

**CITY OF GOLD BAR, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 12-05**

**A RESOLUTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF GOLD BAR MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER 17.06**

WHEREAS, the City of Gold Bar Municipal Code Chapter 17.06 covers General Sign Provisions; and

WHEREAS 17.06.005F defines a "Multiple Business Establishment"; and

WHEREAS, 17.06.030 (1) defines the number of signs per business establishment; and

WHEREAS, 17.06.030 (3) limits signs per "site", an undefined term; and

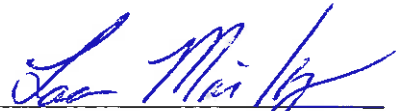
WHEREAS, the City of Gold Bar wishes to clarify these meanings.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gold Bar, Washington as follows:

1. A single building containing two businesses, each with its own separate entry, shall be considered to have two business establishments;
2. The term "site" shall mean a "business establishment", not the building itself;
3. This Chapter will be updated in 2012 to incorporate this clarification as part of a general updating of the chapter.

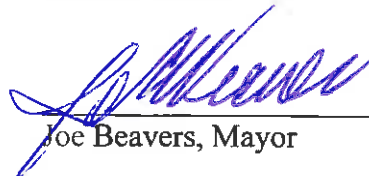
RESOLVED this 17th day of April, 2012.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Laura Kelly, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED:



Joe Beavers, Mayor

Chapter 17.06 - GENERAL SIGN PROVISIONS ^[1]

⁽¹⁾ Editor's note— Ord. No. 611, § 1, adopted Jan. 6, 2009, amended Ch. 17.06 in its entirety and enacted similar provisions as set out herein. The former Ch. 17.06 derived from Ord. 543, § 1 (part), adopted in 2001; and Ord. 595, §§ 7—9, adopted in 2005.

Sections:

- [17.06.001 - Gold Bar sign permit purpose.](#)
- [17.06.002 - Gold Bar sign permit requirement.](#)
- [17.06.003 - Sign structural requirements.](#)
- [17.06.005 - Definitions.](#)
- [17.06.010 - Political signs.](#)
- [17.06.020 - Temporary and special event signs.](#)
- [17.06.030 - Advertising and/or business signs.](#)
- [17.06.040 - Noncompliance—Removal when.](#)
- [17.06.050 - Appeal of sign permit denial or noncompliance ruling.](#)
- [17.06.060 - Existing nonconforming signs.](#)

17.06.001 - Gold Bar sign permit purpose.

The purpose of the Gold Bar General Sign Provisions is to ensure the safety of signs and to establish a permit process for certain signs and to promote the use of signs that are both functional and attractive in appearance and which will, by their size, location and manner of display, promote public safety and traffic safety and will not otherwise endanger the public health, safety or general welfare. Conforming signs will form an essential element of the overall visual attractiveness of the city and thereby contribute both to the aesthetic and economic well being of its citizens.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.002 - Gold Bar sign permit requirement.

All signs visible from Highway 2 must be in conformance with the standards of the Scenic Vistas Act (RCW 7.42 and WAC 468-66) that is incorporated herein by this reference and as such are subject to WSDOT rules, regulations, and noncompliance penalties.

In the case of conflict between the requirements of the Scenic Vistas Act and this chapter, the more-restrictive requirement shall apply.

No sign required to have a Gold Bar sign permit by the provisions of this chapter shall be erected, altered or relocated by any person or entity from and after the date of adoption of this chapter without obtaining such permit as noted below.

Signs requiring a permit and subject to enforcement by the public works director:

- A. Advertising and/or business signs covered under section 17.06.030 shall be permitted by obtaining a permit application from city hall, having the permit processed by the public works director, and then having the permit reviewed by the planning commission for the purpose of recommending approval or rejection.

Signs not requiring a permit but subject to regulation of this chapter and enforcement by the public works director:

- A. Political signs as described in 17.06.010
- B. Temporary and special event signs as described in 17.06.020

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.003 - Sign structural requirements.

All signs within the city must be constructed and erected in conformance with the design and construction standards of the International Sign Code that is incorporated herein by this reference within the International Building Code currently used by the city.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.005 - Definitions.

