

- 2      [14-0655](#)      Introduce an Ordinance Amending Chapter 19.44 (Signs) of Title 19 (Zoning), Adding Chapter 9.58 (Signs on City Property) of Title 9 (Public Peace, Safety or Welfare), and Amending Section 1.04.010 (General Penalty) of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code related to various clean-up items and adding provisions for signs on City property.  
**Staff Contact:** Andrew Miner, (408) 730-7707, [aminer@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:aminer@sunnyvale.ca.gov)

Andrew Miner, Principal Planner, presented the staff report.

Comm. Simons confirmed with Mr. Miner that signs are not allowed to be placed in the planting strip between the sidewalk and the street. Mr. Miner also noted that Chapter 9.58, Signs on City Property, is a new chapter in the Zoning Code.

Comm. Durham suggested clarifying the language of section 9.58.070. Mr. Miner and Trudi Ryan, Planning Officer, clarified the maximum aggregate sign area allowed. Comm. Durham and Mr. Miner discussed the locations where placement of residential open house and temporary non-commercial signs is allowed.

Comm. Klein and Mr. Miner discussed the definition of large inflatable objects as signs and limiting the number of these objects in an area. Comm. Klein confirmed with Mr. Miner that large inflatable signs were previously allowed by permit, and that applying for more than one large inflatable sign was not specifically addressed in the previous version of the Sign Code.

Vice Chair Olevson disclosed that he and Ms. Ryan exchanged several emails regarding typographical errors. Kathryn Berry, Senior Assistant City Attorney, and Mr. Miner noted several corrections to be made to the proposed changes to the Sign Code.

Chair Melton opened the public hearing and upon seeing no speaker cards, closed the public hearing.

Comm. Simons moved to recommend to City Council Alternatives:

1. Find that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guideline 15061(b)(3).
2. Introduce an Ordinance, presented as Attachment 1, Amending Chapter 19.44 (Signs) of Title 19 (Zoning), Adding Chapter 9.58 (Signs on City Property) of Title 9 (Public Peace, Safety or Welfare), and Amending Section 1.04.010 (General Penalty) of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code related to various clean-up items and adding provisions for signs on City property.

Vice Chair Olevson seconded.

Comm. Simons said the clean up of a previous iteration and new language will be very useful, especially for signage on City property.

Vice Chair Olevon said he will be supporting the motion, and that he is always in favor of having City Ordinances and codes written with clarity. He said adding the new section, which specifically addresses public buildings, provides that clarity.

Comm. Durham offered a friendly amendment to change the language of section 9.58.070(c) from "measured one side only" to "as seen from one side." Comm. Simons asked if there is a consensus on changing the language, and Ms. Ryan noted that if the Planning Commission thinks it is not clear, the motion can include direction to staff to look at alternate wording for the phrase.

Comm. Simons and Vice Chair Olevson accepted the friendly amendment.

Comm. Durham said he will be voting in favor of this item and that a lot of hard work was done by City staff. He said his comments have been mostly nitpicking, but that clarity in government documents is good, and more clarification so people know what to expect when getting a permit is of the utmost importance.

Chair Melton said staff has done a great job and that the report is a great document.

MOTION: Comm. Simons moved to recommend to City Council Alternatives:

1. Find that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guideline 15061(b)(3).
2. Introduce an Ordinance, presented as Attachment 1, Amending Chapter 19.44 (Signs) of Title 19 (Zoning), Adding Chapter 9.58 (Signs on City Property) of Title 9 (Public Peace, Safety or Welfare), and Amending Section 1.04.010 (General Penalty) of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code related to various clean-up items and adding provisions for signs on City property.
3. Direct staff to look for alternate wording for the phrase discussed in section 9.58.070(c).

Vice Chair Olevson seconded. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes: 7 -** Chair Melton  
Vice Chair Olevson  
Commissioner Durham  
Commissioner Harrison  
Commissioner Klein  
Commissioner Rheaume  
Commissioner Simons

**No: 0**