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ARTICLE VI. - SIGNS^[6]

• **DIVISION 1. - TITLE, APPLICABILITY, PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS**^[7]

• **Sec. 33-82. - Short title and applicability.**

(a)

This article shall be known as the "Sign Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida" and shall be applicable in the unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County, and specifically in the incorporated areas of Miami-Dade County. When the provisions of this article are applicable to a municipality, the municipality shall be responsible for enforcement.

(b)

If property in the unincorporated area fronting a street right-of-way forms a common boundary with a municipality, and if the zoning classifications on both sides of the boundary are comparable, the property in the unincorporated area shall comply with the provisions of the municipal ordinance, provided the municipality has a sign ordinance with stricter standards than this article. In such event Miami-Dade County shall apply and enforce the provisions of the municipal ordinance in the unincorporated areas of the County. No variance from this section shall be permitted without the prior express consent of the affected municipality.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 96-163, § 1, 11-12-96)

• **Sec. 33-83. - Purpose.**

(a)

The purpose of this chapter [article] is to permit signs that will not, because of size, location, method of construction and installation, or manner of display:

(1)

Endanger the public safety; or

(2)

Create distractions that may jeopardize pedestrian or vehicular traffic safety; or

(3)

Mislead, confuse, or obstruct the vision of people seeking to locate or identify uses or premises; and

(4)

Destroy or impair aesthetic or visual qualities of Miami-Dade County which is so essential to tourism and the general welfare.

(b)

The purpose of this article is also to permit, regulate and encourage the use of signs with a scale, graphic character, and type of lighting compatible with buildings and uses in the area, so as to support and complement land use objectives as set forth in the Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

(c)

The purpose of this article is also to protect noncommercial speech such that any sign authorized herein may contain, in lieu of any other message or copy, any lawful noncommercial message, so long as such sign complies with the size, height, area and other requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 07-61, § 1, 4-26-07)

• **Sec. 33-84. - Definitions.**

For the purposes of this article the following words and phrases are hereby defined as provided in this section, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Where there is a question as to the correct classification or definition of a sign, the Director shall place said sign in the strictest category and/or classification.

(1)

Sign: Any display of characters, letters, logos, illustrations or any ornamentation designed or used as an advertisement, announcement, or to indicate direction.

Use of merchandise, products, vehicles, equipment, inflated balloons, or the like as an attention attractor or advertising device, with or without a printed or written message or advertisement, shall be considered a sign.

(2)

Attraction board: A sign or portion of a sign on which copy is changed periodically, advertising special sales, bargains, etc. Said attraction board may be incorporated into the sign permitted.

(3)

Awning, canopy, roller curtain or umbrella sign: Any sign painted, stamped, perforated, or stitched on the surface area of an awning, canopy, roller curtain or umbrella.

(4)

Blank wall. The wall of a building that is free of windows, balconies, railings, articulated facade, decorative grills or gratings, or other architectural elements. Walls constructed on rooftops or as part of a parapet shall not be considered blank walls for the purposes of this article.

(5)

Cantilever: That portion of a building, projecting horizontally, whether it be on the same plane as the roof line or not.

(6)

Cantilever sign: Any sign which is mounted on a cantilever. No cantilever sign may extend beyond the cantilever.

(7)

Class A (temporary signs): Any sign(s) to be erected on a temporary basis, such as signs advertising the sale or rental of the premises on which located; signs advertising a subdivision of property; signs advertising construction actually being done on the premises on which the sign is located; signs advertising future construction to be done on the premises on which located, and special events, such as carnivals, concerts, public meetings, sporting events, political campaigns or events of a similar nature.

(8)

Class B (point of sale sign): Any sign advertising or designating the use, occupant of the premises, or merchandise and products sold on the premises, shall be deemed to be a point of sale sign (class B) and shall be located on the same premises whereon such is situated or the products sold.

(9)

Class C (commercial advertising signs): Any sign which is used for any purpose other than that of advertising to the public the legal or exact firm name of business or other activity carried on the premises, or for advertising any service or product or products actually and actively being offered for sale on the premises, or which is designed and displayed solely to offer for sale or rent the premises, or to advertise construction being done, or proposed to be done, on the premises, or to advertise special events, shall constitute a class C sign.

Class C signs may be in the form of a billboard, kiosk, bulletin board, mural, or poster board, or may be affixed flat to a building or painted thereon.

(10)

Detached sign: Any sign not attached to or painted on a building, but which is affixed and permanently attached to the ground. Permanently attached as used herein shall mean that the supporting structure of the sign is attached to the ground by a concrete foundation.

(11)

Digital technology (signs): Electronic technology that allows for changes to sign copy resulting from digital data input. Included in this technology are signs that use series of lights, including light emitting diodes (LED), fiber optics, or other similar technology.

(12)

Director: The Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources or successor department, or the Director's designee.

(13)

Directional sign: A sign which guides or directs the public and contains no advertising. The name of the facility (such as store name), which the sign is giving direction to, may be included when specified conditions in the ordinance are complied with.

(14)

Entrance features: Any combination of decorative structures and landscape elements located at the entrance to a development, which identifies or draws attention to the development and/or exercises control of ingress and egress to the development. An entrance feature may include, although not necessarily be limited to, ornamental walls, fences, identifying lettering, logos, works of art, and other decorative structures, earthworks, water bodies, fountains, trees, plantings, and other landscape elements, as well as gatehouses, either singly or in any combination thereof.

(15)

Flat sign: Any sign attached to and erected parallel to the face of, or erected or painted on the outside wall of any building, and supported throughout its length by such wall or building.

(16)

Kiosk sign: A detached, dual-face sign placed within a base and affixed or permanently attached to the ground, similar in dimensions to a bus-shelter sign.

(17)

Marquee: A covered structure projecting from, and supported by the building with independent roof and drainage provisions, and which is erected over a doorway or entranceway as protection against the weather.

(18)

Marquee sign: Any sign attached to or hung from a marquee.

(19)

Mural: Any Class C wall sign painted on, affixed, or secured flat to the facade of a building.

(20)

Nits (nt): The unit of measurement for luminance. Luminance is the measure of the light emanating from an object with respect to its size and is the term used to quantify electronic sign brightness. A nit is the total amount of light emitted from a sign divided by the surface area of the sign (candelas per square meter (cd/m²)).

(21)

Portable sign: Any sign not attached to or painted on a building and not affixed or permanently attached to the ground.

(22)

Projecting sign: Any sign which is an independent structure, which is attached to the building wall, and which extends at any angle from the face of the wall. No projecting sign shall extend above the roof or parapet wall in any residential district.

(23)

Projected Technologies: The projection, through digital technology, of two-dimensional or three-dimensional static or moving images.

(24)

Pylon: A vertical extension of a building, constructed integrally and concurrently with the building, or in connection with a major remodeling or alteration of a building. To classify as a pylon for sign purposes, the pylon structure must be an integral part of the building structure, extending to ground level. In business and industrial districts only, the material and construction may vary from the materials and type of construction of the exterior walls of the building, but same must be approved by the Director. In all cases, the pylon shall have the appearance of a solid structure.

(25)

Pylon sign: A flat sign attached to or painted on the face of a pylon. The outer edge of the sign shall not extend beyond the pylon nor above the roof line.

(26)

Roof sign: Any sign which is painted on, fastened to, or supported by the roof or erected over the roof.

(27)

Semaphore: Any sign consisting of two (2) dual-face signs extending horizontally from a light standard. Such sign projecting from opposite sides of such light standard, and such signs must be located in the parking lot of a shopping center to identify the location of parking areas. No advertising is permitted on the sign.

(28)

Shopping center: An area zoned for business is a shopping center where at least two hundred fifty (250) feet of street frontage has been zoned for commercial purposes under one (1) application and under one (1) ownership, and where it contains at least two (2) tiers of in-front parking, contains two (2) or more retail uses, and is subject to site plan or plot use approval as a condition of the applicable resolution or ordinance.

(29)

Wall: For sign purposes, that portion of the building's exterior, horizontal surface on the same plane, regardless of vertical or horizontal indentations, and including the surface of parapets and pylons projecting from the building. For sign purposes, there shall be considered to be only four (4) planes to any building and it shall be the prerogative of the Director to determine which portion of odd-shaped buildings, such as buildings of hexagon or octagon design, to which flat signs may be affixed, with such location to be so determined as to prevent a grouping of signs which can be viewed from one (1) direction.

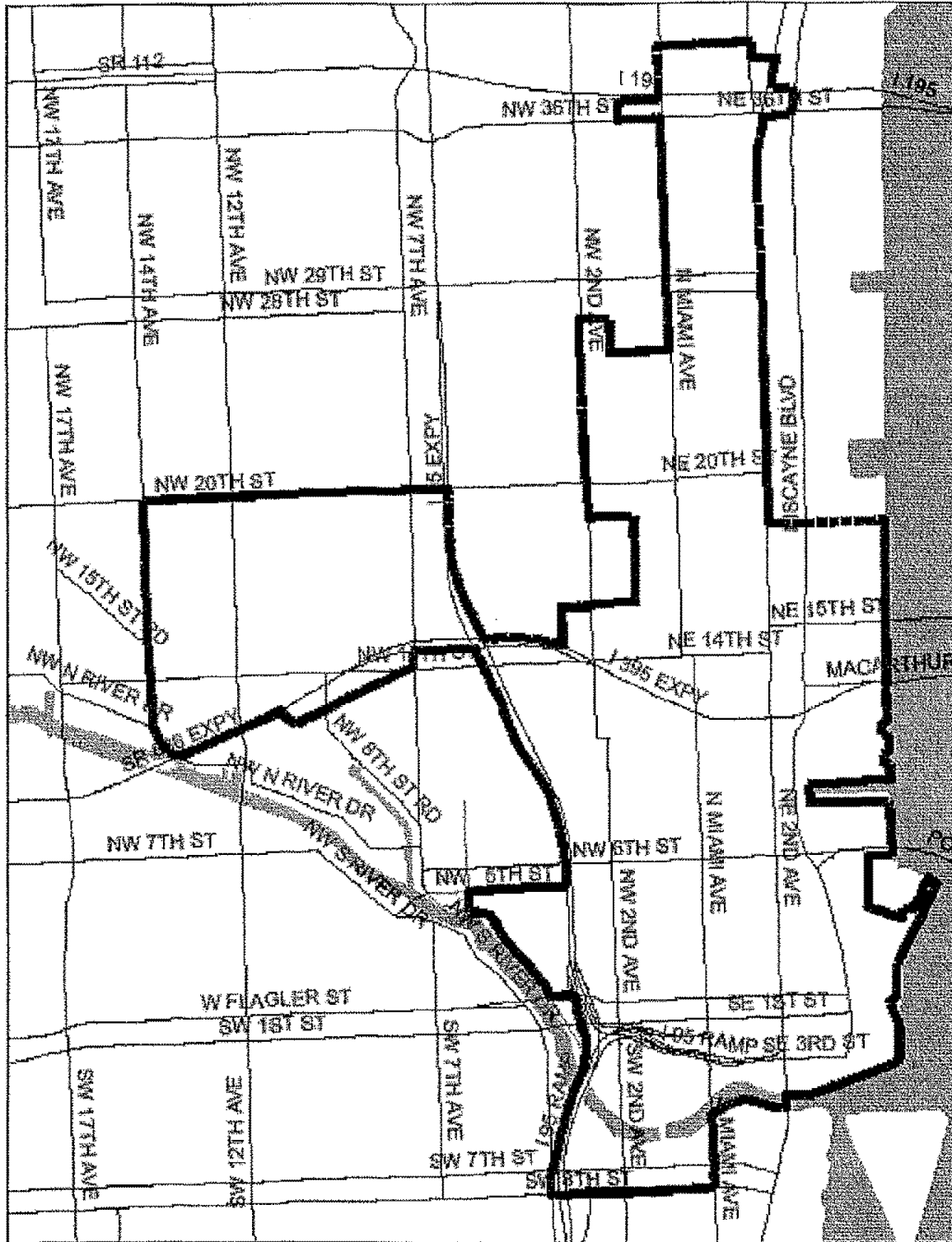
(30)

Wall sign: Any sign painted on or attached to and erected parallel to the face of, or erected and confined within the limits of, the outside wall of any building and supported by such wall or building and which displays only one (1) advertising surface.