- A. "Advertising and/or business sign" means a permanent sign with copy to promote a business.
- B. "Directional sign" means a sign permanently erected or permitted by the city or the state to denote the name of any thoroughfare; the route to any city, town, village, educational institution, public building, business, historic place, shrine or hospital; to direct and regulate traffic; to denote any railroad crossing, bridge, ferry or other transportation or transmission company for the direction or safety of the public. "Directional sign" also means a sign, notice, or symbol about the time and place of regular civic meetings and religious activities and services. "Directional sign" also means a sign that has only information (informational directional sign) on exit and entrance or parking and contains no form of advertising copy or the name of any advertiser.
- C. "Freestanding sign" means a sign attached to the ground and supported by uprights or braces placed on or in the ground (also called "ground" or "pole" sign).
- D. "Ground sign" means a type of freestanding sign which is erected on the ground, and which contains no free air space between the ground and the top of the sign.
- E. "Multiple-building complex" means a group of structures housing at least one (1) retail business, office, commercial venture or independent or separate part of a business that shares the same lot, access, and/or parking facilities.
- F. "Multiple-business establishment" means a single structure housing more than one (1) retail business, office, or commercial venture.
- G. "Business sign" means a sign which displays only advertising copy strictly incidental to the lawful use of the premises on which it is located and shall, depending upon the district in which it is located, contain any or all of the following:
1. The name of the owner, occupant, management, or firm occupying the premises;
 2. The address of the use;
 3. The kind or name of business and/or the brand name of the principal commodities sold or produced on the premises;
 4. Other information relative to a service or activity involved in the conduct of the business (also includes owner identification or business sign).
- H. "Off-premises sign" means any sign, including a billboard, which cannot be classified as a business identification sign as described above.
- I. "Pedestal sign" means a sign that is no higher than five (5) feet above ground elevation and which is attached to the ground by means of a solid base or at least two (2) legs.
- J. "Civic event" is a nonprofit event that is intended for the greater good of the community.
- K. "Political sign" means signs, posters, [or] bills promoting or publicizing candidates for public office or issues that are to be voted upon in primary, general, or special election.

- L. "Projecting sign" means a sign, other than a flat wall sign, which is attached to and projects from a structure or building face.
- M. "Real estate sign" means a temporary sign erected by the owner or his agent advertising the real estate upon which the sign is located for rent for lease or for sale, or directing to said property.
- N. "Roof sign" means a sign erected upon or above a roof or parapet of a building or structure.
- O. "Sign" means any commercial communication device, structure or fixture, visible from a public right-of-way and using graphics, pictures, symbols or written copy, that is intended to aid an establishment or business in promoting the sale of a product, goods or services. For the purpose of this title, a sign shall not be considered to be building or structural design, national flags or flags of political subdivisions, symbolic flags or insignia of an institution, point of purchase product dispensers, holiday decorations, gravestones, historical site plaques or holiday displays.
- P. "Measurement of total sign area." The following method shall be utilized in calculating the square-footage measurement of any freestanding, wall or projecting sign display:
1. The square footage of any freestanding, wall or projecting sign shall be calculated by measuring inside the cabinet retainer area reserved for advertising copy or graphics only, including reader board spaces, by applying a set of straight lines around the outside edge of said sign cabinet.
 2. Double-faced or multifaced signs shall be calculated as the maximum outside edge of one side only.
 3. For purposes of calculating the allowed sign area, the total allowance of wall, projecting and freestanding can be applied anywhere on the property or building.
 4. Signs painted or applied directly against the surface of a building shall have square footage calculated by the smallest polygon measurement enclosing the letters and/or symbols of the sign area.
- Q. "Sign, area of—Ground." The area of all ground signs shall be measured by determining the sum of the area of each square, rectangle, triangle, portion of a circle, or any combination thereof, which creates the smallest single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of the sign face, and that portion of the sign structure which exceeds one and one-half (1½) times the area of the sign face.
- R. "Sign height" means the vertical distance measured from the finished grade of the sign location that permits the greatest height to the highest point of said sign.
- S. "Super-graphics" means an artistic design theme that exceeds the size limits of this title by continuing the design beyond the actual boundaries of the sign message. That portion of the sign which contains letters, symbols, and logos must conform to the size limitations herein.
- T. "Wall sign" means a sign attached or erected parallel to and extending not more than eighteen (18) inches from the facade or face of any building to which it is attached and supported throughout its entire length, with the exposed face of the sign parallel to the plane of said wall or facade. For the purpose of this title, signs incorporated into or attached to a mansard roof shall be considered wall signs.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.010 - Political signs.

Political signs may be displayed in accordance with the following restrictions:

A. **Time Limitations.** Political signs shall be removed within seven (7) days following the date of certification of a primary election or actual date of a general election. An exception shall be made for the winners of a primary election in that those signs shall be allowed to remain until the general election.

B. **Prohibited on Public Property.** It is unlawful for any person to paste, paint, affix or fasten any political sign on a utility pole or on any public building or structure, unless the structure is open for posting by the general public. No political sign placed within the public right-of-way shall create a safety hazard for pedestrians or motorists as determined by the chief of police or the public works director. No political sign shall be placed within thirty (30) feet of a city-owned community sign.

