

# CITY OF YORBA LINDA

Community Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 87014 Yorba Linda, CA 92886

## TEMPORARY SIGN GUIDELINES

Temporary signs are a traditional means of expressing one's philosophy or position. The City of Yorba Linda recognizes that the expression of free speech is an important and Constitutionally protected right; that temporary signs have certain characteristics that distinguish them from many of the other types of signs permitted and regulated by the City, including the fact that these signs generally do not meet the regular structural design standards of permanent signs, given their temporary nature; that temporary signs therefore present a potential hazard to persons and property; and that the City must impose reasonable time limits on the display of temporary signs for these reasons.

This correspondence is designed to clarify any questions regarding the placement of temporary signs throughout the City. The City's temporary sign regulations enable freedom of expression while preserving public safety.

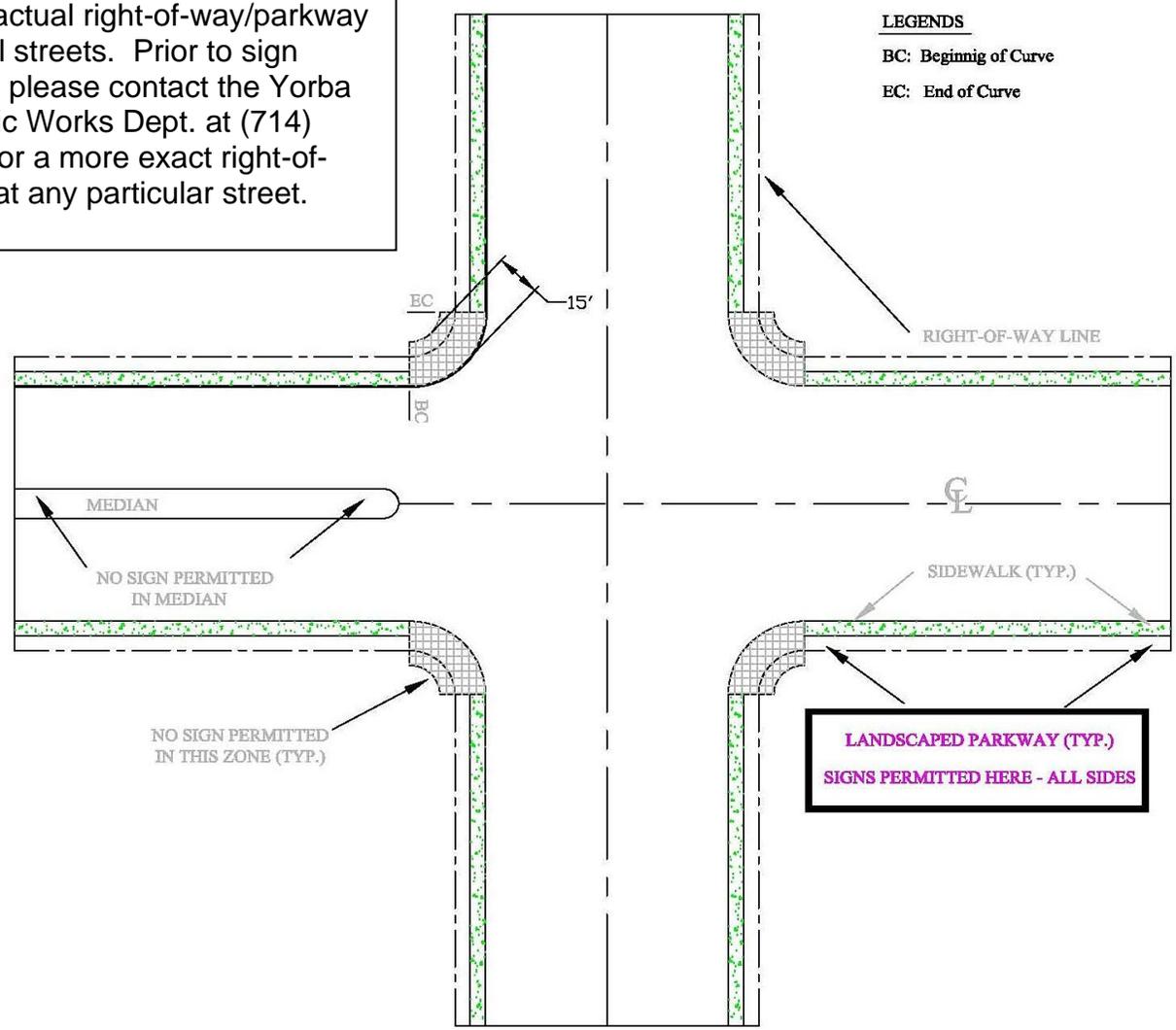
The Yorba Linda Zoning Code allows temporary signs within *public street rights-of-way* in accordance with Section 18.24.070 A as follows:

