

DOWNTOWN DESIGN STANDARDS

NEWS ARCHIVE

August 7, 2019

City Council is scheduled for a Work Session on September 16 to discuss the City's Planning work program in the months ahead. This work may include continued progress on the Downtown Design Standards project. Council Work Sessions are always open to the public. [Click here to learn more.](#)

- [Agenda Item Summary](#)

July 2, 2019

The Springfield City Council adopted the amendments to the Downtown Sign Code on Monday, June 17. Click on the links below to view the materials.

- [Agenda Item Summary](#)
- [Signed Ordinance](#)
- [Updated Code \(Ordinance Exhibit A\)](#)
- [New Downtown Sign District Boundary \(Ordinance Exhibit B\)](#)

If you have ideas about new signage in downtown, **July 17** is the day to keep in mind— this is when the adopted changes become effective. In the next few weeks, staff will look to ensure that working with these changes will offer a convenient and positive experience for our community by updating information on the [Building Permit webpage](#) and to the sections in the [Springfield Municipal Code](#) that are noted in the ordinance. One notable change to be aware of is a new type of sign category: pedestrian-oriented signs. While an application form is still required for these signs, some of these signs are exempt from permit fees. The other code updates did not result in a change to application fees. The City reviews fees on an annual basis, and any changes to fees are effective July 1 of each year.

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June 6, 2019

The April 22 Council Work Session provided Council an opportunity to hear about the feedback received as a result of April 16 Downtown Business Meetup meeting and ask questions. Based on the feedback, Council determined that the proposed updates to the Downtown Sign District could proceed to the May 20 Regular Session and Public Hearing without additional discussion at the Work Session.

Staff presented the proposed Sign Code updates to Council at its May 20 Regular Session and Council held the Public Hearing thereafter. There was no public testimony at the Hearing, which is now closed. Staff requested Council direction on further possible modifications to the proposed Code during the May 20 meeting. Staff brought the updated draft to Council at their June 3 Regular Session to describe how the proposed Code incorporates Council's direction. Council did not request additional changes and had no questions. Though there will be no additional Public Hearing on this item, there will be a Third Reading, Council deliberation, and possible Council vote to adopt or not adopt the Proposed Sign Code on Monday, June 17. Council can still accept public comment during the Business from the Audience portion of the evening's agenda.

- [May 20 City Council Regular Session and Public Hearing Items: Agenda Packet materials, PowerPoint Slides](#)
- [June 3 City Council Regular Session Items: Agenda Packet materials](#)

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April 30, 2019

At City Council's March 25, 2019 Work Session, the proposed changes to the Downtown Sign District of the Springfield Municipal Code were reviewed. Specific topics were presented as Action Items A through H. Staff received direction on Action Items A and B and will continue to seek Council's input at the April 22 Work Session, beginning with Action Item C.

- April 22 City Council Work Session Items: [Agenda Packet](#), [PowerPoint Presentation](#), [Meeting Audio](#)
- March 25 City Council Work Session Items: [Agenda Packet](#), [PowerPoint Presentation](#), [Meeting Audio](#)

The project team plans to seek guidance from City Council on other aspects of downtown planning projects later this spring.

Additionally, staff attended the Discover Downtown Springfield's Downtown Business Meetup on April 16 to share information about the proposed updates to the Sign Code with Springfield's business community. [View the informational handout.](#)