


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING
ORDINANCE TO TO ALLOW ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF
CERTAIN SIGNS IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICTS

ISSUE: Consideration of a text amendment to allow administrative approval of certain signs in the Historic Districts.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council pass the proposed ordinance (Attachment I) on first reading on December 8, 2009 and schedule it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on December 12, 2009.

DISCUSSION: This text amendment was recommended to the City Council for approval by the Planning Commission on November 5, 2009, which recommendation was approved by City Council at the public hearing on November 21, 2009. The proposed ordinance implements the City Council's approval.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment I – Proposed Ordinance and Cover

Attachment II – November 5, 2009 Docket Memo to the Planning Commission

STAFF:

Faroll Hamer, Director, Planning and Zoning

Barbara Ross, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning

Stephanie Sample, Urban Planner, Planning and Zoning

Christopher P. Spera, Deputy City Attorney

Introduction and first reading: 12/8/09
Public hearing: 12/12/09
Second reading and enactment: 12/12/09

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 9-301 (REVIEW REQUIRED), Article IX (SIGNS, MARQUEES AND AWNINGS), and add a new Section 10-113 (ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PERMITS) and a new Section 10-213 (ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PERMITS), both of Article X (HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND BUILDINGS), all of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2009-0005.

Summary

The proposed ordinance amends the Zoning Ordinance to allow administrative approval of certain signs within the Historic Districts, as recommended to the City Council by the Planning Commission on November 5, 2009, which recommendation was approved by the City Council at public hearing on November 21, 2009.

Sponsor

Staff

Faroll Hamer, Director, Planning and Zoning
Barbara Ross, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning
Stephanie Sample, Urban Planner, Planning and Zoning
Christopher P. Spera, Deputy City Attorney

Authority

§2.04(w), §9.09(i)(j), Alexandria City Charter

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

11/5/2009 Docket Memo to Planning Commission

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 9-301 (REVIEW REQUIRED), Article IX (SIGNS, MARQUEES AND AWNINGS), and add a new Section 10-113 (ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PERMITS) and a new Section 10-213 (ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF CERTAIN PERMITS), both of Article X (HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND BUILDINGS), all of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2009-0005.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that:

- 1. In Text Amendment No. 2009-0005, the planning commission, having found that the public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practice so require, recommended approval to the City Council on November 5, 2009 of a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow administrative approval of certain signs in the Historic Districts, which recommendation was approved by the City Council at public hearing on November 21, 2009;
- 2. The City Council in adopting this ordinance expressly adopts, ratifies, affirms and concurs in the finding and action of the Planning Commission above stated;
- 3. All requirements of law precedent to the adoption of this ordinance have been complied with; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Section 9-301 of the Zoning Ordinance be, and the same hereby is, amended, by adding new language as shown:

(New language is underscored)

Sec. 9-301 Review Required

(B) *Exemptions.* The following signs shall not be subject to the requirement of section 9-301(A):

(6) Signs for which administrative approval is available pursuant to sections 10-113 and 10-213.

Section 2. That Section 10-113 of the Zoning Ordinance be, and the same hereby is, amended by inserting new language, as shown:

1 (The following is all new language)

2
3 **Sec. 10-113 Administrative Approval Of Certain Permits.** The director may review and
4 approve applications for those signs which comply with the specific criteria and
5 standards outlined and formally approved by the board.
6

7 Section 3. That Section 10-213 of the Zoning Ordinance be, and the same hereby is,
8 amended by inserting new language, as shown:
9

10 (The following is all new language)

11
12 **Sec. 10-213 Administrative approval of certain permits.** The director may review and
13 approve applications for those signs which comply with the specific criteria and
14 standards outlined and formally approved by the board.
15

16 Section 4. That the director of planning and zoning be, and hereby is, directed to
17 record the foregoing text amendment.
18

19 Section 5. That Section 9-301, as amended pursuant to Section 1 of this ordinance,
20 Section 10-113, as amended pursuant to Section 2 of the ordinance and Section 10-213, as
21 amended by Section 3 of this ordinance, be, and the same hereby are, reordained as parts of the
22 City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance.
23

24 Section 6. That this ordinance shall become effective on the date and at the time of
25 its final passage, and shall apply to all applications for land use, land development or subdivision
26 approval provided for under the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance which are on such date
27 pending before any city department, agency or board, or before city council, shall apply to all
28 such applications which may be filed after such date, and shall apply to all other facts and
29 circumstances subject to the provisions of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, except as
30 may be provided in Article XII of the Zoning Ordinance.
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32 WILLIAM D. EUILLE
33 Mayor
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35 Introduction: 12/8/2009
36 First Reading: 12/8/2009
37 Publication:
38 Public Hearing:
39 Second Reading:
40 Final Passage:
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