
Sec. 12-29-6. Nonconforming signs.

It is the declared purpose of this section that in time all privately owned signs shall either conform to the provisions of this section or be removed, unless such sign was built prior to 1990. If built prior to 1990 and if the sign is not considered a pole sign, then it can be rebuilt in the same location with the same height and width, provided it is architecturally compatible with the main structure on site. By the passage of this ordinance and its amendments, no presently illegal sign shall be deemed to have been legalized unless such sign complies with all current standards under the terms of this ordinance and all other ordinances of the city. Any sign which does not conform to all provisions of this ordinance shall be either a non-conforming sign if it legally existed as a conforming or non-conforming sign under prior ordinances, or an illegal sign if it did not exist as a conforming or non-conforming sign, as the case may be. It is further the intent and declared purpose of this ordinance that no offense committed, and no liability, penalty or forfeiture, either civil or criminal, incurred prior to the time this ordinance was adopted shall be discharged or affected by such passage, but prosecution and suits for such offenses, liabilities, penalties or forfeitures may be instituted, and causes presently pending may proceed.

1. *Impoundment:* Any sign erected in or over a public right-of-way either prior to or after the adoption of this ordinance, except those signs allowed under subsections 12-29-3(2)(F), 12-29-3(2)(G), 12-29-5(5) and 12-29-7(5), shall be construed a public nuisance and the city may, without notice, remove and impound any such signs.
2. *Removal of certain non-conforming signs:* Non-conforming signs which have been blown down or otherwise destroyed or dismantled for any purpose other than maintenance operations or for changing the letters, symbols, or other matter on the sign shall be removed or brought into compliance with this section if the cost of repairing the sign is more than 60 percent of the cost of erecting a new sign of the same type at the same location. No person may repair a non-conforming sign where the effect of such repair shall be to enlarge or increase the structure of the non-conforming sign.
3. *Recovery and disposal of impounded signs:* Impounded signs may be recovered by the owner within ten days of the date of impoundment. Signs that are not recovered within ten days of impoundment will be destroyed.

(Ord. No. 91500-A-129)