

FACT SHEET

CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

TITLE	DATE	ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT
An ordinance to amend various articles and sections in the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, Unified Development Code, for the purpose of updating and revising the regulations for political signs, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.	July 26, 2022	Shreveport Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission (“MPC”)
		COUNCIL DISTRICT
		City-wide
		SPONSOR

PURPOSE
To amend the code text in the Shreveport Unified Development Code.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
The City of Shreveport Unified Development Code (UDC) undergoes regular review to ensure that the Code promotes sound, stable, and desirable development to correct errors in the text or to accommodate changed or changing conditions in a particular area. These amendments will affect the following article: *Article 9. – Signs*, regarding updates and revisions to political signs, with all their provisions included therein.

Six years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court upended local sign regulations with its decision in *Reed v Town of Gilbert*. In *Reed*, the Supreme Court held a sign ordinance’s restrictions were content based when the restrictions “depend[ed] entirely on the communicative content of the sign.” Courts have interpreted the broad ruling in *Reed* to mean a sign ordinance is unconstitutional if an official is required to read the sign’s message to determine which regulations apply.

To contend with the Court’s ruling, these code text amendments better regulate the signage codes, and limit a sign’s size, location, illumination and lighting, and placement on private property. This will allow those regulations to be enforced without reviewing the sign’s message.

TIMETABLE	ATTACHMENTS
MPC Introduction: June 1, 2022	Exhibit “A” MPC Memo
MPC Review & Recommendation: July 6, 2022	Exhibit “B” MPC Staff Report 22-7-CTAC
Introduction to City Council: July 26, 2022	
Final Passage by City Council: August 9, 2022	

SPECIAL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS
MPC Recommendation. Pursuant to La. R.S. 33:140.27 and La. R.S. 33:140.35, as amended, no amendment shall become effective unless it be first submitted to and approved (recommendation) by the MPC. The MPC reviewed these amendments and provided a favorable recommendation on July 6, 2022. Therefore, the City Council may render its decision to approve the amendments by a simple majority vote. See La. R.S. 33:140.27 and La. R.S. 33:140.35, as amended, and Shreveport UDC 16.1 (D)(3)(b).

Notice and Public Hearing at MPC. In accordance with the intent of La. R.S. 33:140.27 and La. R.S. 33:140.35, as amended, for a Public Hearing and Notice to be issued, the MPC held a Public Hearing at its Public Meeting on July 6, 2022, before voting on the proposed amendments. At least ten (10) days’ notice of the time and place of the Public Hearing was published on June 23, 2022 in *The Shreveport Times* (a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality).

FINANCES	SOURCE OF FUNDS
\$0	NA

ALTERNATIVES
(1) Adopt the ordinance as submitted, or (2) Amend the ordinance, or (3) Reject the ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION
It is recommended that the City Council adopt the ordinance.

FACT SHEET PREPARED BY: Adam Bailey, Community Planning and Design Manager

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS ARTICLES AND SECTIONS IN THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA, UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING AND REVISING THE REGULATIONS FOR POLITICAL SIGNS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BY COUNCILMEMBER:

WHEREAS, the City desires to make every effort to notify the public and to encourage public participation and input on these proposed *code text amendments* to the Shreveport Unified Development Code; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2022, the first draft proposals of these *code text amendments* were submitted to the Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), at its regular public board meeting, for informal review and discussion; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2022, these *code text amendments* were submitted to the Shreveport-Caddo MPC, at its regular board meeting, for review and recommendation in accordance with [La. R.S. 33:140.27](#); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the intent of [La. R.S. 33:140.27](#) for a Public Hearing and Notice to be issued, the MPC held a Public Hearing at its Public Meeting, on July 6, 2022, before voting and providing a favorable recommendation, to the City Council, regarding the proposed amendments; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the intent of [La. R.S. 33:140.35](#), at least ten (10) days' Notice of the time and place of the Public Hearing was published, at the request of the Shreveport-Caddo MPC staff, in *The Shreveport Times* (a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality) and said Notice was published on June 23, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, in a due, legal and regular session convened, that the following amendments to the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, Unified Development Code ("Shreveport UDC") are hereby authorized as follows:

1. Add the following definition to ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF MEASUREMENT, SECTION 2.3 DEFINITION OF GENERAL TERMS in the Shreveport UDC to know read as follows:

5.3 USE DEFINITIONS

* * * * *

Sign, One-Time Event. A temporary sign advertising an event of limited duration which is either non-recurring or, if recurring, occurring at distinct and/or defined intervals (e.g., quarterly, annually, bi-annually). Illustrative examples of signs advertising One-Time Events include, without limitations, signs advertising carnivals, concerts, public meetings,

sporting events, political campaigns (including qualifying), the sale or lease of immovable property, the grand opening of a business, a festival, a state or local fair, and a cattle or horse show. The foregoing examples are given for illustrative purpose only, and shall not be interpreted as exhaustive or as limiting the generality of this definition.

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Sign, Temporary. A sign that is constructed of cloth, canvas, cardboard, wallboard, or other light temporary materials, with or without a structural frame, intended for a temporary period of display. Examples include, but are not limited to, placards for public demonstrations, real estate signs, political signs, construction signs, or signs that advertise a grand opening, festival, state or local fair, or cattle or horse shows.

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Sign, Yard. A temporary sign intended for non-commercial use or expression. Such signs may include, but are not limited to, baby and birthday celebration signs, garage or yard sale signs, and political signs.

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2. Delete sign type “10. Political Signs” in ARTICLE 9. SIGNS, SECTION 9.6 NO PERMIT REQUIRED: PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY SIGNS, Subsection 9.6.C in the Shreveport UDC. All subsequent subsections shall be renumbered accordingly.

3. Add the new sign type “Temporary Sign” in ARTICLE 9. SIGNS, SECTION 9.6 NO PERMIT REQUIRED: PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY SIGNS, Subsection 9.6.C in the Shreveport UDC as “11.” All subsequent subsections shall be renumbered accordingly.

9.6 NO PERMIT REQUIRED: PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY SIGNS

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C. Permitted Exempt Signs

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11. Temporary Signs

Except where specifically in conflict with this subsection (11), all regulations set forth in this Article 9 shall apply to temporary signs.

- a. Temporary signs are permitted in all districts.

- b. Temporary signs erected in residential districts shall be no larger than 8 square feet.

- c. Temporary signs erected in non-residential districts shall be no larger than 16 square feet. Any Temporary signs larger than 16 square feet is considering a freestanding sign and shall follow all freestanding sign regulations found in Section 9.7.H.
- d. Temporary signs advertising a One-Time Event shall not be erected more than ninety (90) days prior to the initiation of the One-Time Event and shall be removed within seven (7) days following the termination of the One-Time Event.
- e. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.
- f. Temporary signs shall not advertise off-premises commercial activity.
- g. All temporary signs shall be set back ten (10) feet from any property line.
- h. Temporary signs shall not be erected within the City's public right-of-way.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor of the City of Shreveport, or his/her designee, and the Executive Director of the Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission, or his/her designee, shall be and is hereby authorized to do any and all things and to sign any and all documents in a form acceptable to the City Attorney, or his/her designee, necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision or item of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Ordinance which can be given affect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances, resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of Shreveport City Charter Section 4.23.

THUS DONE AND ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office