County of Yuba
Community Development & Services Agency

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MINUTES OF THE YUBA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
Wednesday, November 7, 2007
1:00 p.m. Supervisor's Chambers
915 8th Street
Marysville, California

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

WORKSHOP – SIGN ORDINANCE:

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, presented the background information and discussed proposed changes to the existing sign regulations. Outdoor signs are an integral part of our built in environment. They perform many functions for the community such as providing directions to drivers, identifying streets, neighborhoods and businesses. They are essential to economic health and well being of the community. Some of the specific goals of the Sign Ordinance are enhancing economic values thru allowing signs that support and compliment land use objective of the county's general plan, providing a fair and equal treatment of sign users, encouraging signs that are well design in a pleasing appearance, reducing safety hazards and minimizing clutter, intended to direct and inform people, and to provide a process that is easy to administer and allows for deviations. At the same time, unregulated signs can cause clutter, distract drivers, can be hazardous if improperly located, and reduce marketing or economic impacts.

Kevin Perkins, Assistant Planner, added that the Sign Ordinance was last updated in 1989.

Kevin Perkins, Assistant Planner, explained some of the major changes of the Sign Ordinance such as adding a comprehensive definition section, visual examples, and temporary sign definition such as a comprehensive promotional banner sign, a subdivision sign section, sign maintenance section, and a variance section.

Commissioner Durham asked for an explanation of the A – frame signs for small businesses and other areas.

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, responded that A – frame signs are currently not allowed because it's placed within a public right-a-way such as along the sidewalk or adjacent to the street.

Commissioner Durham asked for an explanation of letter signs on the front of the roof.

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, responded that currently on the existing sign ordinance and under the new sign ordinance, letter signs on the front of the roof are not permitted.

Commissioner Durham questioned about the length of time period a temporary banner sign can stay up.

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, answered that each business is allowed one temporary sign. In some instances, the size of the temporary sign is based on the size of the business. The business can have a different sign up or the same sign up in perpetuity as long as it is maintain in good condition. There are businesses that have a prolifery of temporary signs that are ripped or torn; this would require that the business have a main permanent signage. If a business wants to advertise a sale or a special event, a temporary banner is allowed each time without having to notify the county, but if the banner begins to fade then a letter will be mailed stating that it needs to be fix.

Commissioner Flanagan asked about the political campaign signs.

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, political campaign signs are allowed 3 months within the election period.

Commissioner Durham was concerned about the political campaign signs not being remove several months after the election.

Commissioner Flanagan added that the election signs need to be removed within 10 days after the election.

Commissioner Durham request for changes to have the real estate sign remove once the house is sold.

Wendy Hartman, Planning Director, responded that in the new sign ordinance, real estate signs for individual sales are to be located outside of the public right-of-way and removed prior to or at the close of escrow on the listed property.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. to the next meeting on December 19, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

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Wendy Hartman, Planning Director