(31)

City of Miami Urban Core: The geographic area commencing at Biscayne Bay and the North side of NE 18th Street; thence West along the North side of NE 18th Street to the East side of NE 2nd Avenue; thence North along the East side of NE 2nd Avenue to the South side of NE 36th Street; thence East along the South side of NE 36 Street to the West side of Biscayne Boulevard; thence North along the west side of Biscayne Boulevard to the North side of I-195; thence West along the North side of I-195 to the East side of N. Federal Highway; thence North along the East side of N. Federal Highway to the North side of NE 39th Street; thence West along the North side of NE 39th Street to East side of NE 2nd Avenue; thence North along the East side of NE 2nd Avenue to North side of NE 40th Street; thence West along the North side of NE 40th Street to West side of N. Miami Avenue; thence South along West side of N. Miami Avenue to the North side of NW 25th Street; thence West along the North side of NW 25th Street to the East side of the theoretical extension thereto of NW 1st Court; thence North along the East side of the theoretical extension of NW 1st Court to the North side of NW 27th Street; thence West along the North side of NW 27th Street to the West side of NW 2nd Avenue; thence South along the West side of NW 2nd Avenue to the South side of NW 19th Street; thence East along the South side of NW 19th Street to the West side of NW 1st Avenue; thence South along the West side of NW 1st Avenue to the North side of NW 16th Street; thence West along the North side of NW 16th Street to the West side of NW 3rd Avenue; thence South along the West side of NW 3rd Avenue to the North Side of the Dolphin Expressway; thence West along the North side of the Dolphin Expressway to the East side of I-95; thence North along the East side of I-95 to North side of NW 20th Street; thence West along the North side of NW 20th Street to the West side of NW 14th Avenue; thence South along the West side of NW 14th Avenue to the South side of the Dolphin Expressway; thence East along the South side of the Dolphin Expressway to the East bank of the Wagner Creek Canal; thence South 300 feet along the East bank of the Wagner Creek Canal; thence East running parallel 300 feet to the South of the Dolphin Expressway to the West side of NW 7th Avenue; thence North along the West side of NW 7th Avenue to the South side of the Dolphin Expressway; thence East

along the South side of the Dolphin Expressway to the West side of I-95; thence South along the West side I-95 to the South side of SW 8th Street; thence East along the South side of SW 8th Street to the East side of S. Miami Avenue; thence North along the East side of S. Miami Avenue to the South side of the Miami River; thence East along the South side of the Miami River to the East side of Brickell Avenue; thence North along the East side of Brickell Avenue to the North side of the Miami River; thence East along the North side of the Miami River to Biscayne Bay; thence North along the Biscayne Bay shoreline to the point of beginning, as shown on the City of Miami Urban Core map shown below.



>> **City of Miami Urban Core** <<



Sustainability, Planning and Economic Enhancement



SCALE IN FEET

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95; Ord. No. 07-61, § 2, 4-26-07; Ord. No. 07-91, § 1(2), 7-10-07; Ord. No. 10-71, § 1, 10-19-10; Ord. No. 12-09, § 1, 3-6-12; Ord. No. 16-15, § 2, 2-2-16)

- **DIVISION 2. - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- **Sec. 33-85. - Interpretation.**

Only those signs that are specially authorized by this sign code shall be permitted. Those that are not listed or authorized shall be deemed prohibited. It is provided, however, that any sign authorized herein may contain, in lieu of any other message or copy, any lawful noncommercial message, so long as such sign complies with the size, height, area and other requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 07-61, § 3, 4-26-07)

- **Sec. 33-86. - Permits required.**

(a)

Applications and permits. No sign, unless excepted by this article, shall be erected, constructed, posted, painted, altered, maintained, or relocated, except as provided in this article and until a permit has been issued by the Department. Before any permit is issued, an application for such permit shall be filed together with three (3) sets of drawings and/or specifications (one (1) to be returned to the applicant) as may be necessary to fully advise and acquaint the issuing department with the location, method of construction, type of materials, manner of illumination, method of erection, securing or fastening, number and type of signs applied for, and advertisement to be carried. All signs which are electrically illuminated by neon or any other means shall require a separate electric permit and inspection.

(b)

Consent of property owner. No sign shall be placed on any property unless the applicant has the written consent of the owner and lessee, if any, of the property.

(c)

Calculating number of signs. A single sign containing advertisement on each side shall be counted as one (1) sign. Every other sign shall be counted as a separate sign for each face thereof. Excepting class C signs, "V" type signs will be considered as one (1) sign if the spread of the "V" at the open end is not greater than the length of its narrowest side.

(d)

Calculating sign size. The area of a sign shall include borders and framing. Heights shall be measured to the top extremity of the sign and distances to the farthest point. The square footage in a circular rotating or revolving sign shall be determined by multiplying one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the circumference by the height of the rotating sign, except in the case of the flat rotating sign, the area will be determined by the square footage of one (1) side of such sign. The Director shall have the discretion of determining the area of any sign which is irregular in shape, and in such cases will be guided by calculations as made by a licensed, registered engineer when same are shown on the drawing.

(e)

Review of the application. The Department shall complete its review of a sign permit application for the unincorporated area within 30 calendar days after filing, and shall render a decision either for approval or denial within that time. Failure by the Department to render a decision within 30 calendar days shall be deemed a denial, appealable as provided herein. If the permit is denied based upon grounds set forth in this article, the applicant may file an appeal to the appropriate Community Zoning Appeals Board. Such appeal shall be heard at the next regular meeting of such board after notice pursuant to the requirements of [Section 33-310\(c\)](#) of this Code. Further appeal shall be as authorized pursuant to the Florida rules of court. It is provided that the procedures for the review of a sign permit application pursuant to this section shall be limited to the Department of Planning and Zoning and shall not apply to other county departments' review of a sign permit application pursuant to the Florida Building Code.

(f)

Restrictions on Certain Class C Sign Permits.

(1)

No permit shall be issued for a mural on property where a civil violation notice pursuant to [Chapter 8CC](#) of this Code has been issued for an unauthorized mural until such civil violation notice has been resolved.

(2)

No permit shall be issued for a mural to an erector or affiliate of such erector who has been issued a civil violation notice pursuant to [Chapter 8CC](#) of this Code for erecting an unauthorized mural until such civil violation notice has been resolved.

(3)

No permit shall be issued to a property owner or owner of a mural or affiliate thereof who has been issued a civil violation notice pursuant to [Chapter 8CC](#) of this Code for erecting an unauthorized mural, until such civil violation notice has been resolved.

(4)

No permit shall be issued for an existing mural in violation of this article if authorization for such mural was obtained from a municipality.

(5)

No permit for a mural shall be issued to an owner, erector or affiliate thereof, if such owner, erector or affiliate has an existing agreement with a municipality purporting to allow the establishment or continuation of a mural upon payment of fines, penalties or other payments to the municipality, if such mural is not in compliance with the requirements of this article.

(6)

For purposes of this subsection, the term "affiliate" shall mean (i) a person, corporation, partnership or other business organization ("entity"), directly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, another entity, or (ii) any entity owning or controlling ten percent or more of the ownership interest of another entity.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95; Ord. No. 07-61, § 4, 4-26-07)

- **Sec. 33-87. - Compliance with codes.**

(1)

[*Required.*] All signs shall conform to the requirements of the building, electrical, and other applicable technical codes, except as may be otherwise provided herein.

(2)

Advertising conflicting with zoning rules. No sign shall be erected or used to advertise any use or matter which would conflict with the regulations for the district in which it is located or be in conflict with the use permitted under the certificate of use or occupancy for the property.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-88. - Qualification and certification of erector.**

Where the erection of any sign requires compliance with any Miami-Dade County technical code, the erector of the sign shall qualify with the respective examining board.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-89. - Fees required.**

No sign, where a permit is necessary shall be exhibited unless the required permit fees are paid.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-90. - Time limitation of permits.**

All signs shall be erected on or before the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date of issuance of the permit. If the sign is not erected within said ninety (90) days, the permit shall become null and void, and a new permit required; provided, however, that the Director may extend such permit for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of the expiration of the permit if written application for such extension is received and approved by the Director prior to the expiration date of the initial permit and provided that the proposed sign complies with all requirements in effect at the date of such renewal.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-91. - Identification of permit holder on sign.**

Each sign requiring a permit shall carry the permit number and the name of the person or firm placing the sign on the premises; such marking shall be permanently attached and clearly visible from the ground.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-92. - Responsibility for sign.**

The owner and/or tenant of the premises, and the owner and/or erector of the sign shall be held responsible for any violation of this chapter; provided, however, that when the sign has been erected in accordance with this chapter, the sign company shall be relieved of further responsibility after final approval of the sign.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-93. - Inspection.**

No sign shall be approved for use, unless the same shall have been inspected by the Department issuing the permit, and no sign shall be erected or used unless it complies with all the requirements of this chapter and applicable technical codes. The holder of a permit for a sign shall request inspections of a sign as follows:

(1)
Foundation inspection (this shall include method of fastening to building or other approved structure).

(2)
Shop inspection (electrical and/or structural where indicated on the permit and/or approved plan).

(3)
Final inspection (this shall include structural framing, electrical work identification of permit number and erector of sign, etc.).

(4)
Any additional inspections which may be specified on the permit and/or approved plans.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-94. - Signs permitted without a sign permit.**

(a)
Class A temporary signs not exceeding six (6) square feet in area, not electrically illuminated will not require a sign permit, but must otherwise comply with this article and applicable technical codes.

