variable Message Sign (CEVMS): A sign which permits light to be turned on or off intermittently or which is operated in a way whereby light is turned on or off intermittently, including any illuminated sign on which such illumination is not kept stationary or constant in intensity and color at all times when such sign is in use, including an LED (light emitting diode) or digital sign, and which varies in intensity or color. A CEVMS sign does not include a sign located within the right-of-way that functions as a traffic control device and that is described and identified in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) approved by the Federal Highway Administrator as the National Standard. A Specific Use Permit (SUP) is required.

N. Canopy Sign: A sign that is applied, attached, painted or affixed on a canopy or other roof like cover over gasoline fuel pumps, vacuum area at car detail facilities, or other areas where services provided to a patron in a vehicle intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment. A canopy sign may contain only the business' name and/or logo on the canopy band.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect, install or place a canopy sign on a property until a site plan and/or final plat has been approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after the issuance of a building permit for a building on the property.

2. Place: Canopy signs may only be erected on the two (2) sides of a canopy band that face a public street.

3. Manner: Canopy signs may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in size. Canopy signs must be attached directly to or painted on the exterior face of the canopy band and shall not project more than eighteen (18) inches from the canopy band. Only the canopy band may be illuminated, not the entire canopy. Canopy signs attached or applied to a canopy shall not extend above or below the canopy band.

O. City Administrator: The City Administrator or his designee or other city-authorized agent appointed by the City Administrator.

P. Cloud Buster Balloon and Air Devices: Any visible airtight or air-flow through, inflatable apparatus that exceeds one (1) square foot in total area made of latex, mylar, or other similar material that extends higher than ten (10) feet into the sky by a cord, rope, string, wire, or other similar material. A cloud buster balloon or air device is commonly used to attract passersby's/patrons to a location having a promotion, sale, or other function. Cloud buster balloons, blimps, and other air devices are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Q. Commercial Real Estate Sign (CRES): An onsite, temporary sign made of wood, metal or similar material approved by the building official or his designee that pertains to the sale or lease of the property where the sign is located. A V-shape sign is not a CRES. A CRES generally advertises the name of the building or property for sale or lease, property owner name, realtor information, telephone number, zoning information, and other information relating to the sale or lease of nonresidential property.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. The sign permit number, date installed, and sign contractor's name shall be placed on the CRES in characters no less than one (1) inch in height in a conspicuous place for the purpose of walk-up inspection. A CRES requires removal within ten (10) days after the sale or lease of a property or business.

2. Place: A CRES shall be located no closer than fifteen (15) feet to any property line. A maximum of one (1) CRES per property shall be placed on a lot. For a property with more than 500 feet of single street frontage, more than one (1) CRES is allowed, provided, that each CRES is spaced a minimum of 200 feet from other signs.

3. Manner: A CRES shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area. A CRES shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height. The maximum width of a CRES shall not exceed four (4) feet. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

R. Developed: A developed property is a nonresidential property for which a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the building official or his designee to occupy a building on the property or a residential property for which a certificate of final acceptance has been issued by the City.

S. Dilapidated: Any surface element, background, or support of any sign that has finished materials that are missing, broken, bent, cracked, decayed, dented, harmful, hazardous, illegible, leaning, splintered, ripped, torn twisted, or unsightly.

T. Erect or Install: To build, construct, attach, hang, place, suspend, affix, paint, display, apply, assemble or place in any manner, including but not limited to on the exterior of a building or structure.

U. Exempt: A sign permit is not requirement; however, compliance with all other city ordinances and the zoning ordinance, as it currently exists or may be amended, is required.

V. Feather Flag: A wind device that contains a harpoon-style pole or staff driven into the ground for support. Feather flags are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, unless the feather flag is located on a property with single family or two family zoning for which a certificate of occupancy has been issued for the sole purpose of expressing patriotism or for a celebration or seasonal decoration.

W. Flag or Flagpole: A piece of fabric or other flexible material attached to a ground supported staff on one end used as a symbol of a nation, state, political subdivision, or organization.

1. Time: No sign permit required. A flag shall not be placed on a property until a site plan and/or a final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property.

2. Place: A flag and its ground-supported staff shall be located on private property behind the property line. Flags may be placed at parks during social and athletic events.

3. Manner: At a property that contains a building with less than four (4) floors, the maximum height of a ground-supported flagpole shall be forty (40) feet measured from the ground with the maximum area of the flag not to exceed sixty (60) square feet in area. At a nonresidential property that contains a building with four (4) floors or more above ground, the maximum height of a flagpole shall be sixty (60) feet measured from the ground with the maximum area of a flag not to exceed 96 square feet in area. A maximum of four (4) flags or flagpoles may be located on a property. A flag not displayed on a ground-supported staff shall meet the permit and display requirements of a banner (see "banner").

X. Garage Sale Sign: A temporary stake sign used to advertise a garage sale, yard sale, or estate sale at an occupied residential property that has obtained a certificate of occupancy.

1. Time: No sign permit required. A garage sale sign shall not be erected earlier than one (1) day prior to the garage sale and must be removed by 8:00 a.m. the next day after the garage sale.

2. Place: Garage sale signs shall be located only on private property with the consent of the property owner. Garage sale signs shall not be placed in public right-of-way, in any sight visibility triangle, utility pole, official sign, or tree.

3. Manner: Only six (6) garage sales signs are allowed; two (2) on-site signs and four (4) off-site signs can be placed one day prior to the sale. The garage sale sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area. The maximum height of a garage sale sign shall not exceed three (3) feet above ground level. See Garage Sale Ordinance No. 2008-11-10-06, as it exists and as it may be amended, for additional requirements)

Y. Government Awareness Sign: A government awareness sign is a temporary stake sign, banner or other apparatus, including flags, used to convey health, safety and welfare information to the public regarding city, county, state, or federal government requirements and regulations such as water restrictions, burn bans, or other similar information. Government awareness signs may include City of Princeton meeting information.

1. Time: No sign permit required. No restrictions.

2. Place: No restrictions.

3. Manner: No restrictions (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

Z. Graffiti: Pictures, words or slogans, images, or other depictions painted, drawn, scratched or applied in any manner to exterior walls, fences, structures, vehicles, stone, statues, buildings, or other items in public view. Graffiti includes the illegal or unauthorized defacing of a building, wall, or other edifice or object by painting, or otherwise, marking it with words, pictures, or symbols, advertising, logos, relations with a group, indecent/vulgar images or offensive languages. Graffiti is **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

AA. Grand Opening: A commemoration that promotes the opening of a new business is a grand opening. A grand opening shall be within 180 days of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy from the building official or his designee. Grand openings after 180 days after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy requires approval from the building official or his designee. A grand opening may only be located at the business that received a certificate of occupancy from the building official or his designee. A grand opening shall not exceed fourteen (14) consecutive days in length. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements.)

AB. Grand Opening Balloons and/or Balloon Arrangement: A grand opening balloon is a visible airtight, inflatable apparatus with a maximum of one (1) square foot in total area in various shapes and/or designs made of latex, mylar, or other similar material approved by the building official or his designee. A grand opening balloon is customarily a hand-held device with a maximum ten (10) feet in length cord, rope, string, wire or other similar material. Balloon arrangements are grand opening balloons tied, twisted, or connected in such a manner to design creative figures, shapes, crescents, and/or other displays. Grand opening balloons and/or balloon arrangements are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

AC. HOA-Neighborhood Sign (HOA-NS): A temporary stake sign used to convey residential subdivision board meetings, announcements, or other subdivision related events to residents within the subdivision.

1. Time: No sign permit required.

2. Place: A HOA-NS shall be located on private property within the subdivision. A HOA-NS shall not be located along any major thoroughfare or street artery outside of the subdivision screening wall or perimeter barrier.

3. Manner: The maximum area of a HOA-NS shall not exceed six (6) square feet. The maximum height of a HOA-NS shall not exceed three (3) feet. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AD. Home Improvement Sign: An onsite temporary stake sign that advertises the name, phone number, website address, and/or type of construction being performed on the property, such as a roof, fence, pool, paint, landscape, or other home improvement contractor.

1. Time: No sign permit required. A home improvement sign shall be removed within fifteen (15) days of being initially installed or when the home improvement work is completed, whichever occurs first.

2. Place: A home improvement sign shall be located only on the lot at which the home improvement is occurring. A home improvement sign shall not be erected on private property closer than ten (10) feet from the edge of any street pavement or designated roadway.

3. Manner: A home improvement sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area. A home improvement sign shall not exceed three (3) feet in height. A maximum of one (1) home improvement sign shall be erected on a lot. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AE. Human Sign: A sign held by or attached to a human being who stands or walks on the ground, onsite at a business location. A human sign includes a person dressed in costume, both, for the purposes of advertising or otherwise drawing attention to an individual, business, commodity, service, activity, or product.

1. Time: No sign permit required. Human signs may be displayed 24 hours each and every continuing day.

2. Place: Human signs shall be located on private property where a sale, event, promotion or the like is taking place. Human signs may not be off-location from where a promotion, sale, event, or the like takes place.

