

7.3. Signs

The provisions of this Section shall govern all signs within the City. No sign shall be altered, replaced, converted, changed, or modified except in accordance with the requirements of this code. The provisions of this Section intend to support the aesthetic improvement of the city through diverse sign types and the general safety of pedestrians and motorists. No portion of this section shall intend to violate free speech. Any type of sign not expressly exempted or permitted in this Section are prohibited.

7.3.1. Prohibited Signs

- A.** Signs are prohibited in all districts unless the sign is:
 - 1. Constructed pursuant to a valid building permit when required under this LDC; and
 - 2. Authorized under this Section.
- B.** Notwithstanding subsection (A) above, the following signs are specifically prohibited:
 - 1. Any sign which constitutes a traffic hazard or a detriment to traffic or pedestrian safety by reason of its size, location, movement, character, coloring or method of illumination, or by obstructing the vision of drivers, or by obstructing or detracting from the visibility of any official traffic control device by unreasonably diverting or tending to divert the attention of operators of moving vehicles from traffic movement on streets, roads, intersections or access facilities; nor shall any sign be erected in such a manner as to obstruct the vision of or constitute a hazard to pedestrians. The use of flashing or revolving lights is prohibited in any sign as constituting a hazard to traffic. Any sign which by glare or method of illumination constitutes a hazard to traffic is prohibited. No sign may use the word "Stop," "Look," "Drive-In" or "Danger" or any other word, phrase, symbol or character in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic.
 - 2. Signs in the waterways except signs for navigation, warning, trespassing, caution, or manatee protection less than or equal to eight square feet in area.
 - 3. Signs which are displaying an obscene or pornographic message.
 - 4. Signs (other than those erected or required to be erected by the municipal, county, state, or federal government) erected on the right-of-way of any street, road or public way, or signs overhanging or infringing upon the right-of-way of any street, road, or public way, except as specifically provided by this section.
 - 5. Signs erected on public property other than signs erected by the municipal, county, state, or federal government for public purposes, unless otherwise authorized by this section.
 - 6. Signs so located as to prevent free ingress or egress into or from any door, passable window or fire escape. No sign shall be attached to a standpipe or fire escape.
 - 7. Off-site signs, except for off-site identification/directional signs approved by the Planning Commission through conditional use.

8. Portable signs, except where specifically permitted by the terms of this Section.
9. Any sign containing or consisting of banners, balloons, posters, pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or other similarly moving devices or signs which may move or swing as a result of wind pressure.
10. Signs on or attached to utility poles or trees, shrubs or plants.
11. Outline or strip lighting on corners, eaves, ridges, fascia or other portions of buildings or structures.
12. Roof signs that are constructed upon a roof or roof-mounted structure, except where specifically permitted by terms of this section. Those signs that are placed or mounted on a mansard roof are not considered prohibited roof signs but may be permitted as a building sign.
13. Pole or pylon signs.
14. Illuminated portable signs.
15. Vehicle identification or trailer-mounted signs attached to or painted on a vehicle or trailer that is inoperable, does not have a current State of Florida vehicle registration, or is not regularly used as part of the activity located on the premises, excluding personal use by the business and/or property owner. Any sign bearing a commercial message that is attached to or painted on a vehicle or trailer that is routinely parked or otherwise located on a site other than the site where the business is located, or a sign whereby its size or placement on the vehicle or trailer makes it impractical or dangerous to operate the vehicle or trailer, is also prohibited.
16. Any sign that emits audible sound, odor, or visible matter such as smoke or steam.
17. Statuary signs.

7.3.2. Exempt Signs

A. Types of Exempt Signs. The following signs may be erected in any zoning district without securing a permit, subject to meeting all requirements of this Section:

1. Professional nameplates or occupational buildings signs not exceeding two square feet in area.
2. Memorial signs or names of buildings that do not exceed four square feet in area.
3. Government signs located in public right-of-way or on public property.
4. Real estate signs in residential districts.
 - a. In residential districts, limited to one sign per lot or parcel except for corner lots which may have one sign per street frontage. Lots with navigable waterway may have one additional real estate sign in the waterfront yard or on a structure over water. Lots that abut a golf course may have one additional real estate sign in a yard that abuts the golf course.