(b)
Traffic signs, provisional warnings and signs indicating danger, are exempt from this chapter. Such exempted signs shall not contain any commercial advertisement.

(c)
Awning, canopy, roller curtain, or umbrella sign or signs shall be limited to eight-inch letters in height, and shall not exceed a total coverage of twenty-four (24) square feet. Any such sign shall be limited to the identification of the occupant and/or use of the property. No sign permit shall be required for the awning, canopy, roller curtain or umbrella sign, but the same shall comply with applicable technical codes.

(d)
Disabled or handicapped parking signs. Signs required by State law or County ordinance for parking spaces reserved for disabled or handicapped persons shall not require a sign permit.

(e)
Signs not exceeding one and one-half (1½) square feet in area and bearing only property street numbers, post box numbers, or name of occupant of premises.

(f)

Flags and insignia of any government, except when displayed in connection with commercial promotion.

(g)

Legal notices, identification, information, or directional signs erected by or on behalf of governmental bodies.

(h)

Integral decorative and architectural features of buildings except letters, logos, trademarks, moving parts or moving lights.

(i)

Signs within enclosed buildings or structures which are so located that they are not visible from public or private streets or adjacent properties such as signs in interior areas of malls, commercial buildings, ball parks, stadiums and similar structures or uses, providing said signs are erected in such a manner as not to be hazardous. If illuminated, the necessary electrical permits shall be obtained.

(j)

Temporary holiday decorations provided said decorations carry no advertising matter and further provided that such decoration is not up more than sixty (60) days for a single holiday and is removed within seven (7) days after the holiday ends.

(k)

"Danger," "No Parking," "Post No Bills," "Bad Dog," and similar warning signs, provided such signs do not exceed an area of one (1) and one-half (1.5) square feet.

(l)

Banners and other decorative materials in conjunction with an event conducted pursuant to a dedication or a grand opening, are permitted without a sign permit. Such banners and decorative materials are not to be posted more than thirty (30) days preceding the event, and are to be removed within seven (7) days following the grand opening day of the event.

(m)

Signs required by law.

(n)

Signs which are incorporated within bus passenger benches and shelters in compliance with Sections [33-121.14](#) and [33-121.17\(b\)](#).

(o)

Baby stroller parking signs. Signs required for parking spaces reserved for persons transporting young children and strollers shall not require a sign permit.

(p)

"No Trespassing" signs, provided such signs do not exceed an area of three (3) square feet.

(q)

The Director of the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, or designee, shall be permitted to post banners promoting park activities, special events and sponsorships relating to same, provided (i) such banners are posted on the Miami-Dade County park property where the activity or special event will occur; (ii) that each banner shall be limited in size to no more than thirty (30) square feet; (iii) that the banner shall not be posted more than sixty (60) days preceding

the activity or event and shall be removed within seven (7) days following the activity or event. Banners complying with the conditions specified in this subsection shall be permitted without a sign permit.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 90-24, § 1, 3-20-90; Ord. No. 96-161, § 1, 11-12-96; Ord. No. 96-162, § 1, 11-12-96; Ord. No. 06-35, § 1, 3-7-06)

• **Sec. 33-95. - Prohibited signs.**

(a)
No sign shall be so located as to constitute a danger to public safety.

(b)
No sign shall exhibit thereon any lewd or lascivious matter.

(c)
No sign shall be attached to trees, utility poles or any other unapproved supporting structure.

(d)
Roof signs are prohibited in all the districts.

(e)
No signs shall be erected or painted on fence and wall enclosures in residential districts. Fence and wall signs shall be prohibited in the residential districts. These restrictions do not apply to Class B signs in the AU district.

(f)
In both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County even if not classified as a sign, blinking or flashing lights, streamer lights, pennants, banners, streamers, and all fluttering, spinning or other type of attention attractors or advertising devices are prohibited except for national flags, flags of bona fide civic, charitable, fraternal and welfare organizations and further except during recognized holiday periods such attention-attractors that pertain to such holiday periods may be displayed on a temporary basis during such periods. The flags permitted by this subsection shall not be used in mass in order to circumvent this subsection by using said flags primarily as an advertising device.

(g)
No revolving or rotating sign shall be permitted or erected except as a class B (point of sale) sign in the BU and IU Districts. Such signs shall be illuminated by internal lighting only.

(h)
Any signs which are not traffic signs as defined in [Section 33-94](#)(b) which use the word "stop" or "danger" or present or imply the need or requirement of stopping, or which are copies or imitations of official signs. Red, green or amber (or any color combination thereof) revolving or flashing light giving the impression of a police or caution light is a prohibited sign, whether on a sign or on an independent structure.

(i)
Unless specifically permitted by this chapter or other law, portable signs shall be prohibited, including those that are tied down with metal straps, chaining, or otherwise temporarily anchored to an existing structure or other similar method of anchoring.

(j)

Signs painted or affixed in any manner to any vehicle, trailer or pickup truck, van or similar transportable device and which is used to advertise a place of business or activity as viewed from a public road shall be prohibited. This shall not be interpreted to prohibit identification of commercial vehicles provided such vehicles are operational and moved and used daily for delivery or service purposes and are not used, or intended for use, as portable signs. This sign shall also not be interpreted to apply to buses, taxicabs, and similar common carrier vehicles which are licensed or certified by Miami-Dade County or other governmental agency.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 10-90, § 1, 12-7-10)

- **Sec. 33-96. - Illumination.**

(a)

All signs shall be static and shall not include digital technology, except as expressly provided for in this Code. This section does not allow digital technology signs in any particular location or zoning district; digital technology signs may only be permitted as specifically authorized in other sections of this chapter. All static signs shall conform to subsection (b) below. All digital technology signs shall conform to subsection (c) below.

(b)

Static Signs. Signs illuminated by flashing, moving, intermittent, chasing or rotating lights are prohibited. Signs may be illuminated by exposed bulbs, fluorescent tubes, interior lighting, or by indirect lighting from any external source. Indirect lighting, such as floodlights, shall not shine directly on adjacent property, motorists or pedestrians. Illumination shall be such that it will provide reasonable illumination and eliminate glare and intensity which might pose safety hazards to drivers and pedestrians. Revolving and rotating signs shall be illuminated by internal lighting only.

(c)

Digital Signs. Where digital technology is allowed, it shall be provided in compliance with the following:

(1)

No auditory message or mechanical sounds shall be emitted from the sign.

(2)

The sign shall not display any illumination that moves, appears to move, blinks, fades, rolls, dissolves, flashes, scrolls, shows animated movement, or changes in intensity during the static display period.

(3)

All digital signs shall be modulated so that, from sunset to sunrise, the brightness shall not be more than 500 Nits. Sunset and sunrise times are those times established by the Miami office of the National Weather Service. At all other times, the maximum brightness levels shall not exceed 5,000 Nits. All digital signs shall have installed ambient light monitors and at all times shall allow such monitors to automatically adjust the brightness level of the sign based on ambient light conditions.

(4)

The message display shall not change more often than once each eight seconds, with all moving parts or illumination moving or changing simultaneously.

(5)

Any digital sign that malfunctions, fails, or ceases to operate in its usual or normal programmed manner shall immediately revert to a black screen and shall be restored to its normal operation conforming to the requirements of this section within twenty-four (24) hours.

(d)

Variances.

(1)

Use variances. No variances from the requirements of this section or [Section 33-96.1](#) may be granted, except: where it would not be contrary to the public interest, where owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions herein will result in unnecessary hardship, and so the spirit of the regulations shall be observed and substantial justice done; provided that the variance will be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the regulations, and that the same is the minimum variance that will permit the reasonable use of the premises.

(2)

Area Variances. Notwithstanding the foregoing, area variances from the requirements of [Section 33-96.1](#)(b), (d), and (f), regarding sign size, setback, spacing, distance, quantity, minimum land area, and landscaping may be granted where the applicant demonstrates that the benefits to granting the area variance outweigh any detriments to the community. The Board shall consider the following factors in making this determination: (i) whether the area variance would create an undesirable change in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties; (ii) whether the benefit can be achieved by some other method; (iii) whether the area variance is substantial; (iv) whether the area variance will have an adverse effect on physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district; and (v) whether the alleged difficulty was self-created, provided that the existence of a self-created difficulty shall be relevant to a board's decision but shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance. The applicant shall also demonstrate that granting the area variance maintains the basic intent and purpose of the zoning, subdivision, and other land use regulations, which is to protect the general welfare of the public, particularly as it affects the stability and appearance of the community and provided that the area variance will be otherwise compatible with the surrounding land uses and would not be detrimental to the community. No showing of unnecessary hardship to the land is required for an area variance.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 94-99, § 1, 5-17-94; Ord. No. 16-15, § 3, 2-2-16)

• **Sec. 33-96.1. - Digital Point-of-Sale signs.**

Subject to the following mandatory conditions, Digital Point-of-Sale Signs ("DPSS"), shall be permitted in BU and IU districts, seaports, airports, sports stadiums, racetracks, and other similar uses as follows:

(a)

A Digital Point-of-Sale Sign (DPSS) means a Class B sign on which a sign face is illuminated with digital technology. This section shall apply to Class B (Point-of-Sale) signs only.

(b)

A DPSS shall conform to all sign size, placement, setback, and quantity limitations as provided elsewhere in this chapter and shall comply with all building code requirements.

(c)

Each DPSS shall comply with [Section 33-96](#) of this chapter.

(d)

A minimum of ten (10) acres gross improved land area shall be required for the placement of a DPSS.

(e)

With the exception of airports or seaports, the subject DPSS shall be located only on a major or minor roadway as depicted on the adopted Comprehensive Development Master Plan Land Use Plan map.

(f)

A detached DPSS shall be surrounded by a minimum of twenty-five (25) square feet of landscaped area. A plan indicating such landscape area shall be submitted to the Director at the time of building permit application.

(g)

The content of the DPSS shall be limited solely to the promotion of products or services offered on the premises. The only fixed message shall be the name of the company possessing a valid Certificate of Use for the subject premises.

(h)

A DPSS on which thirty (30) percent or less of the sign face is illuminated with digital technology shall not be subject to the minimum land area, landscaping, and roadway placement criteria set forth in subsections (d), (e), and (f) above.

(Ord. No. 94-99, § 2, 5-17-94; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95; Ord. No. 16-15, § 4, 2-2-16)

- **Sec. 33-97. - Maintenance of signs.**

(a)

[*Required.*] All signs shall be properly maintained in a safe and legible condition at all times. In the event that a use having a sign is discontinued for a period of forty-five (45) days, all signs identifying the use are to be removed from the site or in the case of a painted sign, painted out. Sign removal shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property.

(b)

Latticework, painting, etc. Where the rear of any sign is visible from a street, waterway, park or residence, or from a EU, RU, or BU District, the exposed structural members of such sign shall be either concealed by painted latticework, slats or be suitably painted or decorated, and such back screening shall be designed, painted and maintained to the satisfaction of the Director.