3. Manner: Human signs may not hold or carry wind devices, flags, or balloons. Human signs shall only be persons who stands or walks on the ground on private property. Podium, risers, stilts, vehicles, roofs, or other structures or devices shall not support a human sign. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AF. Illuminated Sign: A sign designed or made that consists of lights, LEDs, or other form of illumination that displays a message or picture that does not scroll, fade, blink, flash, travel, or any other means that does not provide constant illumination.

AG. Impounded Sign: A sign that is removed by a city authorized official, inspector, officer, other city employees or city authorized persons in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

AH. Inflatable Device Sign (IDS): A sign manufactured of plastic, cloth, canvas or other flexible or light fabric, inflated with air, secured to the ground, does not float, and does not exceed thirty (30) feet in height. An IDS only advertises the opening dates, sale of items offered or sold, date of sale, name of business, telephone number, and/or website information of a business.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. The sign permit must be displayed in a conspicuous place visible from the street for the purpose of walk-up inspection. A sign permit shall not be issued until the City of Princeton has issued a certificate of occupancy for the business that elects to display an IDS. One IDS may be erected on a lot for no more than three (3) 14-day periods per calendar year. A business can only display one (1) IDS at a time. In the case of multiple businesses or tenants located on a single lot, each business is allowed to erect an IDS on the lot for three (3) 14-day periods, provided that not more than one (1) IDS is installed along any street frontage at the same time. One IDS per street frontage may be installed each time.

2. Place: An IDS shall not be located in required parking places, or driveways that provide access to parking spaces or fire lanes, nor shall any IDS or its securing devices encroach into a right-of-way. IDSs are only permitted within a nonresidential zoning district.

3. Manner: An IDS shall be secured directly to, and not suspended or floating from the ground. An IDS shall not be placed on a roof, canopy, parking garage, or awning, or suspended or floating from any building or garage. The maximum height of an IDS shall not exceed thirty (30) feet. One banner may be applied to an IDS. A banner applied to an IDS shall not count toward the allotted number of banners during a calendar year. The maximum area of a banner applied to an IDS shall not exceed forty eight (48) square feet. An IDS shall not be installed within 200 feet from another IDS measured in a straight line in any direction. Cloud buster balloons, blimps, wind devices or any similar type of apparatuses are not an IDS. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AI. Instructional/Information Sign: A sign that provides instruction, information, or direction to the general public. The sole purpose of an instructional/informational sign is to provide instruction, information or direction to the general public that is essential to the health, safety and public welfare of the community. An instructional/informational sign shall contain no other message, copy, announcement or decoration other than the essential instruction, information or direction and shall not advertise or otherwise draw attention to an individual business, commodity, service, activity or product. Such signs shall include, but are not limited to, a sign identifying a property address, street address, and restrooms. Public telephones, handicap parking spaces, reserved parking spaces, freeze warning, no trespassing, no dumping, no loitering, no soliciting, beware of warning, water resource information, neighborhood watch informational, lock/take and hide informational, construction entrance and/or exit. Signage.

Instructional/informational signs erected by the city, local, federal or state governments for the purpose of public instruction, warnings or other similar hazards, street or highway designation, traffic control and similar purposes, incidental to public interests shall be considered an instruction/informational sign. An instruction/informational sign will include a sign of a warning, directive or instruction erected by a public utility company that operates under a franchise agreement with the City of Princeton and/or signs required by federal, state or other local authorities.

1. **Time:** A sign permit is not required. No restrictions.
2. **Place:** No restrictions.
3. **Manner:** The maximum area of an instructional/informational sign is sixteen (16) square feet. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AJ. Kiosk (Panel) Sign (KPS): A kiosk (panel) sign is a free-standing sign structure located in or adjacent to public right-of-way that features a City of Princeton identification panel at the top of each structure and displays directional information to subdivisions, homebuilders, new homes and municipal facilities and parks. Kiosk (panel) signs provide a uniform, coordinated method of providing homeowners, developers, and municipalities a means of utilizing directional signs, while minimizing the negative impacts to the city and its residents.

1. **Time:** A sign permit is required. A kiosk (panel) sign shall have prior approval from the City Administrator or his designee. Kiosk (panel) signs shall be use for homebuilder, developer and subdivisions directional signage. Kiosk (panel) signs are also intended to provide service to the public on directions to municipal facilities and parks.

2. **Place:** Placement and installation of kiosk (panel) signs must be in accordance with specifications. A site plan must be submitted to the City Administrator or his designee for review and approval. The Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) and Princeton Public Works must approve the location of all kiosk (panel) signs prior to installation. Sign structures shall be located at least 100 feet apart from each other, excluding sign located across a street from each other. Directional kiosk (panel) signs shall not obstruct the use of sidewalks and walkways, and shall not obstruct visibility triangles designated by the city for vehicles, pedestrians or traffic control signs. No signs, pennants, flags or other devices for visual attention or other appurtenances shall be placed on the directional kiosk (panel) signs. Kiosk (panel) sign structures shall be ladder type with individual sign panels of uniform height and background color. Dimensions shall be: 6' x 4', 8' x 4', 10' x 4' and 12' x 4'.

3. **Manner:** In the event a kiosk (panel) sign is not constructed within sixty (60) days after the date of issuance of a kiosk (panel) sign permit, such permit shall expire. Kiosk (panel) signs may be located on private property, provided written permission is obtained from the property owner. Such kiosk (panel) signs shall not exceed the dimensions of 4' x 12' in height. Kiosk (panel) signs shall not be illuminated. Kiosk (panel) sign installations shall include break away design features as required in right-of-way areas, as depicted in Texas Department of Transportations' Sign Mounting Details for Roadside Signs, as adopted and as may be amended. The Princeton City council may grant to a qualified person or

company the right to design, erect and maintain directional kiosk (panel) signs within the city. Kiosk (panel) signs shall be constructed, installed and maintained by the city or a contractor authorized by the city under a contract and may be moved or removed at any time by the City Administrator or his designed.

AK. Lights/Prohibited Lights: Lights are any form of light sources or lumens, whether by electromagnetic radiation, flame, reflection or any other form of lumens that acts upon the retina of the eye and optic nerve that makes sight possible. Prohibited lights are lights that blink, strobe, flash, fade, scroll or anything other than stationary or static that attracts the attention of the general public, or causes light pollution or light trespass. Lights placed in any manner where the light is visible from the exterior of a business or other nonresidential use facility are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton or its extraterritorial jurisdiction. Exception: Federal, state and municipal authorized emergency devices or apparatuses, emergency vehicles, utility repair vehicles, fire and building code/code enforcement light devices for emergency and/or security purposes or other required lighting for public safety purposes are not prohibited and must comply with all applicable ordinance or regulations. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AL. Logo: Any design, insignia, or other marking of a company or product, which is used in advertising to identify the company, business or product.

AM. Menu Board Sign: A sign erected in conjunction with a use that incorporates a drive-thru or drive-in and generally used to provide service and/or product options and pricing for patrons who remain in a vehicle.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect or place a menu board sign on a property until a site plan and/or final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after issuance of a building permit for a building on the property.

2. Place: A menu board sign is permitted only in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district.

3. Manner:

(a) Drive-thru menu board sign: A menu board sign shall be supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign having or appearing to have a solid base. The design, materials and finish of a menu board sign shall match those of the buildings on the same lot. One menu board sign is permitted per drive-thru use on a lot. The maximum area of a menu board sign is sixty (60) square feet. The maximum height of a menu board sign is six (6) feet.

(b) Drive-thru pre-order sign: A drive-thru preorder sign shall be supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign having or appearing to have a solid base. The design, materials and finish of a drive-thru preorder sign are permitted at the entrance of the drive-thru lane on a lot. The maximum area of a drive-thru preorder sign is twenty four (24) square feet in area. The maximum height of a drive-thru preorder sign is six (6) feet.

(c) **Drive-in menu board sign:** A drive-in menu board sign shall be supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign having or appearing to have a solid base. If the drive-in stalls are covered by a canopy, the drive-in menu board signage may be attached directly to the canopy support columns. The design, materials and finish of a drive-in menu board sign shall match those of the buildings on the same lot. One drive-in menu board sign is permitted per ordering station. The maximum area of a drive-in menu board sign is six (6) feet.

AN. Merchandise Signs and/or Displays: Any goods, wares, merchandise or other advertising object or structure suspended, applied, erected, installed from or on any building or pole, structure, sidewalk, parkway, driveway, parking area, fuel pump island or its supports, bridge or overpass for the purpose of advertising such items or attracting patrons. Merchandise signs and/or displays are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

AO. Mobile Advertisement Sign: An operable or inoperable vehicle with illuminated or non-illuminated panels, other devices or appendages used to advertise, promote or draw attention to products, services, events or other similar purpose. The primary purpose of a mobile advertisement sign is advertising. Mobile Advertisement Signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction with the exception of churches and schools for special yearly functions, i.e. vacation bible school. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

1. **Time:** A sign permit is required.