- b. Size of real estate sign for any lot shall not exceed 4 square feet.
 - c. Real estate signs shall be removed within 48 hours of sale closing or lease start.
 - d. Real estate signs advertising a developer's sale of vacant lots shall be limited to entrances to the subdivision from a public street and limited to 16 square feet are and 8 feet in height.
 - e. All signs in a development for an approved subdivision shall be removed when five percent of the total lots in the last phase of the subdivision remain. For a manufactured home community, all signs shall be removed upon the sale of the residential unit.
 - f. Real estate signs in nonresidential districts shall be non-illuminated. Limited to one sign per parcel. Corner lots may have one sign per street frontage. Maximum 32 square feet in area. Shall be removed within 48 hours of the sale closing or lease start.
5. Identification signs (containing family name and/or address) at the driveway of residences limited to two square feet in area.
 6. Directional signs on nonresidential use lots shall may be posted without a permit, but shall not exceed two square feet and shall not carry advertisement.
 7. Posters, bulletins, or nonflashing illuminated signs may be displayed inside windows or doors and exterior surface of a window or door. Such signs may not exceed ten percent of the surface of each window or door. Changeable copy signs may not exceed six square feet in size and only be installed inside a window or door that has street frontage.
 8. Vehicle signs, provided the vehicle is operable, has a current State of Florida registration, and is regularly used by the business.
 9. Flags containing no commercial message.
 10. Garage sale signs, limited to four square feet in area. One sign per location of garage sale, and a maximum of four off-premises sales.
 11. Murals on buildings or structures are exempt, provided the mural does not advertise or promote any product or business. Murals that provide a depiction or rendering of scenery, recreation, habitat, or leisure activities are exempt. Murals which advertise or promote a product or business shall be categorized as a wall sign and meet the provisions of this Section.
- B. Standards for Exempt Signs.** Except for government signs, exempt signs shall not be closer than five feet front the front property line or closer than two feet from any side. No sign shall be closer than five feet from any driveway, curb or edge of pavement. No animated, flashing, wind, or human-held signs shall be used in conjunction with any exempt sign. Signs which become visibly damaged shall be removed.

7.3.3. Temporary Signs

The Director may grant permits for temporary signs associated with a temporary event. All temporary signs shall meet the following criteria:

1. Shall not interfere with visibility or impede the safety of pedestrians or motorists.
2. Temporary signs shall be set back a minimum of two feet from the edge of pavement of a street.
3. No temporary sign shall be illuminated.
4. One temporary sign per business may be displayed at any time.
5. Temporary signs shall be only posted on site and may not be posted off premises.
6. Maximum size limited to one square foot per linear foot of building or 20 square feet, whichever is less.
7. Signs shall be displayed a maximum of 30 consecutive days, after which the sign shall be removed.

7.3.4. Permitted Signs General Applicability

General Standards for Permitted Signs. Permitted signs are defined in Section 7.3.5. and shall comply with the standards provided.

