

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending the beginning of Article 4.4 and Sections 14.4.2, 14.4.4 and 14.4.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to clarify regulations pertaining to signs.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Add a paragraph at the beginning of Article 4.4 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

The regulations in this article do not apply to signs located primarily within a public right-of-way.

Sec. 2. Amend the entry for Section 14.4.17 within the list of sections appearing at the beginning of Article 4.4 to read as follows:

14.4.17 Temporary Signs on Temporary Construction Walls and Solid Wood Fences Surrounding Vacant Lots.

Sec. 3. Amend the following definition in Section 14.4.2 to read as follows:

Temporary Construction Wall. A temporary solid wooden-fence or wooden barrier of wood or similar material that provides protection for pedestrians and is erected and maintained on the perimeter of a construction or demolition site pursuant to Section ~~3303~~ 91.3306 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code of the California Building Code (CBC).

Sec. 4. Subdivision 11 of Subsection B of Section 14.4.4 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

11. Are off-site signs, including off-site digital displays, except when off-site signs are specifically permitted pursuant to a relocation agreement entered into pursuant to California Business and Professions Code Section 5412. This prohibition shall also apply to alterations, enlargements or conversions to digital displays of legally existing off-site signs, except for alterations that conform to the provisions of Section 91.6216 and all other requirements of this Code.

EXCEPTIONS: This prohibition shall not apply to off-site signs, including off-site digital displays, that are specifically permitted pursuant to a legally adopted specific plan, supplemental use district or an approved development agreement, or that are authorized by a valid building permit for a temporary sign on required temporary construction walls surrounding active construction sites or

fences of solid wood or similar material surrounding vacant lots pursuant to Section 14.4.17.

~~This exception shall become operative only to the extent that Subdivision 11. is deemed constitutional upon the reversal of the trial court decision in the case of World Wide Rush, LLC v. City of Los Angeles, United States District Court Case No. CV 07-238 ABC.~~

~~In addition, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12.26 A.3. of this Code, this prohibition shall not apply to any building permit issued prior to the effective date of this ordinance if the Department of Building and Safety determines that both substantial liabilities have been incurred, and substantial work has been performed on site, in accordance with the terms of that permit pursuant to Section 91.106.4.3.1 of this Code.~~

Sec. 5. The heading of Section 14.4.17 shall be amended to read as follows:

SEC. 14.4.17. TEMPORARY SIGNS ON TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION WALLS AND SOLID WOOD FENCES SURROUNDING VACANT LOTS.

Sec. 6. Subsection A of Section 14.4.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

A. Permit Required. A building permit shall be required for a temporary sign on a temporary construction wall or a fence of solid wood or similar material surrounding a vacant lot. ~~Temporary signs on temporary construction walls shall comply with the construction requirements of Section 14.4.16 E. A permit for a temporary sign shall be issued only when a temporary construction wall is required for public safety pursuant to Section 91.3306 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, or a fence of solid wood or similar material surrounds a vacant lot. No permit for a temporary sign on a temporary construction wall shall be issued if such wall surrounds an operating business, including an operating parking lot. If, after the permit is issued, a business on the site or lot that was not operating at the time of permit issuance begins operating, the Department of Building and Safety may revoke the permit.~~

For purposes of this section, the term “applicant” shall mean the owner of the sign company or, if there is no sign company, the owner of the property.

Sec. 7. Subsection C of Section 14.4.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

C. Time Limit. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 14.4.16 C.1. and 2. of this Code, signs placed on temporary construction walls , and/or solid wood fences surrounding vacant lots pursuant to the terms of this section active construction sites with no operating business of any kind shall be allowed to remain for as long as the building permits associated with the construction site remain in effect or for a period of

two years, whichever is less. Building permits for signs on ~~solid wood~~ fences of solid wood or similar material surrounding vacant lots, which are not construction sites, shall be issued for a time period not to exceed one year. The Department of Building and Safety shall grant a new building permit for a period equal to the original building permit term upon the receipt of (i) an application for a new building permit, (ii) the payment of the building permit fee and (iii) a written statement from the Director of the Office of Community Beautification consenting to the new building permit. The Office of Community Beautification's consent to the new building permit shall be based solely on its assessment of the existence of a public nuisance based on the presence of graffiti, posters/handbills and any other illegal postings on public property pursuant to the review described in Subsection G of this Section.

Sec. 8. Subsection F of Section 14.4.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to be renumbered Subsection G:

FG. Special Requirements for Signs on Temporary Construction Walls, and/or Solid Wood Fences Surrounding Vacant Lots.

Sec. 9. New Subsection F is added to Section 14.4.17 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code:

F. Construction. Temporary signs on temporary construction walls or solid wood fences surrounding vacant lots may be made of paper, vinyl, or other similar material.

Sec. 10. The City Clerk shall certify....