



CITY OF MCMINNVILLE TN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
101 E. MAIN STREET – SECOND FLOOR
MCMINNVILLE TN 37110
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NEW SIGN CODE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Why is the sign code being revised?

Two main reasons exist for changing the sign code. The first is to comply with federal law and Supreme Court rulings. Our sign code must be content-neutral. Simply put this means we can regulate the time, place, and manner for signs, but not their content. Signs of a similar nature must be treated equally. For example, a sign indicating a house is for sale cannot have a time limit, whereas a sign supporting high school athletics does not have a time limit.

The second reason is that they are outdated, hard to follow and understand, and are missing definitions.

2. What are the changes?

The changes include the removal of content-based definitions, adjustments to time frames, the number of signs permitted, additional definitions, and the use of tables, pictures, and links resulting in a more user-friendly format.

3. How were the changes developed?

The changes were developed by the Community Development Department based on court rulings, law, and other factors. Standard and common definitions were used, and other sign codes were reviewed. The use of tables and illustrations were placed for ease of understanding and use.

4. What is the approval process?

The code is placed on the project area of the website and will be for a period of public review and comments. After this time, the comments will be reviewed, adjustments made, and reposted.

As the sign code is an appendix to the zoning code it will require a recommendation by the Planning Commission and approval by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Both will also have a public hearing. You can check the dates and progress here: <https://mcminnville-tn.civilspace.io/en>

You will select Community Development. It will be listed under active projects.

5. How can we provide comments, and feedback, and participate in the process?

You can provide feedback through the survey, or send comments/concerns to sgarrett@mcminnvilletn.gov or rroach@mcminnvilletn.gov You can also attend the Planning Commission meeting and the public hearing for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Please note that the Public Hearing will be the final version and have a recommendation from the Planning Commission.

6. What is the timeline for the code to take effect?

The current projected date is approval by June. This will depend upon amendments and changes being made, postings, and other factors.