(c)

Cutting weeds. The owner of each sign not attached to a building shall be responsible for keeping the weeds cut on his property within a radius of fifty (50) feet or to the nearest highway or waterway.

(d)

Removal of dilapidated signs. The Director may cause to be removed any sign which shows neglect or becomes dilapidated or where the area around such sign is not maintained as provided herein after due notice has been given. The owner of the sign and/or the property shall be financially responsible for the removal of the sign.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

• **DIVISION 3. - SIGN STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS AND CHARTS**

• **Sec. 33-98. - Generally.**

The following charts indicate the physical standards and requirements applicable to signs and the districts in which they are permitted. The following standards are subject to other applicable technical code requirements.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

• **Sec. 33-99. - Class A temporary signs.**

Type of signs permitted: Real estate; subdivision; construction; future construction; special events; balloons.

Type of Signs	Size	Number	Setback and Spacing	Illumination	Maximum Height	Special Con
Real estate	Real estate signs in an AU/GU District (not of a residential character) and all BU and IU Zones shall be limited to 40 square feet Real estate signs in AU and GU Districts (of a residential character) and RU EU District shall	1 sign only	Real estate signs shall be no closer than 5 feet to an official r.o.w. line unless attached to an existing building 15 feet to an interior side property line or centered on a lot between interior side property lines	Permitted See general provision on illumination	Real estate signs shall not exceed 10 feet measured from grade to top of sign	No permit r for signs tha larger than 6 feet and wh not electri illumina Real estate shall only permitted premises ad for rent or f No class temporary si be maintain the premise period to ex days, un justifiable re shown to satisfaction Director approval is s

	be limited to 4 square feet					upon pro application the expiration approved per sign shall removed from premises
Subdivision signs	Maximum of 256 square feet per sign but total square footage for all signs shall not exceed 512 square feet	3 per subdivision	Not closer than 15 feet to official r.o.w. Not closer than 15 feet to property under a different ownership	Same as real estate signs	Shall not exceed 22 feet from ground to top of sign	Same as real estate signs
Construction signs	Maximum of 256 square feet for a detached sign When construction signs are painted on an approved construction shed, there is no size limitation	1 general sign and 1 for each trade provided the total sign area does not exceed 256 square feet	15 feet from official r.o.w. 15 feet to property under different ownership or centered between interior property lines	Same as real estate signs	Same as subdivision signs	Same as real estate signs
Future construction signs	Maximum of 40 square feet in BU and IU District 24 square feet in AU, GU,	1 sign	Same as subdivision signs	Same as real estate signs	Shall not exceed 22 feet from ground level to top of sign	Same as real estate signs

	EU and RU Districts					
Special events signs include carnivals, concerts, public meetings, sports events, political campaigns, and other uses of a similar nature	22 inches by 28 inches except as to site of use which shall be governed by applicable district regulations	Signs shall be unlimited in number as to off-site locations and limited to number as permitted in the zoning district for on-site locations (point of sale signs)	5 feet from official r.o.w. and 5 feet from property under different ownership, except for site of use which shall be governed by applicable district regulations	Same as real estate signs	Not applicable	Special events shall be removed within 30 days after the special election or the last election if the candidate or promoter was on the ballot. Promoters, sponsors, and candidates shall be responsible for compliance with the provisions of this section and shall remove signs promoting or endorsing their respective candidates or events. Such signs displayed on private property in violation of this section shall be deemed a violation of this section. Additionally, if a private owner fails to remove unlawful signs from their property, they shall be deemed in violation of this section. All provisions of this section which require the removal of signs shall be applicable to both the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the city.

						Dade County Florida
Balloons	Maximum of 32 feet in height and 25 feet in width	1 sign for each property	5 feet from official r.o.w. and property lines	Permitted until 11:00 p.m.	See provision on size	<p>No balloons shall be maintained on the premises except for festivals or special events, no more than once per calendar quarter. Balloons shall be maintained on the premises until sunset, maximum height shall be seventeen (17) feet during any festival or special event. Balloons may be used in E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5, E-6, E-7, E-8, E-9, E-10, E-11, E-12, E-13, E-14, E-15, E-16, E-17, E-18, E-19, E-20, E-21, E-22, E-23, E-24, E-25, E-26, E-27, E-28, E-29, E-30, E-31, E-32, E-33, E-34, E-35, E-36, E-37, E-38, E-39, E-40, E-41, E-42, E-43, E-44, E-45, E-46, E-47, E-48, E-49, E-50, E-51, E-52, E-53, E-54, E-55, E-56, E-57, E-58, E-59, E-60, E-61, E-62, E-63, E-64, E-65, E-66, E-67, E-68, E-69, E-70, E-71, E-72, E-73, E-74, E-75, E-76, E-77, E-78, E-79, E-80, E-81, E-82, E-83, E-84, E-85, E-86, E-87, E-88, E-89, E-90, E-91, E-92, E-93, E-94, E-95, E-96, E-97, E-98, E-99, E-100, E-101, E-102, E-103, E-104, E-105, E-106, E-107, E-108, E-109, E-110, E-111, E-112, E-113, E-114, E-115, E-116, E-117, E-118, E-119, E-120, E-121, E-122, E-123, E-124, E-125, E-126, E-127, E-128, E-129, E-130, E-131, E-132, E-133, E-134, E-135, E-136, E-137, E-138, E-139, E-140, E-141, E-142, E-143, E-144, E-145, E-146, E-147, E-148, E-149, E-150, E-151, E-152, E-153, E-154, E-155, 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						<p>his design will be allow forty-eight hours before special eve must be rem within forty (48) hours a close of the event. Such may be exten one (1) bu day, if nece when the 48 after the clos special eve on a week holiday. Pr receiving any under this s each person balloon sig post and ma two thousan hundred d (\$2,500.00 bond, whic remain in et long as such continues to balloon sig Miami-D County. If a person ere balloon sig fails to remo accordance v section, the l shall provid person 48 prior writter of intent to the bond. notice sha sufficien</p>
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						delivered address prov the person a for the per erect a ballo If the perso not cure violation wi
						hours after c of the Dire notice, the shall be forfe a person's b forfeited an person fails t new bono existing pe issued und section sh forfeited a balloon sign be remov

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 90-24, § 2, 3-20-90; Ord. No. 90-58, § 1, 6-19-90; Ord. No. 90-105, § 1, 9-25-90; Ord. No. 04-207, § 1, 12-2-04)

- **Sec. 33-100. - Permanent point of sale signs for GU, EU, RU-1, RU-2, and RU-TH Districts.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; flat; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i> ²	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>

Detached	1.5 square feet	Only 1 sign permitted of a type to be selected by applicant	15 feet from r.o.w. line 5' to interior property line	See general section on illumination Lighting permitted if does not conflict with adjacent property	20 feet from grade to top of sign	No permit, if sign illuminated and 1.5 square feet
Flat ¹ (wall and cantilever)	Same as detached	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as above
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella signs	Same as detached	See detached above	Same as detached	No illumination permitted	Not applicable	No permit required Letters attached painted to fabric limited to 8 inch height and such shall be limited identification of occupant and/or the property
Projecting	Same as detached	See detached above	Same as detached	Same as detached	9 feet from established grade to bottom of sign	Same as detached Near edge of sign be no more than from building

¹ Nonconforming use(s) in a residential district is permitted a flat sign only of the same size as if the use was established on a property in a district zoned permitting the use concerned.

² Churches, schools and universities when located in these districts shall be permitted 1 sign not to exceed 24 square feet.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 96-162, § 2, 11-12-96)

- **Sec. 33-100.1. - Permanent point of sale signs for AU.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; fiat; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting; portable, directional.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size ³</i>	<i>Number ¹</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
Detached	32 square feet (primary frontage sign, one sign only) 24.0 square feet (secondary frontage and additional sign)	Only 1 sign permitted per frontage of a type to be selected by applicant. Where the primary frontage exceeds 660 linear feet, a second sign shall be permitted. A minimum spacing of 100 feet is required between detached signs.	5 feet from dedicated r.o.w. line or 15 feet from edge of pavement, whichever is greater	See general section on illumination Lighting permitted if does not conflict with adjacent property	20 feet from grade to top of sign	Permit r
Flat (wall and cantilever)	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella signs	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached	No illumination permitted	Not applicable	Same as
Projecting	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached	9 feet from established grade to bottom of sign	Sam detache Near e sign sha more th

						from bu wa
Portable signs	9 square feet	One sign permitted per entrance	Same as detached	No illumination permitted	3.5 feet from grade	Signs sh be left between and su Zon Improv Permit r

¹ Churches, schools and universities when located in this district shall be permitted one (1) sign not to exceed twenty-four (24) square feet.

² In addition to signage permitted in this section, up to five (5) signs related to a bona fide on-site agricultural use are allowed without a permit. Such signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet per sign and shall not be electrically illuminated.

³ Directional signage shall meet all provisions of [section 33-111](#) except that sign area is permitted up to six (6) square feet per sign.

(Ord. No. 96-162, § 3, 11-12-96; Ord. No. 10-90, § 2, 12-7-10)

• **Sec. 33-101. - Permanent point of sale signs in the RU-3, RU-3B and RU-3M Districts.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; flat; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting; marquee.

<i>Type of Signs Permitted</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Speci Condit</i>
Detached	RU-3 permitted 6 square feet except for churches, schools and universities which are	Only 1 sign of a type as selected by applicant An additional office sign	15 feet from r.o.w. 15 feet from r.o.w. 5 feet from	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	20 feet from grade to top of sign	

	permitted 24 square feet RU-3B and RU-3M permitted 24 square feet	of not more than 1.5 square feet is permitted	interior side property			
Flat (wall and cantilever)	Same as detached	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as above	Cantilever signs shall not extend vertically above the roof line or parapet wall, whichever is higher	
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella signs	Same as detached	See detached above	15 feet from r.o.w. 5 feet to interior side property line	No illumination permitted	Not applicable	No per requir Letters atta painted to shall be lin the identifi of the occ and/or use prope
Projecting	Same as detached	See detached above	Same as detached	Same as detached	9 feet from grade to bottom of sign	
Marquee	Same as detached	See detached above	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-102. - Permanent point of sale signs in the RU-4L and RU-4M Districts.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; flat; marquee; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting; pylon.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Con</i>
Detached	24 square feet for detached sign	Only 2 signs of a type as may be selected by applicant An additional office sign no more than 1.5 square feet is permitted	15 feet from r.o.w. line 5 feet to interior side property line	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	20 feet from grade to top of sign	
Flat (wall and cantilever)	40 square feet for a building not exceeding 15 feet in height; thereafter, .4 square feet for each foot of building height above 15 feet measured to the lowest point of the sign on the building	See detached	Not applicable	Same as detached	Cantilever signs shall not extend vertically above the roof line or parapet wall	
Marquee	40 square feet	See detached above	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	

Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella signs	24 square feet	See detached above	Same as detached	No illumination	Not applicable	No permit required Letters attached to building shall be limited to 6 inches in height Such signs shall be limited to identification of the occupant and the purpose of the property
Projecting	24 square feet	See detached above	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	
Pylon	40 square feet	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	See definition of pylon sign

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- Sec. 33-103. - Permanent point of sale signs in the RU-4 and RU-4A Districts.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; marquee; flat; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting; pylon.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
Detached	24 square feet per detached sign	Only 2 signs of a type selected by applicant	15 feet from r.o.w. 5 feet from interior side property line 10 feet	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	20 feet from grade to top of sign	See definition of sign for details

			between signs			
Marquee	Total of 40 square feet	See detached above	15 feet from r.o.w. 5 feet from interior side property line	Same as detached	Not applicable	Sa det
Flat (wall and cantilever)	40 square feet for a building not exceeding 15 feet in height; thereafter, .8 square feet for each foot of building height above 15 feet measured to the lowest point of the sign on the building	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as detached	Cantilever signs shall not extend vertically above the roof line or parapet wall	Sa det
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella sign	24 square feet	See detached above	Same as detached	No illumination	Not applicable	No rec
Projecting	24 square feet	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Sa det
Pylon	40 square feet	See detached above	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Sa det

Notes: The following notes apply generally to signs in the RU-4 and RU-4A Districts.