2. **Place:** A mobile advertisement sign is prohibited from being parked, driven, stationed, or moving in any manner on private property within the City of Princeton or its extraterritorial jurisdiction for longer than twenty (20) minutes per 24-hour day except as noted in section 2. A mobile advertisement sign may be utilized for three (3) 14-day periods per calendar year. A mobile advertisement sign shall only be driven on public streets in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

AP. Model Home Sign: A sign used to identify a builder or contractor model home that is open to the public for inspection by customers and located within a residential district. A model home sign provides a builder's name, corporate logo, hours of operation, website information and/or telephone number.

1. **Time:** A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued until a site plan and/or final plat has been approved by the City of Princeton for development of a subdivision and after final acceptance of the subdivision by the city and after a building permit issued for construction of a dwelling model home or temporary sales trailer.

2. **Place:** A model home sign is permitted on a lot that has been issued a building permit for construction of a residential dwelling or temporary sale trailer. One model home sign is allowed per residential lot. The minimum front setback of a model home sign shall be fifteen (15) feet from the property

line. The minimum side or rear setback of a model home sign shall be ten (10) feet from the property line.

3. Manner: The maximum area of a model home sign shall not exceed twenty four (24) square feet. A model home sign shall be supported from the grade to the bottom having a solid base with a one (1) foot masonry border or decorative embellishment border. All decorative embellishment borders and/or masonry borders will be included in the calculation of the total area of a model home sign. The maximum height of a model home sign shall not exceed six (6) feet. The average finished grade of the lot shall not be altered to increase the height of a model home sign. Model home signs shall not contain neon or lights. Exterior lighting must meet the requirements of the light and glare standards as defined in Princeton's Zoning Ordinance, as it currently exists or may be amended.

AQ. Monument (individual) Sign (MIS-1): A sign supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign having or appearing to have a solid and opaque base and used to identify tenants or name of a business located within a planned development or on a separately platted lot within a development.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect, install or place an MIS-1 on a property until a site plan and/or final plat has been approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after the issuance of a building permit for a building on the property.

2. Place: MIS-1 are permitted in nonresidential zoning districts or nonresidential areas and on a lot containing an apartment complex, daycare facility, school, community center, amenity center, marketing center or religious facility. A MIS-1 is permitted on the same lot as a unified development monument sign (UDMS), but the total number of UDMSs and MIS-1s located within a development. Shall generally not exceed the number of lots located within the unified development. The total under of signs shall not be permitted to exceed the total number of lots in the unified development when additional MIS-1s or UDMSs are permitted on a property. The minimum front yard setback for a MIS-1 is 15 feet from the property line. The minimum side and rear setback from the property line shall be equal to the height of the MIS-1.

3. Manner:

(a) The design, materials and finish of an MIS-1 shall match those of the buildings on the same lot. A MIS-1 shall contain a minimum one (1) foot masonry with mortar border around all sides. An MIS-1 constructed entirely of masonry materials shall satisfy the one (1) foot masonry border requirement. Backlit MIS-1s shall be inset into the pedestal rather than attached or applied to the pedestal.

(b) MIS-1 constructed in conjunction with UDMSs and monument (individual) sign-2 (MIS-2) shall be consistent with the building elements and materials of UDMSs within the unified development and MIS-2s on the same lot and within the unified development.

(c) A lot is allowed a maximum of one (1) MIS-1 per street frontage.

(d) The maximum area of an MIS-1, including the one (1) foot masonry border, is sixty (60) square feet.

(e) The maximum height of a MIS-1 is eight (8) feet.

(f) MIS-1s are permitted to contain electronic variable messages subject to the following conditions:

- i. Variable message monument signs shall only be permitted along a major thoroughfare or greater as designated in the city's thoroughfare plan, as it currently exists or may be amended.
- ii. Variable message monument sign characters shall have a minimum height of ten (10) inches and a maximum height of sixteen (16) inches.
- iii. Variable message monument signs shall not be animated, flash, travel, blink, fade or scroll.
- iv. Variable message monument signs shall remain static for not less than fifteen (15) seconds.
- v. Variable message monument signs are permitted to contain time and temperature displays. The time and temperature shall remain static for not less than three (3) seconds.
- vi. Variable message wall signs are also permitted, but only one variable message sign, either monument or wall, is permitted per lot.

AR. Monument (internal) signs (MIS-2): A MIS-2 is a sign that is supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign, having or appearing to have, a solid base and generally used to provide direction to drive-thru lanes, buildings and tenants within large multi-tenant retail, multifamily or office developments. A MIS-2 is permissible subject to the following conditions:

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect, install or place a MIS-2 on a property until a site plan and/or final plat has been approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after the issuance of a building permit for a building on the property.

2. Place: A MIS-2 is permitted only in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district. Minimum front setback is seven-five (75) feet from the property line. The minimum rear and side yard setback shall be equal to the height of the sign.

3. Manner:

(a) The design, materials and finish of MIS-2s shall match those of the buildings on the same lot. MIS-2s constructed in conjunction with UDMSs and/or MIS-1s shall be consistent with the building elements and materials of the UDMSs within the UDMSs and MIS-1s on the same lot and within the unified development.

(b) If a property averages more than two MIS-2s per acre, a sign coordination plan must be approved prior to placement of the MIS-2s.

(c) The maximum area of a MIS-2 is six (6) square feet.

- (d) The maximum height of a MIS-2 is thirty (30) inches.

AS. Monument (unified development) Sign (UDMS): A UDMS is a sign that is supported from the grade to the bottom of the sign having, or appearing to have, a solid base and is used to identify multiple tenants with a unified development. A UDMS is permissible on a nonresidential zoning property subject to the following conditions.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect, install or place a UDMS on a property until a sign coordination plan has been approved and a subdivision plat, preliminary site plan and/or site plan for the property has been approved by the City of Princeton, and after issuance of a building permit for the building within the unified development.

2. Place:

(a) A UDMS is permitted on the same lot as an MIS-1, but the total number of UDMSs and MIS-1s located within a unified development shall not exceed the number of lots located within the unified development. The total number of signs shall not be permitted to exceed the total number of lots in the unified development when additional UDMSs are permitted on a property.

(b) The minimum front setback for a UDMS is fifteen (15) feet from the property line.

(c) No minimum side yard and rear yard setbacks are required for a UDMS but a UDMS shall not be located closer than seventy-five (75) feet to another UDMS or an MIS-1.

3. Manner:

(a) A UDMS shall be constructed of materials and a design consistent with the buildings located on the property. A UDMS shall contain a minimum one (1) foot masonry border around the sign. A UDMS constructed entirely of masonry materials shall satisfy the border requirement.

(b) The maximum area of a UDMS shall be based on the size of the unified development. The maximum area of a UDMS for a development zone of five (5) acres or less is sixty (60) square feet. For every whole acre over five (5) acres, the area of the UDMS may be increased by twelve (12) square feet with the maximum area of a UDMS being 168 square feet.

(c) The maximum height of a UDMS is ten (10) feet.

(d) Architectural embellishments for UDMSs are encouraged. Exceptions in maximum height and area may be considered through the review of a sign coordination plan.

(e) One UDMS is permitted per street frontage of the unified development. One additional UDMS is permitted along a street for each additional 750 linear feet, or portion thereof, of street frontage that exceeds 750 linear feet of street frontage.

(f) Prior to city consideration of a unified development, all property owners located within a proposed unified development must submit notarized letters to the city authorizing the creation of the unified

development. A lot shall only be included in one unified development.

- (g) Variable messages are permitted, but only one variable message sign; either monument sign or wall sign is permitted per lot. UDMSs with variable message displays shall remain static for not less than fifteen (15) seconds. (See section 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AT. Moving Sign: Any sign, sign appendages or apparatus designed or made to move freely in the wind or designed or made to move by an electrical or mechanical device. Moving signs, and/or any sign appendage that moves, are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

AU. Municipal Banner: A temporary sign having characters, letters or illustrations applied to plastic, cloth, canvas or other light fabric or similar material, with the only purpose of such nonrigid material being for background used by the city, either acting along or in cooperation with another person or entity, to promote the city, aide in economic development or economic activity in the city, promote citizenry and good will, promote awareness of happenings in the city, promote municipal-related places, activities, events or promote municipal related information or an event or similar happening determined by the city to directly relate to the city's objectives in speaking on its own property. A municipal banner includes ornamentations and seasonal decorations.

1. **Time:** Written permission from the City Administrator or his designee is required. No time restriction.
2. **Place:** A municipal banner may be erected on any city owned property, including but not limited to pavilions, fences, walls, vehicles, poles and light poles, and/or any other structure or apparatus approved by the City Administrator or his designee.
3. **Manner:** Municipal banners shall not be faded, tattered or torn, (See section 2AV for additional requirements)

AV. Mural: Pictures or artwork painted, drawn or applied on the exterior walls that does not depict or contain advertising, logos or images of a product or service available onsite or off-location. Murals are not used to advertise products or services offered or sold off-location or onsite.

