# **OPTION 1**

#### **DEFINITIONS**

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

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.

### 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.

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### 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. A list and photos of all noncompliant 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 compliance with Section 13 of the Unified Development Code. All such noncompliant billboards shall within twelve (12) months after the date of notice, be removed by the owner or brought into compliance with this article.
- E. Any billboard that is to be repaired due to an "Act of God" or damage caused by a third party the control of the billboard 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. As used herein, the term "Acts of God" shall mean an extraordinary, unforeseeable or unavoidable natural event that is not caused by human intervention, such as a hurricane, tornado, earthquake, or flood. When such "Acts of Good have been the cause of a conforming billboard to need repairs, permit fees shall not be charged.
- F. A billboard shall be considered abandoned that fails to display and advertisement for a period of three (3) consecutive months. An advertising or display of the sign company business itself does not prevent abandonment. An abandoned billboard and its supporting structure must be removed within thirty (30) days after abandonment.