Hotels, motels and apartment hotels may use signs to advertise cocktail lounge, swimming pool, cabanas, coffee shop and other facilities approved and available on the premises providing the sign indicates that the use is available and restricted to their patrons only. The advertisement of these incidental uses must be incorporated in the sign, advertising the name of the hotel, apartment hotel or motel. The lettering advertising the incidental facilities and uses shall be the same size as the restriction notifying the public that the use is available for patrons only, and in no event shall either exceed 4 inches in height.

Hotels and motels in addition to all other signs authorized for their use shall be permitted 1 additional sign for the sole purpose of advertising and displaying credit club membership or association insignia, provided such sign or display shall be of a box type with glass or plastic sides with inner illumination, constructed in accordance with existing sign regulations and electrical code requirements, and shall contain an overall area not in excess of 25 square feet, with lettering not to exceed 12 inches in height; provided further, that such signs or displays may only advertise or display the proprietor's membership in credit clubs or other association, or such club or association insignia but the same may in addition thereto include the identification of the hotel or motel so advertising (these signs are permitted in addition to the 2 signs permitted above).

An additional office sign of no more than 1.5 square feet is permitted.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-104. - Permanent point of sale signs for the RU-5 and RU-5A Districts.**

Type of sign permitted: Only flat (wall or cantilever) sign.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Condition</i>
Flat (wall and cantilever)	12 square feet	1 for each street frontage	Not applicable	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	Not applicable	Sign shall be mounted on building wall or cantilever parallel to the wall

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-105. - Permanent point of sale signs for shopping centers.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; attraction board; flat; pylon; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; semaphore.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
Detached	Up to 40 square feet for first 50 feet of frontage plus .75 square feet for each additional foot of frontage to a maximum sign size of 300 square feet	1 sign only if shopping center has less than 500 feet of lineal street frontage; a shopping center with 500 or more lineal street frontage is permitted either 1 300-square-foot sign or 2 200-square-foot signs; shopping centers on a corner lot are permitted an additional 40-square-foot sign on a side street	Setback for all street r.o.w.'s is 7 feet for a sign not exceeding 40 square feet; thereafter .8125 feet of additional setback for each 10 square feet of sign (calculated to the nearest ½ foot) Interior side setback is a minimum of 3½ feet for a sign not exceeding 40 square feet; thereafter the interior side setback shall be increased by 10 percent of the calculated street frontage up to 100 lineal feet and by 20 percent of the calculated street frontage where the same exceeds 100 lineal feet but does not exceed 200 lineal feet; then increases by 30 percent of the calculated street frontage above the 200 lineal feet Minimum space between detached	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	30 feet from grade to top of sign	Sign shall be used or identified for shopping and/or direct tenants shopping

			signs shall be 20 feet			
Flat (wall and cantilever)	10 percent of the wall area for a building that does not exceed 15 feet in height, then 1.5 percent increase for each foot of building height above grade measured to the bottom of the sign	Only 2 signs of a type selected by applicant	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Signs permitted only for individual tenants shall be centered on the building facade or placed against a building or on a canopy or py
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and umbrella signs	24 square feet	Same as flat	7 feet from r.o.w.	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	Not applicable	No permit required
Semaphore signs	Maximum of 4 square feet per side face	Number approved by the Director in his approval of the plot use plan for the shopping center Only 2 dual-faced signs may be attached to any	Location determined by the Director in his approval of the plat use plan for shopping centers Signs must observe setback requirements applicable to other detached signs	Signs must be attached to light standards in parking lots and shall not contain any illumination save and except as provided by the overhead electrical lights supported by	Minimum of 9 feet from the parking lot paved surface to bottom of sign No more than 30 feet from parking lot paved	Permitted in shopping centers in BU-1 districts more limited distribution The proposed shopping center and parking lot must be owned by one owner or owners abutting

		1 standard or pole		the standard or pole	surface to top of sign	immed adjacent (1) another electrical standard pole sup such sign be suffic support th without possibi injury to and pro
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*Service stations in a shopping center are permitted the same type and number of signs that are permitted a service station in a BU (Business) District and shall comply with all regulations applicable to it in the BU District.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95; Ord. No. 99-83, § 1, 7-13-99)

• **Sec. 33-106. - Permanent point of sale signs in the BU and IU Districts.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; marquee; flat; awning, canopy, roller curtain, umbrella; projecting; pylon. (Not applicable to shopping centers; see definition for shopping centers.)

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
Detached	40 square feet maximum for first 50 feet of initial street frontage plus .75 square foot for each additional foot of street frontage to a maximum sign size of	See special conditions	Setback for all street r.o.w.'s is 7 feet for a sign not exceeding 40 square feet; thereafter .8125 foot of additional setback for each 10 square feet of sign calculated to the nearest 1/2 foot; maximum	See general section on illumination	30 feet from grade to top of sign	Type and nu point of sa permitted for individual busin lot will be base following f <i>frontage (feet) a</i> 0—75 2 si no d

	<p>300 square feet</p>		<p>required setback need not be greater than 20 feet.</p> <p>Interior side setback is a minimum of 3½ feet for a sign not exceeding 40 square feet; thereafter the interior side setback shall be increased by 10 percent of the calculated street frontage up to 100 lineal feet and by 20 percent of the calculated street frontage where the same exceeds 100 lineal feet but does not exceed 200 lineal feet; then increases by 30 percent where the calculated street frontage is above the 200 lineal feet</p> <p>Minimum space between detached signs shall be 10 feet</p> <p>Pole signs erected in connection with service stations may disregard the interior side setbacks, provided that they do not overhang on property of different</p>			<p>76—150</p> <p>of which</p> <p>be d</p> <p>151 + 4 si</p> <p>of which</p> <p>be d</p> <p>In addition, a co with m dimensions of by 300 feet allowed 4 sig which may be c signs provided second si greater than ½ allowed the f and prov separation betw 2 signs is at lea to 50 percent of amount of fro both s ro</p> <p>Where r businesses are on a given l business use permitted a w</p>
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			ownership and the clear distance between the bottom of the sign and the established grade elevation of the property is at least 8 feet			
Marquee	40 square feet	Same as detached	15 feet from r.o.w. 5 feet from interior side property line	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached In addition, for purpose of counting sign area, the face of a marquee sign count as an individual sign
Flat (wall and cantilever)	10 percent of the wall area for a building that does not exceed 15 feet in height; then 1.5 percent increase for each foot of building height above the 15 feet measured to bottom of the sign	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	
Awning, canopy, roller curtain and	24 square feet	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	No permit required 8" letter height

umbrella signs						
Projecting	40 square feet	Same as detached	7 feet from r.o.w. No closer than 5 feet to interior side property line	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as deta
Pylon	Approved sign surface area shall be 20 percent of the wall area from which the pylon extends or projects Pylon size shall be limited to a maximum of 50 percent of the approved sign surface area	Same as detached	Same as detached	Same as detached	Not applicable	In Business Industrial District the material construction material from the material type of construction the exterior wall building but shall be approved by the Director. In all the pylon shall have appearance of a structure

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 85-81, § 1, 10-1-85; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95)

- Sec. 33-107. - Class C commercial signs.**

Type of signs permitted: Billboard; bulletin board; poster board; mural in locations specified herein.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setback and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
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<p>Detached</p>	<p>Maximum size of 14 feet by 48 feet (672 square feet) plus embellishment providing overall size of sign does not exceed 750 square feet</p>	<p>No more than 2 signs shall be placed in a group except when such signs are less than 48 feet long and form a triangle</p>	<p>20 feet to official r.o.w. line 5 feet to interior side property line 15 feet from any lot on which there is a residential building (regardless of the zoning classification of such lot) 30 feet to any EU or RU District boundary, except where the face of the sign fronts or orients toward the EU or RU District, then the spacing shall be 300 feet. No closer to r.o.w. than the nearest existing substantial building fronting on the same side of the street and within 100 feet of such sign. Except when flat against a legally existing building the sign shall not be placed: 1. Within 100 feet of the point of beginning of the change of direction on the side toward which the direction of a highway changes 2. In the inside of a curve. 3. No sign shall be erected closer than 100 feet to any church, school, cemetery, public park, public</p>	<p>No illumination shall be installed on any class C sign which may conflict with adjacent uses or be objectionable to residential areas and uses Also see general provisions on illumination</p>	<p>30 feet from normal or average grade to top of sign</p>	<p>W group signs place angle a sing or p back- and place straig PI submi a perm show and se all bu with feet propo loc</p>
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			<p>reservation, public playground, State or national forest</p> <p>4. In the BU-1A, 2, 3, IU-1, IU-2 and IU-3 Zones, no class C sign shall be erected closer than 600 feet to another class C sign on the same side of the street measured along the center line of the same roadway or street, except that cantilever back-to-back signs shall be considered as 1 sign for the purposes of spacing and except when such signs are on opposite ends of the same building, the restriction shall not apply as between the signs on opposite ends of the same building, providing such signs otherwise conform to spacing requirements from other class C signs in the area</p>			
Wall	Same as detached, except in BU-1A and BU-2 Districts, wall signs shall conform to class B point of sale wall signs	No more than 2 in group	Same as detached	Same as detached	Shall not extend above the roof or parapet of the building	No

Zones/districts permitting use. Class C commercial advertising signs shall be permitted in the following zones: (a) In BU-3, IU-1, IU-2 and IU-3 Zones. (b) In BU-1A and BU-2 Zones subject to the following conditions: (1) Cantilever construction. Detached class C signs in these zones must be of cantilever type construction (double-faced sign, both faces of the same size, secured back to back on the same set of vertical supports with no supporting bracing) with a minimum of 5 feet clearance between grade and bottom of board surface. Second face of sign will not be required if the rear of sign is properly and adequately concealed or hidden. (2) Sites for signs. Sites for location of each detached class C sign in these zones must conform to the same minimum lot requirements as to size and frontage as required for erection of commercial buildings, and such sites cannot be improved with buildings or other structures.