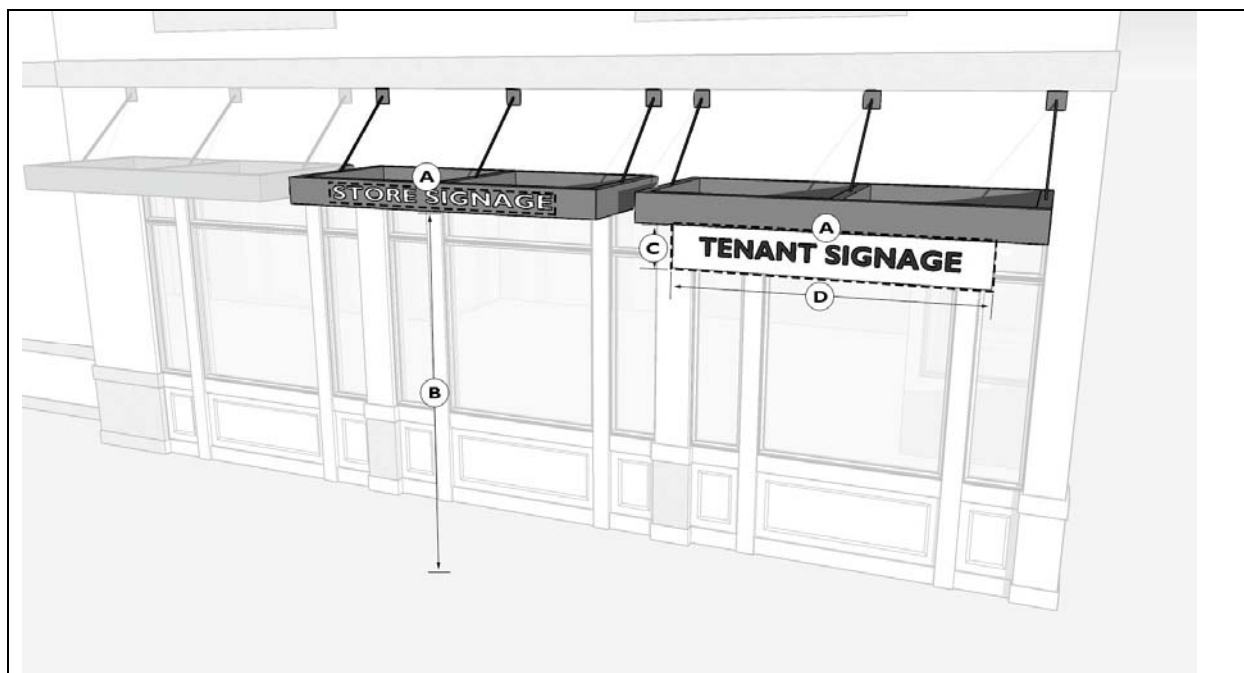
- A. Design.** All signs shall be constructed in a professional manner and shall be architecturally consistent with the buildings they identify. Signs shall be or appear to be constructed of stone, masonry, metal, ceramic, glass, plastic, or wood. Fluorescent, metal flake or iridescent colors are prohibited. Ground signs shall include base, cap and column in their design.
- B. Landscaping.** Ground signs shall be placed in a landscaped setting appropriate to the size and scale of the sign, and character of the site.
- C. Intersection Visibility Triangle.** No sign structure may obstruct any cross-visibility area. In a intersection visibility triangle, no ground sign may exceed 30 inches in height above the established grade of the street property line, unless the sign is setback a minimum of five feet from the street right-of-way. No sign shall impede pedestrians or motorists on or off the premises. No sign structure may obstruct any cross-visibility area.
- D. Illumination.** Outline or strip lighting, neon tube, animated, flashing or changeable illumination shall not be permitted. Illumination in signs may not impair the vision of motor vehicle drivers. All permanent signs may be non-illuminated or illuminated by internal or external illumination.
 1. **External Illumination.** Only stationary and shielded light sources directed solely onto the sign are permitted.
 2. **Internal Illumination.** Only illumination with a designation of “white” or “daylite” shall be emitted.
- E. Changeable Copy.** Up to 50% of the maximum area for monument or wall signs may be used for changeable copy. No video, animated, scrolling or moving changeable electronic variable message shall be permitted.

- F. **Construction.** All signs must be erected in compliance with building, electrical, and fire codes, and with the following requirements as applicable:
1. Supports and braces shall be designed as an integral part of the sign structure and be hidden from public view to the extent technically feasible.
 2. All signs must be designed and constructed to Florida Building Code standards.
 3. Audio components are prohibited as part of any sign with the exception of drive-through menu signs.