1. **Time:** A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to paint, draw, apply or place a mural on a property until a site plan and/or final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property and after issuance of a building permit for a building on the property. A sign coordination plan shall be approved by the City of Princeton prior to placement of a mural.
2. **Place:** A mural shall be located above grade and below a roof and only be located within a nonresidential zoning district. Murals shall not be applied to a roof or other similar cover of a building or structure.
3. **Manner:** The maximum area of a mural shall not exceed the length or height of the exterior wall on which it is painted, drawn or applied. A mural shall not face a residential neighborhood, unless separated by a major

thoroughfare. Murals are permitted only in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

AW. Neglected Sign: A sign that has any missing panels, burned out lights, missing letters or characters, has rust, has loose parts, has damage, faded from its original color, supports or framework with missing sign or parts, or is not maintained. Neglected signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction as a public nuisance. (See sections 2B and Section 12 for additional information regarding neglected and abandoned signs)

AX. Neon Tubing: A discharge tube containing neon that ionizes and glows with various colors when electric current is sent through it.

AY. Nonconforming Sign: Any sign and its supporting structure that does not conform to all or any portion of this ordinance and was in existence and lawfully erected prior to the effective date of this ordinance; and was in existence and lawfully located and used in accordance with the provision of any prior ordinances applicable thereto, or which was considered legally nonconforming, and has since been in continuous or regular use; or was used on the premises at the time it was annexed into the city and has since been in regular and continuous use.

AZ. Notice: Notice required by this ordinance shall be sufficient if it is effected by personal delivery, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, by the United States Postal Service and/or posting at premises.

BA. Off-location or Off-premises Sign: A sign that advertises, promotes or pertains to a business, person, organization, activity, event, place, service, products, etc. at a location other than where the business, person, organization, activity, event, place, service, product, etc. is located. Off-location and of-premises signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, except as otherwise permitted by this Chapter.

BB. On-site: The property or location on which a business, person, organization, activity, event, place service, product, etc. is located.

BC. Open House Residential Sign (OHRS): The temporary stake sign used to advertise the name of a realtor or homeowner, phone number date, open house address and/or time of a residential open house.

1. Time: No sign permit required. OHRS shall be erected no earlier than 9:00a.m. Saturday before the open house and shall be removed no later than 6:00p.m Sunday of the open house during the same weekend. OHRS shall not be erected during weekdays.

2. Place: OHRS shall be located only on private residential property with the consent of the property owner and the subject property having the open house.

3. Manner: The maximum area of an OHRS sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet. The maximum height of an OHRS shall not exceed four (4) feet. An OHRS shall not contain balloons, streamers, flags, pennants or other wind devices. An OHRS shall not be placed on a vehicle, fence, pole, tree or railing. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BD. Pennant: Any lightweight plastic, fabric or other material, whether or not it contains a message of any kind, suspended from a rope, wire, cord, string or other similar material designed to move in the wind whether existing in a series or individually. Pennants are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, unless used for the marking of utilities, at ground level, consistent with other law.

BE. Person: Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, company, limited liability company, organization, business or entity of any kind.

BF. Pole Sign: A sign erected on a vertical framework consisting of one or more uprights supported by the ground. With the exception of the pole signs specifically authorized by the ordinance, such as zoning signs and kiosk (panel) sign, pole signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

BG. Political Sign: A sign that relates to the election of a person to a public office, relates to a political party, relates to a matter to be voted upon at an election called by a public body, or contain primarily a political message.

1. Time: No sign permit required. No restrictions.

2. Place: Political signs shall be located only on private property with the consent of the property owner. A political sign shall not be erected closer than ten (10) feet from the edge of the street pavement, located on any public property, within a designated easement or right-of-way.

3. Manner: Political signs shall not exceed eight (8) feet in height measured from the ground to the highest point of the sign. Political signs shall not exceed thirty six (36) square feet in area. Political signs shall not be illuminated. Political signs shall not contain any moving elements or parts. Political signs shall not be dilapidated or cause a hazard. (See section 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BH. Portable Signs: Any sign designed or intended to be relocated from time-to-time, whether or not it is permanently attached to a building or structure, or is located on the ground. Portable signs include signs on wheels or on portable or mobile structures, such as, among other things, trailers, skids, banners, tents or other portable structures, A-frame signs, T-shaped signs, airborne devices, or other devices used for temporary display or advertising. Portable signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, except as specifically allowed by other sections of this ordinance.

BI. Prohibited Signs:

(1) Any sign not referenced in or governed by this ordinance;

- (2) Any sign erected or installed without the issuance of a permit either prior to or after the adoption of this ordinance (if a permit is required);
- (3) Any sign that emits odor or visible matter;
- (4) Any changeable electronic variable message sign (billboard) (CEVMS) or light emitting diode (LED) billboards located, relocated or upgraded along a regulated highway within the corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction of Princeton.
- (5) Any sign erected or installed in or over a public right-of-way or access easement, unless permitted within this ordinance.
- (6) Any sign that does not comply with this or other applicable municipal ordinances or those which do not comply with federal or state laws; or
- (7) Any sign not allowed or defined by this ordinance.

BJ. Project/Development Sign (PDS): A temporary sign used to advertise or display contact information of property owners, opening dates, architects, contractors, engineers, landscape architects and/or financiers who are engaged with the design, construction, improvement or financing of a residential subdivision with homes under construction within the subdivision to which it pertains or within a commercial project to which it pertains. PDS is generally constructed of wood, metal or similar materials approved by the building official or his designee. A PDS may include zoning information and advertise residential builders selling homes within a subdivision. In no case shall a PDS contain information that pertains to off-premise uses.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. The sign permit number, date installed and sign contractor's name must be placed on the sign in no less than one (1) inch in height in a conspicuous place on the sign. PDS signs must be removed when 95 percent of the buildings/homes in the commercial project/subdivision have been issued a certificate of occupancy. A PDS installed on a lot where a contractor requests a final inspection must be removed prior to the final inspection and issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

2. Place: The PDS shall be installed no closer than fifteen (15) feet to any property line. The minimum distance between a PDS and another PDS is 200 feet.

3. Manner: The maximum area of a PDS is 96 square feet. The maximum height of PDS is ten (10) feet. A maximum of one PDS is allowed along a major street frontage per subdivision. When a subdivision has more than one major thoroughfare, one PDS may be placed on each major thoroughfare. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BK. Projecting Sign: A sign attached and projecting out from a building face or wall, generally at a right angle to the building. A projecting sign advertises the name, telephone number, street address and/or website information of a business.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect or install a projecting sign at a property until a building permit is issued for the building where projecting sign is to be attached.

2. Place: A projecting sign is permitted only in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential district. When a projecting sign is

constructed over a pedestrian sidewalk, a minimum of nine (9) feet clearance shall be provided between the grade of the sidewalk and the lowest portion of a projecting sign. A projecting sign shall not extend above a building wall.

3. Manner: the maximum area of a projecting sign is twelve (12) square feet. The logo may be added to the sign instead of the frame. The logo shall be in integral part of the projecting sign. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BL. Property: An area of real estate designated as a parcel or lot on a final plat approved by the City of Princeton and filed with the county clerk's office, or an unplatted tract of land as shown on an abstract.

BM. Public Nuisance: Any sign or similar device that causes annoyance either to a limited number of person or to the general public or because of its attraction causes a hazard or dangerous condition.

BN. Public View: Visible from any public right-of-way, city right-of-way, or access easement.

BO. Residential Real Estate Sign (RRES): An onsite, temporary stake sign used to advertise a home or residential property for sale or lease. A RRES is used to advertise the name of the owner or realtor, telephone number, property information and/or website address.

1. Time: No sign permit required. A RRES may be erected 24 hours each and every day.

2. Place: A RRES shall be erected only on the lot on which the home or property is for sale or lease. A RRES shall be erected no closer than (10) feet from the street pavement.

3. Manner: A RRES shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area. The maximum height of a RRES shall not exceed four (4) feet. A maximum of one RRES shall be erected on a lot. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BP. Revolving Sign: Any sign that turns, spins or partially revolves or completely revolves 360 degrees on an axis. Revolving signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

BQ. Roof Sign: A sign mounted on and supported by the roof portion of a building or above the uppermost edge of a parapet wall of a building and which is wholly or partially supported by such a building or a sign that is painted directly to or applied on the roof or top of a building or structure. A sign that is mounted on mansard facades, pent eaves or architectural projections, such as canopies or the fascia (wall) of a building or structure shall not be considered to be a roof sign. Roof signs are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

BR. Roof (secondary) Sign: A roof (secondary) sign is a sign that is mounted to or projects from a canopy or secondary roof over the entry to a building, but does not

project above the highest point of the building. A roof (secondary) sign may be attached to a parapet wall.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect or place a roof (secondary) sign on a property until a site plan and/or final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of the property, and after the issuance of a building permit at the property.

2. Place: In lieu of a wall sign, a roof (secondary) sign may be installed on a parapet wall; provided, the parapet wall extends around the entire perimeter of the building at the same elevation. A roof (secondary) sign may be erected on a secondary canopy or a secondary roof over an entry to the building.

