

ORDINANCE NO. 016-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 17.26.052 OF THE LAUREL MUNICIPAL CODE TO UPDATE THE CITY'S ENTRYWAY ZONING DISTRICT CODE.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to keep the Laurel Municipal Code current by modifying and updating chapters, sections and subsections to address situations and problems within the City and to remain in accordance with Montana law; and

WHEREAS, the Laurel City-County Planning Board reviewed the zoning amendments and recommends it be approved; and

WHEREAS, the Laurel City-County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on November 3, 2015 at which no one protested such change; and

WHEREAS, City Staff prepared, reviewed, and approved the following amendments to the existing Section 17.26.052 as noted herein and hereby recommends the same to the City Council for their full approval.

17.26.052 Development Standards.

A. Signage

~~1. All signage in the EZD that is not on premise (see definitions section of the city sign ordinance) shall be monument style signage, i.e., signs mounted directly to the ground with a maximum height not to exceed 10 feet. On premise signs within the EZD are exempt from the signage provisions of the EZD but not from the requirements of the city signage ordinance. An on premise sign is a sign that advertises solely for the business on that specific tract of record on which it is located.~~

~~2.~~ **1.** Review consideration. Signage in the EZD needs to recognize the relationship between adjacent land uses and the natural features of the location such as existing views and proximity to residences. Although signs perform a function in providing information concerning services, products, and business, a profusion of signs produces a cumulative effect that cancels out individual effectiveness and detracts from the appearance of the community as a whole. All signage shall be reviewed with the following considerations and criteria:

- a. Use of subdued, low-key colors
- b. Location, size, and height that do not obstruct views of the community, the river corridor, traditional open spaces, or the mountains,
- c. Sign is built of permanent, durable materials,
- d. Size and location avoids or minimizes the sense of clutter with nearby signs
- e. The sign is professionally prepared and finished on both sides,

- f. The location and placement of the sign will not endanger motorists or pedestrians and does not interfere with the clear vision triangle at street, railroad, or street driveway intersections,
 - g. The sign will not cover or blanket any prominent view of a structure or façade of historical or architectural significance,
 - h. The sign will not obstruct views of users of adjacent buildings to side yards, yards or to nearby open space,
 - i. The sign will not negatively impact the visual quality of a public open space such as a recreation facilities, square, plaza, court yard and the like,
 - j. The sign cannot be seen from the Yellowstone River or any city, county or state park or – if it can be seen- it must be located 1,000 feet from the boundaries of such spaces.
3. ~~2.~~ Only one sign is allowed per parcel of record and there shall be at least one thousand feet between signs.
4. ~~3.~~ A construction permit is required whenever the sign copy is changed and any alterations to the sign are made. ~~Each permit must be renewed on a yearly basis. Permits for renewal and copy change can be obtained via the Laurel internet site and can be mailed to the public works department along with the required fee.~~
- ~~5.~~ 4. Signs shall be limited to one hundred sixty square feet in copy area.
6. ~~5.~~ Non-conforming signs are required to be brought into compliance with this ordinance within six years from the date of adoption of this ordinance or upon the earliest occurrence of the following events.
- a. The sign is relocated or replaced,
 - b. The structure or size of the sign is altered in any way,
 - c. The sign suffers more than 50 percent appraised damage or deterioration or the sign is taken out of service for any reason, such as being knocked down by weather or other means,
 - d. If any non-conforming sign is abandoned or voluntarily discontinued for a period of one hundred eighty days, any subsequent use must be in conformity with this ordinance. An abandoned sign is a sign which no longer identifies or advertises a bona fide business, lessor, service, owner, product, or activity, and/or for which no legal owner can be found. An abandoned sign is to be removed by the owner within fifteen days of notice from the public works department.
7. ~~6.~~ No portable signs as described in the city signage ordinance are allowed in the EZD.
8. ~~7.~~ Transit Bus Benches. Transit bus benches, with or without advertising, may be placed within the city right-of-way upon application and approval of the ADA coordinator, the

transit administrator and in consultation with the public work director. All benches must comply with any applicable city, state, and or/federal standards or regulations. The City may approve a bench provider, with or without advertising, pursuant to its procurement policy, as amended.

9. ~~8~~. Lighting. All sign lighting must incorporate cut-off shields to direct light downward. Luminaries shall not be visible from adjacent streets or properties. A sign's lighting will not cause hazardous or unsafe driving conditions for motorists and will not glare, reflect, or spill onto adjacent business or residential areas.

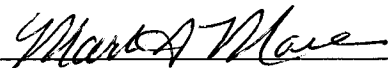
This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after final passage by the City Council and approved by the Mayor.

Introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council on January 19, 2016, by Council Member Dickerson.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Laurel City Council on second reading this 2nd day of February, 2016, upon motion of Council Member McGee.

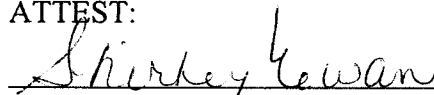
APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this 2nd day of February, 2016.

CITY OF LAUREL



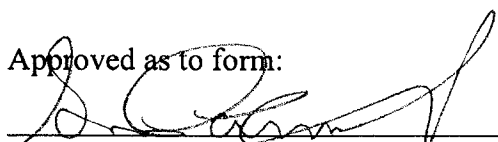
Mark A. Mace, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shirley Ewan, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved as to form:



Sam S. Painter, Civil City Attorney