In a BU-1A or BU-2 Zone, any class C signs erected on a site shall be immediately removed from such site at the time the first building permit is issued for permanent building to be erected thereon if the sign is within 300 feet of the proposed building.

If a building exists on property, no permits for erection of class C signs thereon shall be issued if the sign is within 300 feet of an existing building.

In addition, unless approved as result of a public hearing, no class C signs shall be erected on any property zoned BU-1A, BU-2, BU-3, IU-1, IU-2 or IU-3 unless the street frontage on the opposite side of the street is zoned commercial or industrial.

Landscaping requirements. Landscaping shall be required where appropriate, as determined by the Director.

Murals. Notwithstanding the Class C sign limitations contained in this section, mural signs located within the City of Miami Urban Core shall be permitted, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Prior to permit issuance, the City of Miami Zoning Administrator shall refer all mural sign permit applications to the Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning to determine compliance with this article, including, but not limited to, Divisions 5 and 6 of this article (Commercial Signs on Expressway Right-of-Way and Commercial Signs on Rapid Transit System Right-of-Way).
- (2) The City of Miami Zoning Administrator shall prepare a statement indicating that the proposed mural sign complies with all applicable City of Miami regulations, and that the applicant has demonstrated that it is not a party to an existing agreement with a municipality purporting to allow the establishment or continuation of a mural upon payment of fines, penalties or other payments to the municipality, if such mural is not in compliance with the requirements of this article. Such statement shall be submitted to the Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning, together with the city-approved mural application, related plans, and Miami-Dade County application review fee.
- (3) No more than 45 mural signs shall be permitted at any one time within the entire City of Miami Urban Core.
- (4) No mural sign shall be placed closer than 200 feet to any single-family residential zoning district boundary or 100 feet from any nonconforming single-family or duplex residential use.
- (5) Mural sign shall be placed only on blank walls as defined in the article. It is provided, however, that a mural may be permitted to cover windows if the material covering the windows is (i) composed of adhesive-backed perforated vinyl transparent to the occupants of the building, (ii) does not prevent opening of windows intended to be opened, and (iii) does not prevent ingress or egress.

- (6) No mural sign shall be placed closer than 300 feet to another mural sign oriented toward the same street. The 300-foot spacing requirement shall be measured in a straight line from the closest edge of the mural sign on one building to the closest edge of the mural sign on the other building. It is provided, however, that such spacing requirement shall not be applicable within the City of Miami Park West Entertainment District as defined in the Code of the City of Miami, Florida, on the effective date of this ordinance.
- (7) A mural sign shall be permitted to cover the entire blank portion of a wall of a building.
- (8) No more than 2 mural signs shall be placed on any one building, and any two such mural signs shall be placed on opposite or adjacent walls of the building.
- (9) Mural signs may be illuminated only in accordance with the provisions of Sections [33-96](#) and [33-107](#). Illumination of mural signs shall be limited to the hours of 6 p.m. to midnight.
- (10) No permit for a mural shall be issued less than 45 days from the effective date of this ordinance. In the event that on the 45th day after the effective date the initial number of requests for mural permits exceeds the maximum number of murals authorized by this ordinance, the City of Miami Zoning Administrator shall determine the award of mural permits by a procedure established by the City of Miami.

Maintenance. In addition to the general maintenance requirements for this section, the owner and/or the erector of the sign shall be responsible for maintaining any landscaping required by this article and the signs concerned in good condition and appearance. Ground mounted Class C sign sites shall be maintained free from trash or debris. Failure to do so shall constitute cause for cancellation of the permit and removal of the sign, if owner and/or erector fails to correct same within 15 days after written notice of nonconformance. Written notice shall be provided to both the property owner and, if known, the erector of the sign.

Zone/district exemption. Notwithstanding the Class C limitations herein, Miami International Airport (Wilcox Field) as defined by [Section 33-332](#)(1), shall be exempt from all Class C limitations for all wall-mounted Class C signs, including landscaping and maintenance requirements. It is further provided that no Class C sign permit shall be granted to any Class C sign applicant, owner, or erector who is subject to any unresolved notice of violation or citation for violation of any provision of the Miami-Dade County sign code.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 05-187, § 2, 10-18-05; Ord. No. 07-61, § 5, 4-26-07; Ord. No. 07-91, § 2(5), 3(5), 7-10-07; Ord. No. 08-80, § 1, 7-1-08; Ord. No. 10-71, § 2, 10-19-10)

- **Sec. 33-108. - Permanent point of sale signs for mobile home parks.**

Type of signs permitted: Flat (wall); entrance feature.

<i>Type of Sign</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>

Flat (wall)	Maximum 24 square feet	Not applicable	Not applicable	Illumination permitted; see general provision on illumination	Not applicable	No free-standing signs shall be permitted in mobile home park. Signs on the commercial service buildings for the purposes of identification of those within the park shall be no larger than 24 square feet.
Entrance feature	Determined by public hearing approving the mobile home park	1	Determined by public hearing approval of site plan for the mobile home park	Same as flat		An entrance feature shall harmonize with the landscaped buffer sign required at the entrance. The sign shall contain a sign to identify the park. The sign shall be required as a detail on the site plan, including details as to size and location of the entrance feature. The size of sign to be permitted thereon, all of which shall be shown on an elevation sketch to accompany the use plan and be subject to approval at the public hearing held to consider the site plan.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

• **Sec. 33-109. - Point of sale signs for the Office Park District.**

Type of signs permitted: Detached; flat; entrance feature.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>

Detached	50 square feet	1 detached or flat wall sign per principal building; must be located adjacent to principal building being identified	20 feet from official r.o.w. line, edge of pavement of private drives, and any property lines	See general provision on illumination	10 feet from grade to top of sign	The flat detached sign only identifies building occupants
Flat (wall)	Same as detached	See detached	Not applicable	Same as detached	Not applicable	Same as detached
Entrance feature	Determined by administrative approval of entrance features	1 only	Site plan review	Same as detached	Not applicable	Signage to the office complex shall integrate entrance features design as permitted entrance features approval

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Sec. 33-110. - Permanent point of sale signs for Planned Area Development Zone.**

Type of signs permitted: See special conditions.

<i>Type of Signs</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks and Spacing</i>	<i>Illumination</i>	<i>Maximum Height</i>	<i>Special Conditions</i>
See special conditions	See special conditions	See special conditions	See special conditions	See special conditions	See special conditions	Residential signs in accordance with requirements which best reflect residential use the P.

									<p>determined by site review</p> <p>Detached signs and visible from public road permitted retail conversion facilities, are prohibited</p> <p>All other uses as permitted the PAD shall conform applicable zoning district requirements for sign regulations. See Section 284.27</p>
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(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

• **Sec. 33-111. - Directional signs.**

Permitted only in connection with the specified uses. Limited directional signs also permitted in all districts for any use.*

<i>Use</i>	<i>Type of Sign</i>	<i>Sign Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>Maximum Illumination</i>	<i>Minimum Site Height</i>	<i>Other Requirements</i>
Airport	Detached only	Maximum 30 square feet	Depends on site plan approval. The number of signs shall be determined for each facility by site plan review by the Department and		Signs shall be located on private property and no sign shall be closer	Directional signs shall be located at points of entry to the facility from the	No neon lighting permitted; also see other requirements under	

<i>Use</i>	<i>Type of Sign</i>	<i>Sign Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>Maximum Illumination</i>	<i>Minimum Site Height</i>	<i>Other Requirements</i>
Hospitals	Same as airport	Same as colleges		Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport
Housing development	Same as airport	Same as colleges		Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport
Industrial parks	Same as airport	Same as colleges		Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport
Office parks	Same as airport	Same as colleges		Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport
Shopping centers	Same as airport	Same as colleges		Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport	Same as airport

<i>Use</i>	<i>Type of Sign</i>	<i>Sign Size</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Setbacks</i>	<i>Locations</i>	<i>Maximum Illumination</i>	<i>Minimum Site Height</i>	<i>Other Requirements</i>

* *Note:* Directional signs, to direct traffic flow and locate entrances and exists, shall be permitted in all zoning districts in connection with any permitted use provided they do not exceed 3 square feet in area and do not exceed 4 feet in height above grade; and providing they are shown and approved on site plans which indicate sign size, location, copy, etc. Logos, names, and advertising are not permitted on such signs.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95)

- **DIVISION 4. - ENTRANCE FEATURES**

- **Sec. 33-112. - Permitted features described.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, entrance features in compliance with each of the standards enumerated below shall be permitted:

(a)

Entrance features that are placed on private property shall be continually and properly maintained by the owners. To assure the proper maintenance of entrance features:

(1)
An executed covenant, stating that all structures shall be maintained in good condition and repair and that all landscaping shall likewise be so maintained, shall be delivered to the Department for review and, upon approval, shall be duly recorded prior to the issuance of any permits.

(b)
Entrance features may be placed within public rights-of-way provided:

(1)
Prior approval is granted by the Miami-Dade County Public Works Department; and

(2)
A bond is submitted to the Public Works Department in an amount to cover the removal of said features if deemed necessary at a later date by the Public Works Department. The bond shall have an initial ten-year life and shall be renewed for five-year periods thereafter; and

(3)
An executed covenant, stating that all structures shall be maintained in good condition and repair and that all landscaping shall likewise be so maintained, shall be delivered to Miami-Dade County Public Works Department for review and, upon approval, shall be duly recorded prior to the issuance of any permits.

(c)
Entrance features shall be placed so as not to encroach upon utility lines or traffic control devices whether such lines or devices be located overhead or underground; and where a conflict is indeed encountered, the developer or designated property owner shall be responsible for the removal or relocation of the said features or a part thereof.

(d)
Entrance features shall be placed so as not to cause a visual obstruction and thereby create a traffic hazard, and should the use of illumination be incorporated in said features, such illumination shall be placed so as to be unobtrusive to moving traffic lanes or adjacent properties.

(e)
The character and scale of entrance features shall be of a design such that said features are complementary to the identified development and compatible with the immediate neighborhood insofar as its overall impact is concerned.

(f)
All structures within entrance features shall meet all standards of the South Florida Building Code and any other applicable standards, and all water bodies with depths greater than eighteen (18) inches shall meet all applicable standards of this chapter, applicable to reflecting pools and water features, standards.