3. Manner: The structural or mechanical elements of a roof (secondary) sign shall not be visible from six (6) feet above the grade of adjacent streets. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BS. Sandwich Board Sign: See "A-frame sign"

BT. School Sign: An onsite temporary stake sign used to convey school registrations, enrollments, open houses, award ceremonies, PTA meetings, or other school related events or functions for a Princeton based public or private educational facility to where the information pertains. A school sign excludes information pertains to dates, time and/or locations of scheduled athletic games.

1. Time: a school sign may be erected up to seven (7) days prior to the event and shall be removed no more than forty-eight (48) hours after the conclusion of the meeting or event.

2. Place: With permission of the owner, a school sign shall be placed at a private or public school and/or at an improved property that has received a certificate of occupancy. A school sign shall be erected on private property not closer than ten (10) feet from the edge of any street pavement.

3. Manner: The maximum area of a school sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet. The maximum height of a school sign shall not exceed four (4) feet. A school sign shall not contain any balloons, streamers, pennants, flags or wind devices. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BU. Scoreboards: A scoreboard is a structurally engineered sign erected at an athletic field or stadium and which is generally used to maintain the score or time expired in an event at the field or stadium. The definition includes signs mounted or applied to the outfield wall within a baseball field.

1. Time: No sign permit required. No restrictions.

2. Place: Scoreboards shall be erected within an athletic field or stadium.

3. Manner: No restrictions. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BV. Searchlight or Skylight: Any apparatus capable of projecting a beam or beams of light. Searchlights (skylights) are prohibited in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, except by written permission received from the Princeton City Council.

BW. Sign: Any form of publicity or advertising which directs attention to an individual, business, commodity, service, activity, event or product by means of words, lettering, parts of letters, figures, numerals, phrases, sentences, emblems, devices, trade names or trademarks, or other pictorial matter designed to convey such information and displayed by means of print, bills, posters, panels or other devices erected on an open framework or attached or otherwise applied to stakes, posts, poles, trees, buildings or structures or supports. This definition shall, also, include any device, fixture, placard or structure that uses any color, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or communicate information of any kind to the public.

BX. Subdivision Monumentation: Subdivision monumentation is a physical improvement such as signs, walls, entry features or other similar improvements constructed to draw attention to or enhance a subdivision or its surrounding area.

1. Time: A sign permit and/or building permit are required. A building permit and/or sign permit shall not be issued to erect or place subdivision monumentation on a property until a preliminary site plan is approved and issued by the City of Princeton for development of nonresidential zoned property, a preliminary site plan or site plan is approved by the City of Princeton for the development of multifamily or townhome zoned properties, or a preliminary plat or final plat is approved by the City of Princeton for development of sign family or two family zoned properties. The requirement to prepare the aforementioned plans may be waived should the owner of the property on which the monumentation is proposed to be located or his representative prepare written documentation and/or graphic illustrations to the satisfaction of city staff to explain the relationship of the proposed monumentation to future land uses on the property.

2. Place: Subdivision monumentation placed on private property shall observe all building line and setback requirements of the governing zoning district; or if not a zoning district the building line and setback requirements of subdivision monumentation shall be those of the Princeton zoning district that is most similar to the use. A non-inhabitable monument may encroach into a required setback provided all visibility clips and easements are observed and the monument is deemed by city staff not to negatively impact fire protection of existing or future development. Subdivision monumentation may be placed in the right-of-way subject to Princeton City Council approval and so long as the requirements of sections 2 through 16 and any other applicable ordinances can be met. Subdivision monumentation may not be erected within an area designated as future right-of-way on the city's thoroughfare plan, as it currently exists or may be amended.

3. Manner: The developer of the subdivision monumentation must provide a plan for future maintenance of subdivision monumentation to the city for review. The maximum height of subdivision monumentation shall not exceed the maximum height of the governing zoning district; or if not a zoning district the maximum height of subdivision monumentation shall not exceed the maximum height of the Princeton Zoning District that is most similar to the use. (See sections 2 though 16 for addition requirements)

BY. Temporary Religious Sign: A temporary stake sign used to provide the name of and direction to a location occupied by a religious organization or religious group that temporarily operates in a school or other facility. A temporary religious sign identifies the meeting location/address, website information, hours of service and/or telephone number of a religious organization or group.

1. Time: A temporary religious sign may be erected during times of worship provided that the sign is placed no earlier than two (2) hours prior to worship and removed not later than two (2) hours after worship.

2. Place: A temporary religious sign shall be placed on private property with consent of the property owner. Temporary religious signs shall be erected on private property not closer than ten (10) feet from the edge of any street pavement or designed roadway or right-of-way.

3. Manner: The maximum area of a temporary religious sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet. The maximum height of a temporary religious sign shall not exceed four (4) feet. A temporary religious sign shall not contain balloons, streamers, flags, pennants or wind devices. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

BZ. Temporary Sign: Any sign used to display information that relates to a land use or a sign with a limited duration which is not rigidly and permanently installed into or on the ground, attached to a building or as identified in this ordinance.

CA. Traffic Lights and Signage: Any traffic related sign, light, apparatus or device installed that provides information to vehicular drivers and/or pedestrian traffic. Traffic related signs, lights, apparatuses or devices requires approval from the City of Princeton and/or Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), which includes the review and approval of design, size, placement and any other specifications or requirements prior to installation from the City of Princeton and/or Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT). Exemption: signs, lighting, apparatuses and/or devices installed or required by federal or state laws.

CB. Undeveloped: An undeveloped residential or nonresidential property for which a certificate of occupancy has not been issued by the building official or his designee to occupancy a building on the property or for which final acceptance has not be issued by the City of Princeton.

CC. Unified Development: A unified development shall consist of multiple lots which were depicted on the same concept plan, preliminary site plan or site plan and be united through common building architecture, building color and building materials, landscaping and parking.

CD. V-Shaped Sign: A sign that fronts two street frontages with more than five (5) degrees of parallel.

CE. Vacant Building Sign: No sign shall be permitted to remain on any vacant building, except a sign pertaining to the lease or sale of the building to which it pertains,

or a sign which is under lease from an owner or his authorized agent when such sign is maintained by a person operating under his own bond. Vacant building signage is **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

CF. Variance: An official written request to the City of Princeton to allow exception to regulations or requirements of this ordinance to be authorized by the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

CG. Vehicle: Any operable or inoperable motorized machine on wheels, tread or runners by which any person, materials, commodity or property is or may be transported.

CH. Vehicle Sign: A sign attached to any vehicle, truck car bus, trailer, boat, recreational vehicle, motorcycle or any other vehicle; however, any vehicle, whether operable or not, shall not be parked and/or decorated where the intent is to use the vehicle as advertising, vehicle signs shall exclude bumper stickers and state required registration or inspection stickers/identifications.

1. Time: No sign permit required. Vehicles signs are allowed 24 hours each and every continuing day.

2. Place: Vehicle signs are permitted provided that during periods of inactivity such vehicle is not parked in the right-of-way or placed on a manner that the vehicle sign is readily visible from an adjacent right-of-way. "For sale" signs placed in or on vehicles when the vehicle is parked or placed in a manner that the vehicle sign is readily visible from an adjacent public right-of-way are, with the **exception** that one vehicle may contain a "for sale" sign parked or placed at an occupied single family, two family, townhome or multifamily dwelling unit is permitted.

3. Manner: Vehicles signs are permitted provided that:

(a) The primary purpose of the sign is not for display of the sign;

(b) The signs are painted upon or applied directly to an integral part of the vehicle;

(c) The vehicle is operable, currently registered and licensed to operate on public streets and actively used in the daily function of the business to which such signs relates;

(d) The vehicle is not used as a static display, advertising a product or service, not utilized as storage, shelter or distribution points for commercial products or services for the public; and the vehicle does not meet definition of a mobile advertisement sign (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

CI. Vending Machine Sign: A sign attached to or incorporated as part of a vending machine or gasoline pump and generally advertises products dispensed, offered or sold from the vending machine or gasoline pump.

1. Time: No sign permit required. Vending machine signs may be displayed 24 hours each and every day.

2. Place: Vending machine displaying vending machine signs shall not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

3. Manner: Vending machine signs shall be directly attached to a vending machine or gasoline pump. Vending machine signs shall be flat and shall not project from the vending machine or gasoline pump. Unless, otherwise, required by federal, state or local laws, signs that promote products or other items shall not be attached to light poles, canopy supports, rails, trees, parking signs, vehicles or other objects.

C.J. Wall Sign: Any sign erected against an exterior wall, erected parallel to a wall or painted directly onto a wall. A wall sign is a sign painted on or erected parallel to and extending not more than twelve (12) inches from the façade of any building to which it is attached, supported throughout its entire length by the building face.

