



Staff Report

Amendment to the UDC regarding billboards

Attachments: Definitions List, Tables

Work Session: Thursday July 3, 2025
Public Hearing: Thursday, July 10, 2025
City Council Introduction: Tuesday, September 23, 2025
City Council Public Hearing: Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Request:

Introduction of an ordinance by the City Planner to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) and requirements for billboards.

City Planner Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval.

Public Hearing:

For: 3
Against: 0

Commission Recommendation:

Motion:

Recommend approval to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) and requirements for billboards along with the following conditions: All current billboards must come into compliance. No new billboards to be put up in the City of Hammond.

For: Kylan Douglas, Ron Matthews, Trey Tycer
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Monica Perez, Trey St. Romain

Ordinance to Read:

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2025 the Hammond Zoning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approval to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) and requirements for billboards along with the following conditions: All current billboards must come into compliance. No new billboards to be put up in the City of Hammond.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT ORDAINED, the Hammond City Council held a public hearing on October 14, 2025 and approved the ordinance to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) and requirements for billboards along with the following conditions: All current billboards must come into compliance. No new billboards to be put up in the City of Hammond.

DEFINITIONS

Billboards — Any structure or portion thereof consisting of outdoor advertising signs which advertise, promote, or otherwise disseminate information on which are considered off-premise, or not related to the business use on the particular lot on which the billboard is placed.

Off-Premise Outdoor Advertising — See “Billboard.”

Off-Premises Sign. Any outdoor sign, display, figure, painting, drawing, message, billboard, or any other thing which is designed, intended, or used to advertise or inform, any part of which advertising or information content is visible from any place on the main traveled way of any thoroughfare in the city; but does not include on-premises signs advertising or identifying activities conducted on or products sold on the property upon which they are located.

BILLBOARD/OFF-PREMISES ADVERTISING SIGN. An outdoor advertising sign that directs the attention of the public to a business activity conducted, or product sold or offered for sale at a location not on the same premises where the sign is located. This does not include:

- (1) any sign erected and maintained by the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, or any other entity authorized by the state, oriented to and visible from a street, or
- (2) any sign permitted, authorized or contracted for by a state, parish or municipal governing authority pursuant to RS § 32:236. C, or
- (3) an approved sign located on the site of an integrated business center, and owned and operated by a tenant of the business center.

STATIC BILLBOARD. A billboard which displays a single visual image that does not change more frequently than once per 24-hour period and does not include LED or functionally electronic equivalent technology.

BILLBOARD/OFF-PREMISES ADVERTISING SIGN, ELECTRONIC (DIGITAL). A billboard or off-premises sign capable of displaying words, symbols, figures or images that can be electronically changed by remote or automatic means.

Delete

13.1.9 Off-premise signs

A. Off-premise signs (which includes billboards) shall be allowed only in the C-N, C-H and industrial zoning districts.

B. The maximum area (each face) of any off-premise sign within the City of Hammond shall be three hundred (300) square feet and shall have a maximum height of forty five (45) feet.

C. All lighting on off-premises signs shall be shielded so as not to produce excessive light or glare on to adjacent residential property or onto the street.

D. Off-premises signs shall be setback at least as far back as the minimum setback of contiguous structures. When contiguous lots are not developed, the minimum setback shall be at least twenty (20) feet from the public right-of-way.

~~E. No two (2) off-premise signs shall be located within five hundred (500) linear feet, measured along or on the same side of any street or road frontage, of any other off-premise sign (exception—See (f) below). When measured at street intersections, five hundred (500) feet shall be measured radially of any other off-premise sign.~~

~~F. Persons who own property or business within the C-N, C-H, or industrial zones may use this property to advertise other property or businesses which they own but which are in a different location. Such off-premise signs shall be limited to forty (40) square feet in area (per sign face) and do not need to meet the spacing requirements of subsection (e) above.~~

~~G. "Piggybacking" (signs on top of one another) of signs will not be allowed~~

- A. The billboard regulations are applicable to all billboards within the city limits of Hammond, Louisiana.
- B. No new billboards shall be constructed in within the city limits of Hammond, Louisiana. Existing billboard locations shall be grandfathered.
- C. No existing billboards shall be enlarged or altered.
- D. All billboards erected in violation of a previously existing ordinance shall not, by virtue of the adoption of this ordinance, become legally nonconforming. Such billboards shall within twelve (12) months, be removed by the owner or brought into compliance with this article.
- E. A list and photos of all non-conforming billboards will be compiled by the Planning Staff. The owners of such billboards shall be notified by the city of the time schedule for such billboards to be removed, or brought into conformance with Section 13 of the Unified Development Code.
- F. Any Billboard that is to be repaired due to an "Act of God" or other type of damage beyond the control of the owner, must receive sign permits before repairing damage. Permits are required from the city, to determine the conforming status of the billboard prior to the damage. When such "Acts of God" have cause of a conforming billboard to need repairs, permit fees shall not be charged.