7.3.5. Permitted Sign Types

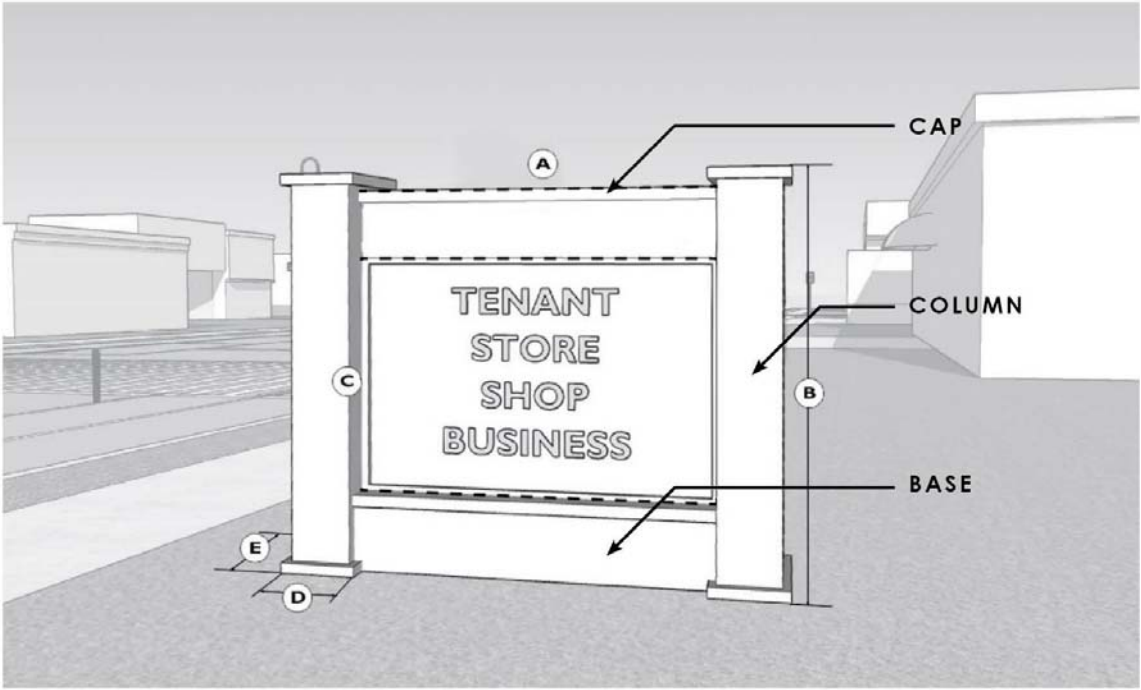
This Section shall provide graphic illustrations for permitted signs below. Description, location standards, size standards, and any other required miscellaneous information shall be provided for each sign type.