A wall sign identifies that name of a business and/or logo of a business. An approved wall sign installed on a building wall that does not exceed nine (9) feet in height shall not project greater than one (1) inch from the wall surface. Neon shall not be installed on any wall sign installed below nine (9) feet from grade. A wall sign may include neon tubing attached directly to a wall surface when forming a border for the subject matter or when forming letters, logos, or pictorial designs. This definition shall not include painted on murals. (See "murals") Murals are not subject to the wall regulations contained herein. Wall signs are permissible subject to the following conditions and upon issuance of a sign permit. No building shall have both a wall sign and an awning sign on the same building face.

1. Time: A sign permit is required. A sign permit shall not be issued to erect, place or install a wall sign on a property until a site plan and/or final plat is approved by the city of Princeton for development of the property and after issuance of a building permit for a building on the property.

2. Place: Wall signs are permitted only in conjunction with a nonresidential use or in a nonresidential zoning district. Wall signs of any character placed directly on the face of a wall shall be set at a minimum of nine (9) feet above grade. Wall signs that are painted on the face of a wall shall have no minimum height requirement. A wall sign may not be erected or placed on a parapet wall, unless the parapet wall extends around the entire perimeter of the building at the same elevation. When projections on the wall face prevent the erection of the sign flat against the wall face, the space between the back of the sign and the wall shall be closed at the top, bottom and ends with incombustible materials. For buildings with a height of five (5) stories or greater, a wall sign may extend above the roofline of the building on which it is attached up to twenty-five (25) percent of the sign's height. The wall sign must be located on the portion of the building that is five (5) stories or greater.

3. Manner:

(a) Wall signs up to twelve (12) square feet in conjunction with buildings and/or groups of continuous buildings with common wall construction and containing a minimum of 500,000 square feet. Wall signs of this size shall:

- i. Be placed on walls that are a minimum of thirty seven (37) feet in height;
- ii. Be placed directly on the face of a wall;

- iii. Be set at a minimum of fourteen (14) feet above grade;
 - iv. Not project more than eighteen (18) inches from the face of the wall; and
 - v. Not occupy more than fifty (50) percent of any wall on which it is erected. In nonresidential districts or areas, neon tubing used for the sole purpose of accentuating the outline of a building shall not be considered a wall sign and is permitted.
- (h) Wall signs are permitted to contain electronic variable messages subject to the following conditions:
- i. Variable message wall signs shall only be permitted along a major thoroughfare or greater as designated on the thoroughfare plan, as it currently exists or may be amended;
 - ii. Variable message wall sign characters shall have a minimum height of fourteen (14) inches and a maximum height of twenty (20) inches;
 - iii. Variable message wall signs shall not be animated, flash, travel, blink, fade or scroll;
 - iv. Variable message wall signs shall remain static for not less than twenty four (24) hours;
 - v. Variable message wall signs are permitted to contain time and temperature displays. The time and temperature displays shall remain static for not less than three (3) seconds; and
 - vi. Variable message monument signs are also permitted (see "monument signs"), but only one (1) variable message sign; either monument sign or wall sign is permitted per lot. The size of wall signs shall be as follows:

Building Height (feet)	Maximum Sign Height (feet)	Maximum Percentage of Wall Length*
0 to 20	4	75
20 to 30	6	60
> 30	8	50

*Note: Wall signs shall not occupy more than the maximum percentage of the length of any wall on which it is erected. Corporate logos may exceed the maximum sign height by forty (40) percent.

(See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

CK. Window Sign: Any sign, poster, window slick or other similar displayed item, excluding banners (see "banners"), located on the internal or external surface of a window for the purpose of advertising a business' name, telephone number, website information, services, commodities and/or products offered or sold that are available within the building that is visible from a public street or sidewalk.

1. Time: No sign permit required, except illuminated window signs. Illuminated window signs that exceed twenty five (25) percent of a window requires the issuance of a sign permit and shall not be closer than three (3) feet from a public

door. A window sign may be displayed twenty four (24) hours each and every continuing day.

2. Place: Window signs shall only be displayed on the inside or exterior of a window.

3. Manner: Window signs shall be installed on the inside or outside of a window. The maximum area of a window sign shall not exceed twenty five (25) percent of the window where the sign is displayed. Window signs are limited to one (1) sign per window. Illuminated and nonilluminated window signs or its appendages shall not blink, strobe, fade, flash, scroll or move in any manner. Illuminated window signs shall remain static and stationary. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

CL. Wind Device: Any pennant, streamer, spinner, balloon, cloud buster balloon, inflatable object or similar devices made of cloth, canvas, plastic or any flexible material designed to float or designed to move, or moves freely in the wind, with or without a frame or other supporting structure, used for the purpose of advertising or drawing attention to a business, commodity, service, sale or product. Exception: Flags and grand opening balloons and/or balloon arrangements shall not be considered a wind device. Wind devices are **prohibited** in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

CM. Yard Sign: A temporary stake sign used to publicize the arrival of a newborn, participation of a family member in a school activity or sport, the presence of a security system, animals, and seasonal decorations.

1. Time: No sign permit required. Yard signs may be erected twenty four (24) hours each and every day.

2. Place: Yard signs shall be located only on lots containing an occupied single family, two family or multifamily dwelling. Yard signs shall be erected no closer than ten (10) feet from the street pavement.

3. Manner: Signs advertising the presence of a home security system shall not exceed one (1) square foot in area. Signs advertising the arrival of a newborn, the participation of a family member in a school activity or sport, or the presence of animals shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area. Seasonal decoration are excluded from place and manner requirements (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)

CN. Zoning Sign: A temporary sign erected to publicize a request to zone or rezone a property.

1. Time: No sign permit required.

(a) The property owner or his representative shall erect the sign on the property fourteen (14) days prior to the first public hearing scheduled to discuss the applicable zoning case. The property owner shall be responsible for maintaining the zoning sign on the property throughout the zoning case.

(b) The property owner or his representative must provide verification with a photograph that the zoning sign is erected at the property one

(1) week prior to the scheduled Planning & Zoning Commission meeting date.

- (c) The property owner or his representative must remove the zoning sign within three (3) days after the city council's approval of the ordinance that rezones the property; after the Planning & Zoning Commission denies the request, unless an appeal to the city council is made; or within three (3) days after the city council denies the zoning request.

2. Place:

- (a) The zoning sign shall be placed in a location visible from all streets adjacent to the property included in the zoning request.
- (b) Zoning signs shall be located no greater than twenty (20) feet from the front property line, unless otherwise directed by the City of Princeton.

3. Manner:

- (a) One zoning sign shall be erected adjacent to each street frontage of the property.
- (b) The maximum area of a zoning sign shall be ten (10) square feet.
- (c) The maximum width of a zoning sign shall be four (4) square feet.
- (d) The zoning sign shall be constructed in accordance with the city's design standards for zoning signs. (See sections 2 through 16 for additional requirements)
- (e) The number of signs and the placement of signs shall be determined at the time of submitting the zoning case.
- (f) Zoning signs shall contain:
- i. Current zoning
 - ii. Requested zoning
 - iii. Public Hearing dates, times and location
 - iv. Applicant's legal name
 - v. Size of tract of land (i.e. .25 acre, 6.0 acres, etc.)

SECTION 3: Applicability

The terms and conditions of the ordinance shall apply to signs located within territorial limits of the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

SECTION 4: Permit Required to Erect or Install Signage.

A. Sign permit required: No sign, other than those signs allowed without a permit by section 58.1 of this ordinance, shall be erected, placed, attached, secured, altered or displayed to/on the ground, any building or any structure, until a permit for such sign has been issued by the building official or his designee. An application for a sign permit may be obtained from Princeton's Development Services Permit Office. The building official or his designee shall approve or deny an application for a sign permit within thirty (30) days of receipt of the application. A sign permit will be issued if a proposed sign conforms to all city ordinances. Upon request by the city, a diagram shall be provided showing the location of all signs on the property and/or adjacent properties. Incorrect information on an application shall be ground for denial or revocation of a sign permit.

B. To whom issued: No sign permit for the installation or erection of any sign, with the exception of banners, A-frame signs, window signs, and grand opening balloon arrangements, shall be issued to any person other than those registered and bonded in the city in accordance with this ordinance.

C. Not to issue for locations: No sign permit shall be issued under this ordinance for any sign in a district where signs are prohibited by the City Zoning Ordinance, as it currently exists or may be amended. A sexually oriented business seeking a sign permit must also comply with all city ordinances regulating such businesses.

D. Fee: The sign permit fee for a sign erected without the issuance of a sign permit prior to installation shall be twice the cost of the standard permit fee. (Comprehensive Fee Schedule Ordinance 2009-05-26-02)

E. Interpretation and Administration: The building official or his designee shall be responsible for interpreting and administering this ordinance. The building official or his designee may revoke any permit for a sign issued in error. Allegations of errors in orders decisions or determinations of the building official or his designee in the administration of this ordinance shall be in accordance with section 14 of this ordinance, "Variances" as it currently exists or may be amended.

SECTION 5: Registration Required.