(g)
Applications for permits for entrance features shall be made by the fee owner of the property in question and shall be submitted to the Department. Applications shall include an accurately dimensioned plot use plan identifying all structures and landscaping incorporated in said features and identifying all setbacks and elevations of the same.

(h)
Upon receipt of all necessary information, the County's plat division shall review the same, and in turn, the joint directors of the County's plat division shall review the information, including staff's report,

and render a decision either approving, modifying, or denying the request. A copy of said decision shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation. All approvals or modifications shall not be effective until fifteen (15) days after the directors' decision is published in a newspaper of general circulation. The decision of the directors shall be recorded on the official zoning maps of Miami-Dade County.

(i)

The applicant, or any aggrieved property owner in the area, may appeal the decision of the joint directors to the Community Zoning Appeals Board, in the manner provided for appeals of administrative decision (Section [33-311](#)(c)(2) of the Code of Miami-Dade County).

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85; Ord. No. 89-4, § 1, 1-17-89; Ord. No. 95-215, § 1, 12-5-95; Ord. No. 98-125, § 21, 9-3-98)

- **Sec. 33-113. - Penalty; injunctive remedy.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this division shall be punished by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the County Court. Each day's violation shall be considered a separate violation. Any continuing violations of the provisions of this article may be enjoined and restrained by injunctive order of the Circuit Court in appropriate proceedings instituted for such purpose.

(Ord. No. 85-59, § 2, 7-18-85)

- **Secs. 33-114—33-121.9. - Reserved.**

- **DIVISION 5. - COMMERCIAL SIGNS ON EXPRESSWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY**

- **Sec. 33-121.10. - Definitions.**

(a)

"Expressway" shall mean limited access rights-of-way and facilities and related approaches, viaducts, bridges and interchange facilities and service roads and any portion of the interstate highway system, now existing or as may be later constructed or designated.

(b)

"Applicable regulations" shall mean any pertinent zoning, building or other regulations in effect in the incorporated or unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County or the State of Florida.

(c)

"Protected areas" shall mean all property in Miami-Dade County within six hundred (600) feet of the right-of-way of any expressway right-of-way provided that directional signs and semaphore signs may be located on any portion of a shopping center which is approved as a development of regional impact pursuant to section 380.06, Florida Statutes, or which has received a binding letter of vested rights from the State of Florida issued prior to January 1, 1980, exempting it from development of regional impact review. Any such signs shall be subject to the requirements of Article VI of this Chapter, but the provisions of [section 33-121.15](#) shall not apply.

(d)

"Sign" shall mean any display of characters, letters, illustrations or any ornamentation designed or used as an advertisement, announcement or to indicate direction.

(e)

"Erect" shall mean to construct, build, rebuild (if more than fifty (50) percent of the structural members involved), relocate raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, paint, draw, or in any other manner bring into being or establish.

(f)

"Temporary sign" shall mean signs to be erected on a temporary basis, such as signs advertising the sale or rental of the premises on which located; signs advertising a subdivision of property; signs advertising construction actually being done on premises on which the sign is located; signs advertising future construction to be done on the premises on which located and special events, such as public meetings, sporting events, political campaigns or events of a similar nature.

(g)

"Point of sale sign" shall mean any sign advertising or designating the use, occupant of the premises, or merchandise or products sold on the premises.

(h)

"Outdoor advertising sign" shall mean any sign which is used for any purpose other than that of advertising to the public the legal or exact firm name or type of business conducted on the premises, or of products or merchandise sold on the premises; or which is designed and displayed to offer for sale or rent the premises on which displayed, or the subdivision of such premises, or present or future construction or development of such premises, or advertising special events, shall constitute an outdoor advertising sign.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 1, 7-2-63; Ord. No. 83-53, § 1, 7-5-83; Ord. No. 85-36, § 1, 6-6-85; Ord. No. 00-32, § 1, 5-9-00)

- **Sec. 33-121.11. - Applicability.**

This division shall apply to both the incorporated and unincorporated area, except that, notwithstanding [Section 33-82](#) of this Code, this division shall not apply in those municipalities that by ordinance have opted out of this division and have established their own regulations of signs in proximity to expressways. A copy of each municipal ordinance establishing regulations differing from this division shall be filed with the Director within fifteen (15) days after adoption by the municipality. It is further provided that any municipality that has not opted out of this division may establish and enforce more restrictive regulations as such municipality may deem necessary.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 2, 7-2-63; Ord. No. 83-53, § 2, 7-5-83; Ord. No. 85-36, § 2, 6-6-85; Ord. No. 07-84, § 1, 6-26-07)

- **Sec. 33-121.12. - Signs prohibited in protected areas.**

It shall be unlawful hereafter for any person, firm or corporation, or any other legal entity to erect, permit or maintain any sign in protected areas, except as provided for hereinafter.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 3, 7-2-63)

Cross reference— Commercial signs prohibited along expressways, [§ 21-23.1](#).

- **Sec. 33-121.13. - Exceptions.**

Erection of the following signs shall be permitted in protected areas, subject to the conditions and limitations listed herein and further, subject to other applicable regulations where such regulations are more restrictive or more definitive than the provisions of this division and are not inconsistent therewith:

(a)

Temporary signs which are located and oriented to serve streets other than an expressway, and are located at least one hundred (100) feet from the expressway right-of-way, except that such signs may serve and be oriented to an expressway if the property concerned abuts the expressway right-of-way and is not served by a parallel expressway service road or is abutting the expressway right-of-way and has direct, permanent legal access to the expressway. In no event shall any temporary sign be larger than one hundred twenty (120) square feet.

(b)

Point of sale signs which are located on and oriented to the frontage on the street which provides actual and direct access to the front or principal entrance of the place of business; however, on corner lots a second detached point of sale sign will be permitted provided that the same is not larger than forty (40) square feet, is located on and oriented to the street frontage of the street other than the one (1) serving the principal entrance of the place of business. "Oriented," in connection with point of sale signs shall mean, in the case of detached signs, placed at a ninety (90) degree angle to the street being serviced; in the case of roof signs, parallel to and fronting such street and within the front twenty-five (25) percent of the building concerned; and in the case of pylon signs, within the front twenty (20) percent of the building concerned. Wall signs within two hundred (200) feet of an expressway shall be confined to the wall of the building containing the principal entrance, except that a wall sign may be placed on one (1) other wall of such building and shall be limited to ten (10) percent of such other wall area. In no event shall any detached point of sale sign be erected within the protected area which is greater in height than twenty-five (25) feet above the average grade of the premises concerned, and no point of sale roof sign shall be erected which is greater in height above the roof than ten (10) feet.

(c)

Outdoor advertising signs shall not be erected for the purpose of serving any expressway, and outdoor advertising signs in protected areas shall be erected and oriented to serve only streets other than expressways, subject to the following conditions:

(1)

That in no event shall any outdoor advertising sign be erected or placed closer than two hundred (200) feet to the right-of-way lines of any expressway.

(2)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed only in business or commercial (not including industrial) zoning districts which permit outdoor advertising under the applicable zoning regulations of the County or municipality having jurisdiction.

(3)

That no outdoor advertising sign shall be erected that is larger than fifteen (15) feet in width and fifty (50) feet in length, whether single or multiple boards.

(4)

That no detached outdoor advertising sign shall be erected which is more than twenty-five (25) feet above the average existing grade of the site on which such sign is erected, or the flood criteria elevation (if property is filled to such elevation) whichever is the greater; nor shall an outdoor advertising roof sign be erected which is more than twenty (20) feet above the roof.

(5)

That no advertising signs shall be erected or placed within three hundred (300) feet of another outdoor advertising sign, such distance to be measured in all directions from the outermost edges of such sign.

(6)

That no outdoor advertising sign shall be erected or placed within one hundred (100) feet of any church, school, cemetery, public park, public reservation, public playground, State or national forest.

(7)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed at right angles to the street which they are serving and shall be located within the front seventy (70) feet of the lot or tract on which erected.

(8)

That no outdoor advertising signs shall be erected or placed on a street dead-ended by the expressway, between the expressway and the first street running parallel to the expressway and on the same side of the dead-end street, even though such distance may be greater than two hundred (200) feet.

(9)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed only on property conforming in size and frontage to the requirements of the zoning district in which located, and detached outdoor advertising signs shall not be erected on property already containing a use or structure.

(10)

That detached outdoor advertising sign structures shall be of the so-called cantilever type construction (double-faced sign, both faces of the same size, secured back to back on vertical supports with no supporting bracing).

(d)

Any sign which fails to conform with the provisions of this division but is not visible from any expressway due to an intervening obstruction.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 4, 7-2-63; Ord. No. 64-32, § 1, 7-21-64; Ord. No. 68-15, § 1, 3-5-68; Ord. No. 69-75, § 1, 10-22-69)

- **Sec. 33-121.14. - Nonconforming signs.**

(a)

Signs which have been erected prior to the effective date ^(b) of this division may continue to be maintained until March 1, 1968. Thereafter, unless such signs conform to the provisions of this division, they shall be removed: If a nonconforming spacing situation can be eliminated by the removal of one (1) sign, the sign which has been erected for the longest period of time shall have priority.

(b)

Any sign legally erected, permitted, or maintained subsequent to July 11, 1963, which is not in violation of this division but upon the opening for public use of an expressway or applicable portion thereof becomes nonconforming, the same may continue to be maintained for a period of five (5) years from the day of such opening provided on or before the expiration of the five (5) year period, the nonconforming sign must be removed; provided, any sign which is exempt from the provisions of this division pursuant to Subsection (d) of [Section 33-121.13](#) hereof, but subsequently becomes nonconforming due to the elimination of the obstruction preventing its visibility from an expressway, must be removed within five (5) years from the time of the elimination of such obstruction; further provided, after the effective date of this amendment any sign erected, permitted or maintained after a future expressway right-of-way has been designated by the recording of an expressway right-of-way map in the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida, which becomes nonconforming due to the completion of such expressway shall be removed within thirty (30) days after such expressway or applicable portion thereof is opened for public use.

(c)

If approved as a result of a public hearing by the appropriate Community Zoning Appeals Board, a nonconforming sign may be replaced or modernized provided the board size and height is not increased.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 5, 7-2-63; Ord. No. 70-94, § 1, 12-15-70; Ord. No. 98-59, § 1, 5-5-98)

- **Sec. 33-121.15. - Variances.**

No variances shall be granted through provisions of applicable regulations which will in any way conflict with or vary the provisions of this division.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 6, 7-2-63)

- **Sec. 33-121.16. - Penalty.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this division shall be punished by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the County Court. Any continuing violations of the provisions of this division may be enjoined and restrained by injunctive order of the Circuit Court in appropriate proceedings instituted for such purpose.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 1, 7-2-63)

- **Sec. 33-121.17. - Repeal clause.**

(a)

All County and municipal ordinances, County and municipal resolutions, municipal charters, special laws applying only to Miami-Dade County or any municipality in Miami-Dade County, or any general laws which the Board of County Commissioners is authorized by the Constitution to supersede, nullify, modify or amend, or any part of such ordinance, resolution, charter or law, in conflict with any provision of this division, is hereby repealed.