C. **Responsibility for Compliance.** It shall be presumed that any violation of the section was done at the direction and request of the political candidate and/or campaign director.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.020 - Temporary and special event signs.

Except as otherwise provided below for certain special categories, temporary and special event signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area per face, and shall not be displayed longer than thirty (30) days per calendar year.

A. **Construction Signs.** Construction signs identify the architects, engineers, contractors or other individuals or firms involved with the construction of a plat or commercial site and announce the character of the building or the purpose for which the building is intended. Such signs may be displayed only after a building permit is obtained and during the period of construction. Only one (1) such sign is permitted per construction site or plat. No construction sign shall exceed thirty-two (32) square feet per face or twelve (12) feet in height, nor shall it be located closer than ten (10) feet from an interior property line. Construction signs shall be removed by the date of the issuance of the certificate of occupancy, or upon expiration of the building permit, whichever comes first.

B. **Grand Opening Displays.** Temporary signs, posters, banners, strings of lights, clusters of flags, blinking lights, balloons, searchlights and beacons are permitted in commercial zones for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days per calendar year to announce the opening of a new enterprise or an existing enterprise under new ownership. All such signs shall be located on the premises being advertised, and shall be completely removed immediately upon expiration of said sixty-day period.

C. **Special Sales and Events.** Temporary signs, posters, banners, strings of lights, clusters of flags, blinking lights, balloons, searchlights and beacons are permitted for the limited purpose of announcing a retail sale or special event in commercial zones, but not on a routine basis. All such advertising material shall be located on the premises being advertised, and shall be completely removed immediately upon expiration of said sixty-day period.

D. **Quitting Business Sales.** Temporary signs, posters, and banners are permitted for a period of ninety (90) continuous days for the purpose of advertising quitting business sales, liquidation sales, or other events of a similar nature. All such signs shall be located on the premises being advertised, and shall be completely removed immediately upon expiration of the ninety (90) day period or the conclusion of the sale, whichever comes first.

E. Civic Events. Signs and promotion will be permitted on a case-by-case basis as allowed by Gold Bar City Council.

F. Real Estate Signage. Signs announcing the sale, rental, or lease of properties shall meet the following:

1. One sign shall be allowed per tax parcel.
2. Sign face shall not exceed three (3) feet in height or width. Overall, height shall not exceed seven (7) feet in height.
3. Sign shall be located within the confines of the subject property.
4. Illumination shall not be permitted.
5. Sign shall be removed within five (5) days of the closing date of the sale, rental, or lease of the subject property.

G. Off-Premises Directional Signage. Directional signs for the announcement and direction to residential real estate open houses and garage/yard sales shall be permitted according to the following requirements:

1. No more than one (1) on-site and three (3) off-site signs per open house or one (1) on-site and five (5) off-site signs per garage/yard sale.
2. Sign face shall not exceed three (3) feet in height or width. Overall, height shall not exceed three (3) feet in height.
3. Shall be located no more than twenty-five (25) feet in any direction from a street intersection at the curb line. Shall be located a minimum of five (5) feet from the edge of a street intersection without a curb line. On streets containing curb, gutter and sidewalk, signs shall be located on the landscaped area between the street and sidewalk (if one exists), or alternately on the sidewalk in a manner not to impede pedestrian movement.
4. Shall not be permanently attached to the ground and not to be located on utility poles or city poles.
5. Illumination shall not be permitted.
6. Signs shall be erected only during daylight hours and when a sales person or duly appointed representative is on-site. Further, signs shall be removed immediately after the close of the open house or sale event.
7. Off-premises signs shall meet the requirements of the Scenic Vista Act.
8. Construction shall be of a durable, rigid, all-weather material and be of a sufficient weight and stature to ensure that it will remain in place during high winds. Signs shall be legible and well maintained and with lettering large enough to be easily read by the occupants of a passing vehicle.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.030 - Advertising and/or business signs.

Signing. Signing shall be subject to the following limitations:

1. Each business establishment shall have no more than one (1) business identification sign per building face and in no event more than two (2) signs per establishment;

2. Business signs shall be attached to the principal building unless otherwise reviewed and approved by the planning commission and approved by the public works director. Approval shall only be granted when attachment to the principal building prevents reasonable view of the signage from Highway 2. The uppermost portion of the sign shall not extend more than five (5) feet higher than the building at its highest point, subject further to the overall height regulations of the zone it is located in;

3. Advertising and/or business identification signs pertaining only to the use or sales on the property where displayed shall be limited to the following sizes and conditions:

A. Ground-mounted signs such as reader boards and/or monuments are permitted provided that there be no more than one (1) on each street frontage or two (2) per site and the size meets the requirement of Table I;

B. Freestanding signs are permitted provided that there be no more than one (1) base structure per site and the size meets the requirement of Table I.