A. No person shall install, erect or maintain any sign, except banners, A-frame signs, window signs, and/or grand opening balloon arrangements and all signs for which a permit is not required, or contract for such service, until such person has applied to the building official or his designee for a registration to install, erect and/or maintain signs and until such registration has been approved and issued. The building official or his designee shall approve or deny an application for a registration within thirty (30) days of the city's receipt of the application. A registration will be issued if all requirements of city ordinances are met. The fee for such registration shall be listed in the Comprehensive Fee Schedule Ordinance 2009-05-26-02, as it exists and as it may be amended.

B. The registration of any sign contractor may be canceled by the building official or his designee when such sign contractor repeatedly violates the requirements of this ordinance. Conviction in court, whether appealed or not, on two violations over a period of twelve (12) consecutive months, shall constitute evidence of repeated violation. Any registration thus canceled shall not be renewed for such sign contractor or anyone operating in concert with such sign contractor until all such violations have been corrected. Upon correction of violations, the sign contractor's registration may be renewed upon furnishing the required bond.

SECTION 6: Sign Contractor Insurance or Bond Required

A. No registration for the installation, erection and/or maintenance of signs shall be issued to any person nor shall any person install, erect or maintain any sign, except banners, A-frame signs, window signs and/or grand opening balloon arrangements, and all signs for which a permit is not required or medium of display or advertising, electric or otherwise, until such person has provided proof of general liability insurance in the

amount of \$100,000.00 to the building official or his designee or filed with the city secretary a surety bond in the sum of \$5,000.00. Such bond shall be approved by the City of Princeton and shall be conditioned for the installation and erection of signs in accordance with the ordinances of the city and laws of the state, and shall provide for the indemnification of the city for any and all damages or liability, which may accrue against it by reason of faulty installation, erections, demolition, repair, removal or defects in, or collapse of, any sign for a period of one (1) year after erection or for such period of time that such sign is maintained or serviced by or under the direction of the maker of such bond, whichever is longer. Such bond shall further provide for the indemnification of any person who shall while upon public property or in any public place, incur damage for which the principle name in the bond is legally liable.

B. When any sign contractor's registration has been canceled as provided in section 5 of this ordinance, such license shall not be renewed until the contractor furnishes an additional bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 guaranteeing compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, which bond shall be for a period of two (2) years following the renewal of the registration.

SECTION 7: Inspection

The building official or his designee is authorized to perform an inspection of all signs. The purpose of the inspection is to ensure that the sign has been constructed in accordance with this ordinance, other applicable ordinances, and the applicable permits. The method and time of such inspections shall be determined by the building official or his designee.

SECTION 8: Measurement of Sign Area and Height

A. The area of a sign shall be measured as follows:

1. For signs in the shape of a square, rectangle, circle or similar standard geometric shape, the area shall be calculated by using the standard mathematical formula (square equals height multiplied by width; circle equals 3.14 multiplied by radius squared, etc.) This method of measurement is most commonly used for banners, commercial real estate signs, model home signs, monument signs, project development signs, and stake signs.
2. For signs with a shape that is irregular, the area shall be measured by enclosing the sign elements to the closest geometric shape. The method of measurement is most commonly used for awning signs and wall signs with individual lettering and for irregularly shaped signs.
3. The area of a spherical, cylindrical or other three-dimensional sign shall be measured by calculating the area of a two-dimensional drawing of the largest elevation of the sign.

B. Where a sign has two faces, the area of both faces shall be used to determine the area of the sign; provided, the two faces are within five (5) degrees of parallel. Where a sign has two or more faces and exceed greater than five (5) degrees from parallel, the sign area shall be calculated as the sum of the area of each face (a "V-shaped" sign). A V-shaped sign is only permitted at the corner of a property with two street frontages.

- C. The area of wall signs containing multiple elements shall be calculated as follows:
1. Regardless of the spacing between letters, letters forming a word or name shall be considered a single sign.
 2. When two or more separate items in a sign, such as a word or logo, are separated horizontally or vertically by less than the width or height of the largest item, the items shall be considered a single sign and the area shall be determined by measuring the area enclosing the sign elements with straight, intersection lines.
 3. When two or more separate items in a sign, such as a word or logo, are separated horizontally or vertically by more than the width or height of the largest item, the items shall be considered a separate sign and the area of each item shall be determined individually.
 4. The supports of a stake sign, A-frame sign, project development sign, or commercial real estate sign shall not be included in calculating the area of a sign, but shall be included in the measurement of the height of a sign.
 5. The height of all signs shall be measured from the top edge of the sign and/or support structure to the average finished grade below the sign and/or support structure, unless otherwise noted in this Chapter. If a sign is located on a mount, berm or other raised area for the sole purpose of increasing the height of the sign, the height of the mound, berm or other raised area shall be included in the height of the sign. Measurement for a sign height will be determined from the curb grade at the property line.

SECTION 9: Sign Specifications, Design and Other Requirements

A. Compliance with Zoning Ordinance, International Building Code, National Electrical code and other ordinances: All sign structures shall comply with the city's Zoning Ordinance, as it currently exists or may be amended, the International Building Code, the National Electrical Code and other city ordinances, as they currently exist or may be amended. If the standards as described herein are more restrictive than another ordinance or code, the provisions of this ordinance shall apply.

B. Visibility: All signs shall observe all visibility requirements. Signs shall not be placed within visibility triangles, corner clips, and V.A.M (visibility, access and maintenance) easements. Signs shall not create a hazard.

Visibility triangle is defined as the area of visibility required on a corner to allow for the safe operation of vehicles, trains, pedestrians, and cyclists in the proximity of intersecting street, rail lines, sidewalks and bicycle paths.

C. Signs Posted in Specified Areas: Unless otherwise permitted within this Chapter, no person shall post or cause to be posted, attach or maintain any sign upon:

1. Any city owned property or right-of-way without written permission of the City Administrator or his designee.
2. Any utility easement. Should a property owner be able to demonstrate to the city engineer and franchise utility company that there is no other viable location for a sign other than a utility easement, a sign may be located within the utility easement subject to written approval from the city engineer and/or franchise utility company and subject to the providing of a letter to the city

releasing the city of any liability for repair or replacement of a sign damaged by work occurring within the easement;

3. Any tree, utility pole or structure, street sign, rail, or any fence;
4. Any fence, railing or wall, except in accordance with section 58.1 of this ordinance (wall sign); or
5. Any sidewalk within the right-of-way or sidewalk easement, curb, gutter, or street, except for house numbers or fire lane designation.

D. Signs Attached to Fire Escapes: No sign shall be attached in any manner to any fire escape or to the supporting members of any fire escape, nor shall it be guyed to or supported by any part of a fire escape.

E. Accumulation of Rainwater: All signs shall be constructed to prevent the accumulation of rainwater in the sign.

F. Location near Telephone Cable, Power, Line, or Street Light: No sign shall be erected nearer than two (2) feet from any telephone cable, power line or any street light standard.

G. Signs not to Block or Interfere with Exits or Windows, or Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic. No sign shall be erected to block, partially block or interfere in any way with a required means of exit from any building nor with any window. No sign shall block, interfere, or otherwise hinder pedestrian or vehicular traffic on a public sidewalk, a public thoroughfare, a fire lane easement, or a driveway required to access parking.

H. Glass Signs over Public Property or Pedestrian Area: Signs constructed of glass or other materials which may shatter upon impact are prohibited over a public right-of-way or pedestrian area.

I. Identification Marking Required: All signs that require the issuance of a permit after adoption of this ordinance shall have attached, written or painted in a weatherproof manner and in a conspicuous place thereon, in letters not less than one (1) inch in height, the date of erection and the sign permit number on the sign.

J. Assumed Wind Load for Design Purposes: For the purposes of design of structural members in signs, an assumed wind load of twenty (20) pounds per square foot shall be used.

K. Multiple Signs on a Property of Building: The permitting of a sign on a property or building shall not preclude the permitting of other types of signs on a property or building, unless the signs are expressly prohibited herein.

L. Exemptions: Signs located within a building, with the exception of window signs, shall not be regulated by this ordinance.

SECTION 10: Removal Impoundment of Signs

A. All prohibited signs or noncompliant signs shall be considered a public nuisance and are prohibited by this ordinance in the City of Princeton and its extraterritorial jurisdiction. Upon identification of any prohibited sign, the building official or his designee shall provide written notification of the violation to the owner of the property on which the sign is located and/or the installer of the sign. The notification shall state that the offending sign shall be removed by the owner, agent or person having beneficial use of the land, building or structure upon which such sign is located within the time period prescribed after written notification to do so by the building official or his designee. The

notification shall further state that if the sign is not removed within a specific time frame (not to exceed ten (10) days) a citation may be issued and the city may resort to any civil remedy available up to and including impoundment. If any sign is determined to present an immediate danger to public health, safety or welfare, the city shall remove it immediately. Within ten (10) days of the removal of the sign, the building official or his designee shall notify the owner of the property on which the sign was located of the reasons for the removal of the sign. Signs authorized by a sign permit number with an expiration date shall be removed promptly upon the date of expiration.