A. Awning Signs

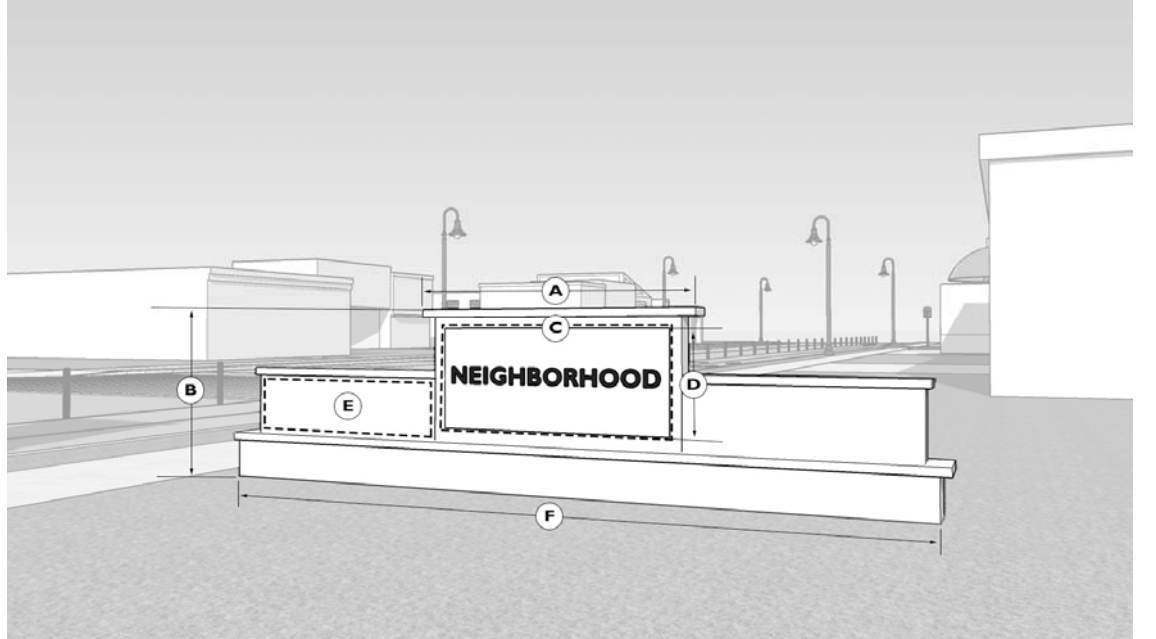


1. Description	An on-premise attached awning extending from the building with attached signage.
2. Location	Awning signs shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet from the surface below and a maximum height of four feet above the clearance.
3. Size	<u>Sign Area and Height:</u> A. Sign Area: Maximum 25 Square Feet. B. Clearance: Minimum 8'. C. Height of Lettering: 8". D. Length: Maximum 12'.
4. Miscellaneous	Signs shall not extend outside the overall length or width of an awning, or extend above the height of the building wall that the awning is attached. Shall not be illuminated.