TABLE I: SIGN SIZES (maximum/zone)

Item	NB Zone	CB Zone	GC Zone
Business I.D.	16 sq ft/sign	16 sq ft/sign	25 sq ft/sign
Ground-Mounted (pedestal, reader boards, etc.)	15 sq ft/face 30 sq ft/total/site	20 sq ft/face 40 sq ft/total/site	25 sq ft/face 50 sq ft/total/site
Freestanding	32 sq ft/face business 64 sq ft/site	48 sq ft/face/business 96 sq ft/site	64 sq ft/face/business 128 sq ft/site

4. Signs which are an integral part of a window shall occupy no more than twenty-five (25) percent of the total window area.

5. Projecting signs or graphics, and their supportive members, shall project outward no more than four (4) feet from a building and no lower than eight (8) feet above ground level;

6. All signs shall maintain a minimum setback of five (5) feet from all property lines and shall be located so they permit an unobstructed sight distance of three hundred (300) feet along all intersecting right-of-way, to include private and/or public excess points;

7. Signs shall observe the height regulations of the zone they are located in;

8. Signs shall not be animated, audible, or illuminated by any intermittent, flashing or scintillating source of light;

9. Signs displaying time/temperature readouts are subject to review by the planning commission and approval by the public works director for compliance with this chapter.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.040 - Noncompliance—Removal when.

A. Erection or installation of any sign which is not in conformance with the provisions of this title [chapter] shall be considered a violation of the zoning ordinance. The public works director shall require such sign to be corrected or removed within a reasonable period of time. When any sign is determined by the public works director to be in such condition that it may constitute a hazard to public safety, the public works director is authorized to remove the device immediately with subsequent notice.

B. Supergraphics painted directly onto a building wall may be permitted upon review of the planning commission and approval by the public works director to exceed the sign area allowance when it is established that such graphics would not detract from the purpose and intent of this title (see 17.06.001).

C. Any noncompliance ruling made by the public works director may be appealed as outlined in 17.06.050

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.050 - Appeal of sign permit denial or noncompliance ruling.

In the event that an applicant for a sign permit, or the receiver of a noncompliance ruling or action, feels that his/her application and/or action has been improperly denied or executed in full or in part by the planning commission and/or public works director, the applicant may appeal the decision and/or action to the city council. The appeal shall be governed by the following:

A. Only the permit applicant or the owner of the business named on the application may appeal the public works director's/planning commission's decisions.

B. An appeal of the planning commission's/public works director's decision must be filed with the public works director within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of issuance of the public works director's/planning commission's decision.

C. The appellant must complete a city-provided sign permit denial/noncompliance removal appeal form, pay a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) filing fee and costs of city staff time at current burdened rates and hearing notice publication costs, and provide the following information in writing:

1. Appellant's name, address, and phone number;
2. Identification of the permit application that is the subject of the appeal;
3. Appellant's statement of grounds for appeal and the facts upon which the appeal is based, including references to relevant sign ordinance provisions;
4. A statement that the appellant has read the appeal and believes the contents to be true followed by the appellant's signature.

D. The city council will conduct a hearing as follows:

1. Applications: Closed record hearing in accordance with the Gold Bar Municipal Code to hear the appeal of an application and render a final decision on the sign permit application based on the requirements and guidelines of this chapter.

2. Noncompliance Ruling or Action: Open record hearing in accordance with the Gold Bar Municipal Code to hear the appeal of a noncompliance ruling or action and render a final decision on the ruling or action based on the requirements and guidelines of this chapter.

3. The decision of the city council shall be final subject only to an appeal to the superior court under the Land Use Petition Act.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)

17.06.060 - Existing nonconforming signs.

Existing signs which would fall within the scope of this chapter are hereby permitted as nonconforming signs for:

A. Advertising and/or business signs covered under section 17.06.030 are hereby permitted for their reasonable use so long as said signs are safe and do not endanger public safety. A reasonable use is considered to be three (3) years from the date of adoption of this chapter [January 6, 2010]. Nonconforming signs shall be removed or repaired if unsafe and shall be removed at the end of their reasonable use as noted above unless they then comply with the provisions of the chapter, including any permitting requirements.

B. Signs not requiring a permit but subject to regulation of this chapter and enforcement by the public works director:

1. Political Signs as described in 17.06.010
2. Temporary and Special Event signs as described in 17.06.020

shall be allowed for a period of three (3) months from the date of adoption of this chapter [January 6, 2010].

The owner of these signs shall be notified within one (1) month of the date of adoption of this chapter. If such sign does not identify an owner, it will be removed immediately upon adoption of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 611, § 1, 1-6-2009)