Signs remaining after the date of expiration shall be deemed prohibited. The sign permit that provides the expiration date shall be considered adequate notice of violation.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, entity or corporation receiving such written notification or having an expired sign permit to fail to comply with the direction of the notification. In the event failure to comply with such notice provided, the building official or his designee is hereby authorized to cause the removal and impoundment of such sign. Any expenses incident thereto shall be the responsibility of the owner, agent or person having beneficial use of the land, building or structure upon which such sign was located.

C. If a sign is placed within a public right-of-way or on a city owned property in violation of this ordinance, the sign may be immediately removed and impounded.

SECTION 11: Impounded Signs and Recovery

A. Impounded signs may be recovered by the owner within fifteen (15) days from the date of written notification of impoundment by paying a fee as follows:

1. A fee of \$10.00 for signs which are six (6) square feet or less in area.

2. A fee of \$20.00 for signs, which are larger than six (6) square feet in area.

B. Impounded signs not recovered within fifteen (15) days of impoundment may be disposed of by the city in any manner it shall elect.

C. Illegal signs removed from public property, including the City of Princeton's right-of-right, park property or other city maintained area may be immediately disposed of by the city in any manner it shall elect.

SECTION 12: Neglected and Abandoned Signs

A. Abandoned signs and neglected signs shall be considered a public nuisance and are prohibited by this ordinance. Upon written notification by the building official or his designee, such abandoned signs shall be removed from the premises and neglected signs shall be repaired or removed from the premises by the owner, agent or person having beneficial use of the land, building or structure upon which such sign is located. The notification shall state that the offending sign shall be repaired or removed by the owner, agent or person have beneficial use of the land, building or structure upon which such sign is located within ten (10) days after written notification to do so by the building official or his designee. The notification shall further state that if the sign is not removed or repaired, a citation maybe issued and the city may resort to any civil remedy available to remove or repair the sign, up to and including impoundment. If any sign is determined to present an immediate danger to public health, safety or welfare, the city shall remove it

immediately within ten (10) days of the removal of the sign, the building official or his designee shall notify the owner of the property on which the sign was located of the reasons for the removal of such sign.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, entity or corporation receiving such written notification to fail to comply with the direction of the notice. In the event failure to comply with such notice provided under this section 12 of this ordinance, the building official or his designee is hereby authorized to cause the removal and impoundment of such sign. Any expenses incident thereto shall be the responsibility of the owner, agent or person having beneficial use of the land, building or structure upon which such sign was located.

SECTION 13: Nonconforming Signs

A. A nonconforming sign is a sign and its supporting structure which does not conform to all or part of the provisions of this ordinance, and legally:

1. Was in existence, has a sign permit if one was required prior to this section and lawfully erected prior to the date of this ordinance;
2. Was in existence and lawfully located and used in accordance with the provisions of the prior ordinance applicable thereto, or which was considered legally nonconforming there under, and has since been in continuous or regular use; or
3. Was in existence, located and used on the premises at the time it was annexed into the city and has since been in regular and continuous use.

B. Any nonconforming sign and its supporting structure which is destroyed, damaged, dilapidated or deteriorated shall not be replaced, repaired or renovated, in whole or in part, if such replacement, repair or renovation would require an expenditure of monies in excess of sixty (60) percent of the cost of a new sign, including its supporting structure, which is substantially the same or similar to the nonconforming sign destroyed, damaged, dilapidated or deteriorated. Changing the interior panel of a nonconforming sign is permitted in all cases.

SECTION 14: Variances

All appeals for variance or from denials, nonrenewals or adverse decisions of the building official or his designee under this ordinance shall be made to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. An appeal shall be filed in writing with the city secretary within ten (10) days of the occurrence of the denial, nonrenewal or adverse decisions of the building official or his designee. The Zoning Board of Adjustment shall hear the appeal within thirty (30) days after notice of such request or at the first available meeting practicable. The Zoning Board of Adjustment shall have the power to authorize a variance from the terms of the ordinance or to reverse a decision of the building official or his designee where the board finds that: (1) such variance or reversal will not be contrary to public interest, (2) owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance or compliance with the building official or his designee's decision will result in unnecessary hardship, and (3) the spirit of this ordinance shall be observed and substantial justice done. All decisions of the Zoning Board of Adjustment will be final

and binding unless otherwise appealed in accordance with the provisions of the city's Zoning Ordinance, as amended, or applicable state law. Pending appeal return of the sign may be accomplished by submitting in cash a \$25.00 appearance bond with the building official or his designee.

SECTION 15: Special Event Signage

A. Special events are generally defined as a temporary event or gathering using either private or public property, which involved on or more of the follow activities, except when the activity is for construction or house moving purposes only:

1. Closing a public street;
2. Blocking or restriction of public property and streets;
3. Offer of merchandise, food or beverages on public property or on private property where otherwise by ordinance;
4. Erection of a tent on public property or on private property where otherwise prohibited by ordinance;
5. Installation of a stage, band shell, trailer, van, portable building, grandstand or bleachers on public property, or on private property where otherwise prohibited by ordinance;
6. Involving amplified sound;
7. Placement of portable toilets on public property or on private property where otherwise by prohibited ordinance;
8. Placement of temporary no parking signs in a public right-of-way;
9. Outdoor amusement(s).

B. A written application for permit must be received by the city at least forty five (45) days prior to the date of the special event and thirty (30) days prior to a parade. A description of the proposed activity or celebration will be submitted to the City of Princeton by the applicant along with the application.

C. Banners, stake signs, inflatable device signs, or other apparatuses may not be erected to advertise a special event until a sign coordination plan as defined in section 16 of the ordinance has been approved by the City of Princeton. The sign coordination plan will be required to illustrate the location of banners, stake sign, inflatable device signs or other apparatuses to be used for a special event.

D. Signage associated with a special event shall be erected no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the event and removed no later than twenty four (24) hours after the conclusion of the event. (See sections 2 though 16 for additional requirements)

SECTION 16: Sign Coordination Plan

A. A sign coordination plan is required to be prepared for variance requests to the Zoning Board of Adjustments. A sign coordination plan is also required prior to the issuance of a sign permit for signs specified in section 58.1 of this ordinance, or as otherwise required herein, to determine overall sign location on a property, the relationship of the signs to surrounding existing, proposed and proposed future improvements and to determine consistency and uniformity among buildings and signs within a unified development or

residential development. The sign coordination plan shall be submitted to the Development Department.

B. A sign coordination plan shall contain the following information:

1. Elevations of the signs illustrating the materials of construction colors, lights, fonts of letters, and dimensions of the signs. If the sign is to be attached to a building, the elevation shall be a composite of the sign and the building;
2. Elevations depicting the size of the signs in relation to the size of the buildings within the development;
3. A plan drawn to concept plan, preliminary site plan, or site plan specifications, as detailed in the Zoning Ordinance 2009-06-009, as it currently exists or may be amended, of the site illustrating the location of existing and proposed signs on the property and, if required by city staff, on adjacent properties;
4. Other information to illustrate the consistency and uniformity of the signs; and
5. For unified development signs, the sign coordination plan shall identify a unified development. Only those properties and businesses included in a unified development shall be included/identified on the unified development signs erected within the unified development.

C. For nonresidential and multifamily developments, the sign coordination plan shall be submitted to the city for review with a concept plan, preliminary site plan or site plan of the property. For single family and two family developments, the sign coordination plan shall be submitted to the city for review with a concept plan, preliminary plat or final plat of the property.

D. A sign coordination plan required of signs specified in this section 16, or as otherwise required herein, shall be submitted to the Development Department. The sign coordination plan will be reviewed in accordance with the city's development review schedule and considered for approval by city staff. City staff may approve or deny a sign coordination plan.

SECTION 17: Penalty

Any owner, person, firm, corporation or business entity violating this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined a sum not exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for the first offense and Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for all subsequent offenses. Unless otherwise specified, allegation and evidence of a culpable mental state is not required for proof of an offense committed herein. Each continuing day's violation under this Ordinance shall constitute a separate offense. Each violation of a specified sign may constitute a separate offense. The penal provisions imposed under this Ordinance shall not preclude Princeton from filing suit to enjoin the violation. Princeton retains all legal rights and remedies available to it pursuant to local, state and federal law.

SECTION 18: Severability Clause

Should any article, section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is expressly provided

that any and all remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. The City of Princeton hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one of or more article, section, subsection sentence, clause or phrase be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 19: Repealing/Savings Clauses

All provisions of any ordinance in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent they are in conflict; but such repeal shall not abate any pending prosecution for violation of the repealed ordinance, nor shall the repeal prevent a prosecution from being commenced for any violation if occurring prior to the repeal of the ordinance. Any remaining portions of said ordinances shall remain in full force and effect.


SECTION 20: Injunctive Relief

In addition to and accumulative of all other penalties, Princeton shall have the right to seek injunctive relief for any and all violations of the Ordinance.

SECTION 21: Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its adoption and publication as required by law.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Princeton, Texas, on this 8 day of September, 2009.


Ken Bowers, Mayor

ATTEST:


Lesia Thornhill, City Secretary