B. Monument Signs

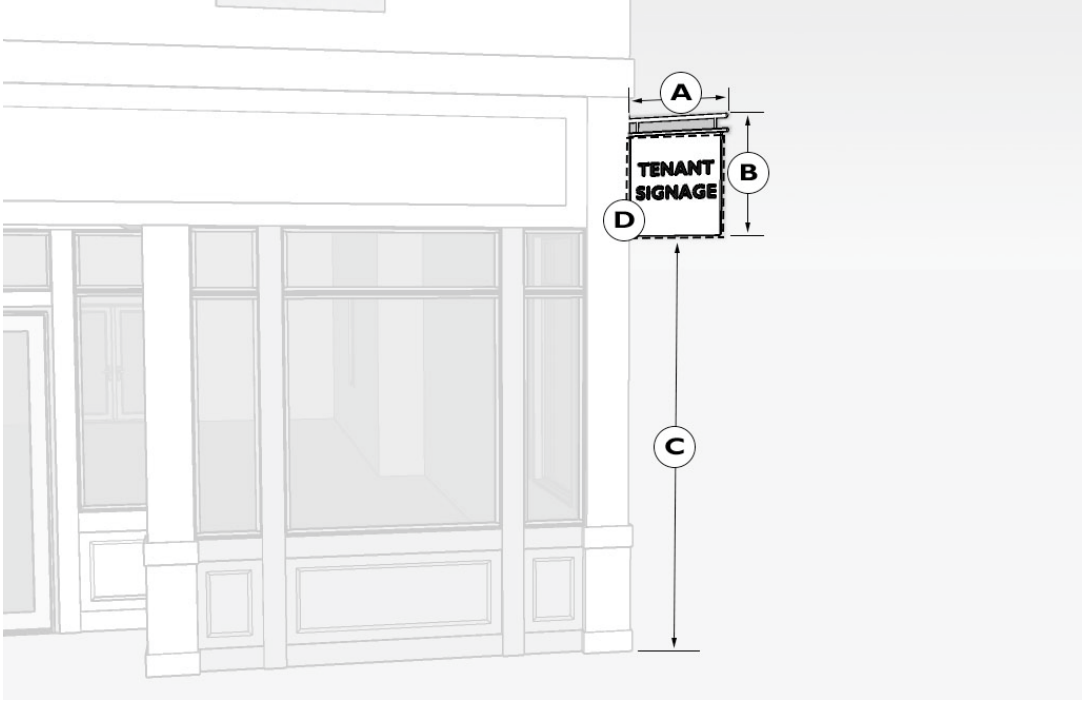
	
<p>1. Description</p>	<p>A freestanding ground sign with a supporting structure with two columns on the end of the sign. A monument sign is not attached, supported or suspended to or from any building or structure. All monument signs shall include base, cap, and columns. All ground signs shall be in the form of monument signs.</p>
<p>2. Location</p>	<p>1 sign per site maximum.</p> <p>Additional signs allowed for dual frontage through conditional use.</p> <p>Street frontage required shall be a minimum of 200'. Monument signs shall not be oriented toward a residential district except where the only street frontage is oriented toward a residential district.</p>
<p>3. Size</p>	<p>Sign Area and Height:</p> <p>A. Sign Width: Maximum 10'.</p> <p>B. Column Height: Maximum 15'.</p> <p>C. Sign Area: Maximum 75 Square Feet.</p> <p>D. Column Width: Maximum 16".</p> <p>E. Column Length: Maximum 18".</p>

C. Neighborhood or Subdivision Signs




1. Description	A freestanding ground sign identifying entry to a mixed-use district, neighborhood, or a residential subdivision. All neighborhood or subdivision signs shall be in the form of monument signs.
2. Location	1 sign per entrance. 2 may be permitted as a conditional use. ROW Encroachment allowed with administrative approval.
3. Size	<u>Sign Area and Height:</u> A. Sign Area Width: Maximum 8'. B. Total Sign Height: Maximum 7'. C. Sign Area: Maximum 40 Square Feet. D. Sign Area Height: Maximum 5'. E. Sign Exposed Material: Total 80 Square Feet Per Side. F. Sign Strucutre Overall Width: 25'.
4. Miscellaneous	Neighborhood or subdivision signs may alternatively be placed on a subdivision wall or fence provided that no part of the wall or fence exceeds 6 feet in height and shall count toward the total.