(b)

Provisions of this division shall not apply to signs authorized by the City of Miami pursuant to City of Miami Ordinance No. 9993 only when said ordinance has been amended by the City of Miami in accordance with the City of Miami Resolution No. 85-540.

(Ord. No. 63-26, § 8, 7-2-63; Ord. No. 83-53, § 3, 7-5-83; Ord. No. 85-36, § 3, 6-6-85)

- **Secs. 33-121.18, 33-121.19. - Reserved.**
- **DIVISION 6. - COMMERCIAL SIGNS ON RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM RIGHT-OF-WAY**

- **Sec. 33-121.20. - Definitions.**

(a)

Rapid Transit System right-of-way shall mean an official map designating outside boundaries for the Fixed-Guideway Rapid Transit System for Miami-Dade County, Florida, which may from time to time be amended. The Rapid Transit System right-of-way map shall be so designated and recorded and on file in the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

(b)

Applicable regulations shall mean any pertinent zoning, building or other regulations in effect in the incorporated or unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County or the State of Florida.

(c)

Protected areas shall mean all property in Miami-Dade County within three hundred (300) feet of the right-of-way of any Rapid Transit System right-of-way.

(d)

Sign shall mean any display of characters, letters, illustrations or any ornamentation designed or used as an advertisement, announcement or to indicate direction.

(e)

Erect shall mean to construct, build, rebuild (if more than fifty (50) percent of the structural members involved), relocate, raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, paint, draw, or in any other manner bring into being or establish.

(f)

Temporary sign shall mean signs to be erected on a temporary basis, such as signs advertising the sale or rental of the premises on which located; signs advertising a subdivision of property; signs advertising construction actually being done on premises on which the sign is located; signs advertising future construction to be done on the premises on which located and special events, such as public meetings, sporting events, political campaigns or events of a similar nature.

(g)

Point of sale sign shall mean any sign advertising or designating the use, occupant of the premises, or merchandise or products sold on the premises.

(h)

Outdoor advertising sign shall mean any sign which is used for any purpose other than that of advertising to the public the legal or exact firm name or type of business conducted on the premises, or of products or merchandise sold on the premises; or which is designed and displayed to offer for sale or rent the premises on which displayed, or the subdivision of such premises, or present or future construction or development of such premises, or advertising special events, and which shall constitute an outdoor advertising sign. Outdoor advertising sign shall not include a sign which is erected inside a building for the purpose of serving the persons within the building.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78; Ord. No. 83-85, § 1, 9-20-83)

- **Sec. 33-121.21. - Applicability.**

This division shall apply to both the incorporated and unincorporated area. Any municipality may establish and enforce equivalent or more restrictive regulations, as such municipality may deem necessary.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.22. - Signs prohibited in protected areas.**

It shall be unlawful hereafter for any person, firm or corporation, or any other legal entity, to erect, permit or maintain any sign in protected areas, except as provided for hereinafter.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.23. - Exceptions to sign prohibition.**

Erection of the following signs shall be permitted in protected areas, subject to the conditions and limitations listed herein and further, subject to other applicable regulations where such regulations are more restrictive or more definitive than the provisions of this division and are not inconsistent therewith:

(a)

Temporary signs which are located and oriented to serve streets other than a Rapid Transit System, and are located at least one hundred (100) feet from the Rapid Transit System right-of-way, except that such signs may serve and be oriented to a Rapid Transit System if the property concerned abuts the Rapid Transit System right-of-way and is not served by a parallel Rapid Transit System service road or is abutting the Rapid Transit System right-of-way and has direct, permanent legal access to the Rapid Transit System. In no event shall any temporary sign be larger than one hundred twenty (120) square feet.

(b)

Point of sale signs which are located on and oriented to the frontage on the street which provides actual and direct access to the front of principal entrance of the place of business; however, on corner lots a second detached point-of-sale sign will be permitted provided that the same is not larger than forty (40) square feet, is located on and oriented to the street frontage of the street other than the one (1) serving the principal entrance of the place of business. "Oriented," in connection with point-of-sale signs, shall mean, in the case of detached signs, placed at a ninety-degree angle to the street being served; in the case of roof signs, parallel to and fronting such street and within the front twenty-five (25) percent of the building concerned; and in the case of

pylon signs, within the front twenty (20) percent of the building concerned. Wall signs within two hundred (200) feet of a Rapid Transit System shall be confined to the wall of the building containing the principal entrance, except that a wall sign may be placed on one (1) other wall of such building and shall be limited to ten (10) percent of such other wall area. In no event shall any detached point of sale sign be erected within the protected area which is greater in height than twenty-five (25) feet above the average grade of the premises concerned, and no point of sale roof sign shall be erected which is greater in height above the roof than ten (10) feet.

(c)

Outdoor advertising signs shall not be erected for the purpose of serving any Rapid Transit System, and outdoor advertising signs in protected areas shall be erected and oriented to serve only streets other than Rapid Transit Systems, subject to the following conditions:

(1)

That in no event shall any outdoor advertising sign be erected or placed closer than three hundred (300) feet to the right-of-way lines of any Rapid Transit System.

(2)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed only in business and commercial (not including industrial) zoning districts which permit outdoor advertising under the applicable zoning regulations of the County or municipality having jurisdiction.

(3)

That no outdoor advertising sign shall be erected that is larger than fifteen (15) feet in width and fifty (50) feet in length, whether single or multiple boards.

(4)

That no detached outdoor advertising sign shall be erected which is more than twenty-five (25) feet above the average existing grade of the site on which such sign is erected or the flood criteria elevation (if property is filled to such elevation), whichever is the greater; nor shall an outdoor advertising roof sign be erected which is more than twenty (20) feet above the roof.

(5)

That no advertising signs shall be erected or placed within three hundred (300) feet of another outdoor advertising sign, such distance to be measured in all directions from the outermost edges of such sign.

(6)

That no outdoor advertising sign shall be erected or placed within one hundred (100) feet of any church, school, cemetery, public park, public reservation, public playground, State or national forest.

(7)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed at right angles to the street which they are serving and shall be located within the front seventy (70) feet of the lot or tract on which erected.

(8)

That no outdoor advertising signs shall be erected or placed on a street dead-ended by the Rapid Transit System, between the Rapid Transit System and the first street running parallel to the Rapid Transit System and on the same side of the dead-end street, even though such distance may be greater than three hundred (300) feet.

(9)

That outdoor advertising signs shall be erected and placed only on property conforming in size and frontage to the requirements of the zoning district in which located, and detached outdoor advertising signs shall not be erected on property already containing a use or structure.

(10)

That detached outdoor advertising sign structures shall be of the so-called cantilever-type construction (double-faced sign, both faces of the same size, secured back to back on vertical supports with no supporting bracing).

(d)

Any sign which fails to conform with the provisions of this division but is not visible from any Rapid Transit System due to an intervening obstruction.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.24. - Nonconforming signs.**

(a)

Signs which have been erected prior to the effective date of this division may continue to be maintained until January 1, 1984. Thereafter, unless such signs conform to the provisions of this division, they shall be removed. If a nonconforming spacing situation can be eliminated by the removal of one (1) sign, the sign which has been erected for the longest period of time shall have priority.

(b)

[If] any sign [be] legally erected, permitted or maintained subsequent to the effective date of this division, which is not in violation of this division but upon the opening for public use of a Rapid Transit System or applicable portion thereof becomes nonconforming, the same may continue to be maintained for a period of three (3) years from the day of such opening, provided on or before the expiration of the three-year period, the nonconforming sign must be removed; provided any sign which is exempt from the provisions of this division pursuant to (d) of [Section 33-121.23](#) hereof, but subsequently becomes nonconforming due to the elimination of the obstruction preventing its visibility from a Rapid Transit System, must be removed within three (3) years from the time of the elimination of such obstruction; further provided, after the effective date of this amendment any sign erected, permitted or maintained after a future Rapid Transit System right-of-way has been designated by the recording of a Rapid Transit System right-of-way map in the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida, which becomes nonconforming due to the completion of such Rapid Transit System shall be removed within thirty (30) days after such Rapid Transit System or applicable portion thereof is opened for public use.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.25. - Variances.**

No variance shall be granted through provisions of applicable regulations which will in any way conflict with or vary the provisions of this article.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.26. - Penalty; injunctive remedy.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this division shall be punished by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the County Court. Any continuing violations of the provisions of this division may be enjoined and restrained by injunctive order of the Circuit Court in appropriate proceedings instituted for such purpose.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **Sec. 33-121.27. - Repeal clause.**

All County and municipal ordinances, County and municipal resolutions, municipal charters, special laws applying only to Miami-Dade County or any municipality in Miami-Dade County, or any general laws which the Board of County Commissioners is authorized by the Constitution to supersede, nullify, modify or amend, or any part of such ordinance, resolution, charter or law, in conflict with any provision of this division, is hereby repealed.

(Ord. No. 78-74, § 3, 10-17-78)

- **DIVISION 7. - BUSWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY**

- **Sec. 33-121.28. - Definitions.**

(a)

Busway right of way map shall mean an official map designating outside boundaries for the Miami-Dade Transit Busway for Miami-Dade County, Florida, which shall be certified by the Clerk of the Board as the official busway zoning right-of-way map, and which shall be maintained on file in the records of the Department of Planning and Zoning. The busway zoning map may from time to time be altered, enlarged, amended or deleted by ordinance.

(b)

Applicable regulations shall mean any pertinent zoning or building ordinance or other legislation regulating the use of signs in the incorporated or unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County.

(c)

Busway protected areas shall mean all property in Miami-Dade County within three hundred (300) feet of the busway right-of-way.

(d)

Sign shall mean any display of characters, letters, illustrations or any ornamentation designed or used as an advertisement, announcement or to indicate direction.

(e)

Erect shall mean to construct, build, rebuild (if more than 50% of the support structure is involved), relocate, raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, paint, draw, or in any other manner bring into being or establish a sign.

(Ord. No. 05-202, § 1, 11-3-05)

- **Sec. 33-121.29. - Signs prohibited in protected areas.**

It shall be unlawful to erect, permit or maintain any Class C (outdoor advertising) sign in protected areas.

(Ord. No. 05-202, § 1, 11-3-05)

- **Sec. 33-121.30. - Nonconforming signs.**

Signs which have been lawfully erected prior to the effective date of this division may continue to be maintained as provided in [Section 33-35](#) of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 05-202, § 1, 11-3-05)

- **Sec. 33-121.31. - Variances.**

Relief from the requirements of this section shall only be permitted pursuant to the requirements in [Section 33-311](#)(A)(4)(a) of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

(Ord. No. 05-202, § 1, 11-3-05)