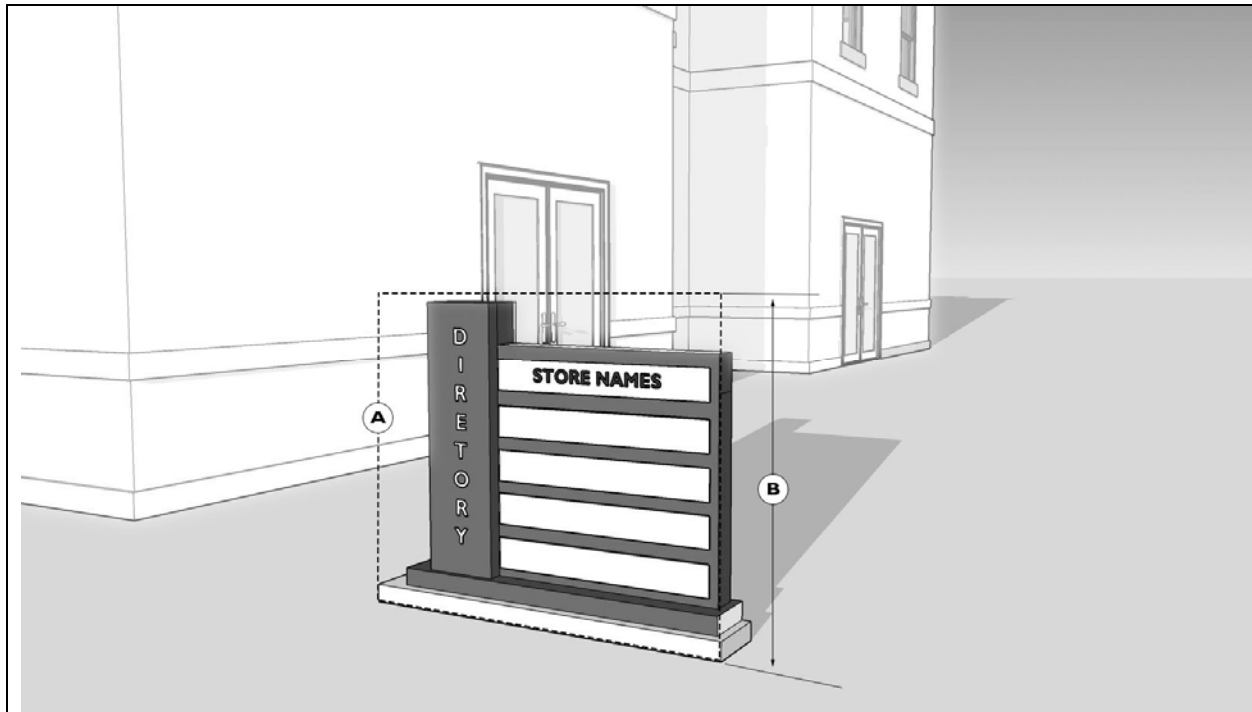
D. Projecting Signs

	
1. Description	A sign attached directly to a supporting building wall and intersecting the building wall at a right angle. A projecting sign may be 2 or 3-dimensional.
2. Location	1 projectisng sign per business.
3. Size	<p><u>Sign Area and Height:</u></p> <p>A. Sign Length: Maximum 3'.</p> <p>B. Sign Height: Maximum 3'.</p> <p>C. Clearance: Minimum 8'.</p> <p>D. Sign Area: Maximum 9 Square Feet.</p> <p>A projecting sign which is not internally illuminated and is suspended to allow the sign to swing due to wind action is not allowed to exceed 6 square feet in area.</p>
4. Miscellanenous	<p>Projecting signs erected at the intersection of building corners when the building corner adjoins the intersection of 2 streets may intersect at a 45 degree angle to the corner of the building, in which case only 1 projecting sign is allowed. No projecting sign is allowed to extend above the roof line or the parapet wall.</p> <p>Buildings with 2 or more stories may not have a projecting sign located higher than the second story or 24', whichever is less.</p>

E. Wall Signs

	
1. Description	An on-premise sign attached directly to a building wall above the given store front place. A wall sign shall include murals conveying the name of a business or a commercial message. A wall sign shall not extend more than 18 inches from the building.
2. Location	Directly above store located on the supporting building wall. Wall signs are not allowed to extend above the roof line or the parapet wall.
3. Size	<p><u>Sign Area and Height:</u></p> <p>A. Sign Area: 1.5 Square Feet for Each Linear Foot of Building Frontage, Maximum 400 Square Feet.</p> <p>B. Length: Varies based off storefront, maximum 100’.</p> <p>C. Height: Varies based off storefront, maximum 4’.</p> <p>D. Sign Lettering: Varies based off store name.</p> <p>E. Sign Lettering height: Maximum 36”.</p>

F. Directory Sign



1. Description	A directory sign is a freestanding ground sign, located at the beginning or end of a commercial area, listing the store names. A directory sign is not attached, supported or suspended to or from any building or structure. A directory sign is intended primarily for pedestrian orientation, dissimilar to a monument sign which is intended primarily for vehicular orientation.
2. Location	Developments less than ten (10) acres in size may have up to two (2) Directory Signs; developments greater than ten (10) acres in size may have one additional Directory Sign for each ten (10) acres.
3. Size	Sign Area and Height: A. Area: Maximum 20 Square Feet. B. Height: Maximum 4'.

G. Sandwich Board Signs



1. Description	Non-illuminated portable signs (i.e. sandwich board signs), consisting as single or two-faced A-frame sign. Florida Americans with Disability Accessibility Implementation Act standards shall be met for placement of the sign on sidewalk. Portable signs shall be removed daily at closing of the business.
2. Location	Directly in front of business location.
3. Size	<p><u>Sign Area and Height:</u></p> <p>A. Sign Area: Maximum 6 Square Feet.</p> <p>B. Sign Width Length: Maximum 2'.</p> <p>C. Sign Height: Maximum 4'.</p>

7.3.6. Design Alternatives for Signs

- A.** The Planning Commission may grant design alternatives to a sign design standard set forth in this LDC if:
1. The request is included as part of a master sign plan; and
 2. The design alternative is consistent with the stated intent of the design standard at issue; and
 3. The design alternative achieves or implements the stated intent to the same degree or better than strict compliance with the standard would achieve; and
 4. The design alternative will not result in adverse impacts on properties abutting the site; and
 5. The overall sign area or sign structure size is not increased greater than 5% the size allowed.