**Section 18.24.070 A. Temporary signs within public rights-of-way.** Temporary non-commercial signs and real estate directional signs which are non-permanent signs intended to be displayed for a limited period of time, shall be permitted within public rights-of-way subject to the following regulations:

1. **Location.** Signs may locate within the landscaped parkway portion of the public right-of-way, but not within the median of any street or highway (**see Figure 1 for example**). For the purposes of this section, landscaped parkway shall be defined as the area between the back edge of the sidewalk and the right-of-way line, or where no sidewalk exists, the back-of-curb and the right-of-way line. Landscape strips between back-of-curb and a sidewalk also shall be construed as meeting the definition of a landscaped parkway. However, tree wells shall not be construed as a landscaped parkway. Additional requirements include:
  - a. Signs shall not overhang any street, curb, sidewalk, trail or driveway.
  - b. Signs shall not be located within fifteen feet (15') of any fire hydrant.
  - c. Signs shall not be located within fifteen feet (15') of the edge of any driveway nor within 15 feet (15') of any street intersection, as measure from the midpoint of the corner radius (**see Figure 1**)
  - d. Signs shall not be affixed to any traffic control devices, government signs, light standards, utility poles, bus shelters or other structures, posts, fences, shrubs or trees. **Signs shall be free-standing.**
  - e. Signs shall not be located in any area that the City Traffic Engineer determines would constitute a pedestrian or vehicular traffic safety hazard.

# FIGURE 1

Please note that this exhibit does not depict the actual right-of-way/parkway width for all streets. Prior to sign placement, please contact the Yorba Linda Public Works Dept. at (714) 961-7170 for a more exact right-of-way width at any particular street.



2. **Size and Height.** Signs shall not exceed six square feet in area and shall not exceed four feet (4') in height (as measured from grade).
3. **Identification.** Unless otherwise clearly discernable on the sign itself, the owner of the sign shall affix his/her/its name, address, and telephone number to the sign prior to installation of the sign.
4. **Installation.** The installation of any portable sign shall not cause damage to the public right-of-way, including damage to landscaping and/or associated irrigation systems. The owner of a sign placed within the public right-of-way expressly understands that by placing a sign within the public right-of-way, the owner agrees to defend, indemnify and hold the City, its officials, officers, employees, volunteers and agents free and harmless from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, costs, expenses, liability, loss, damage or injury in any manner arising out of or incident to the placement of the sign in the public right-of-way.
5. **Time Period.** Temporary signs shall be removed from the public right-of-way not more that five (5) days after the event to which they pertain.

**Section 18.24.070 B. Temporary signs not within public right-of-way.** In all zones, temporary signs shall be permitted on private property subject to the following regulations:

- 1) Location.
  - a. Temporary noncommercial signs may be placed on private property subject to the property owner's permission.
  - b. Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, temporary commercial signs shall not be visible from public view.
  - c. Signs shall not obstruct the vision/sight distance of vehicular traffic.
  - d. Signs shall not interfere with pedestrian traffic.
- 2) Size and Height. Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, temporary signs for each residence or business establishment shall not exceed an aggregate total of 32 square feet in area, and shall not exceed six feet (6') in height
- 3) Time Period. Signs shall adhere to the following time restrictions:
  - a. Temporary signs associated with an event shall be removed not more than five days after the to which they pertain.
  - b. Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, all noncommercial temporary signs shall be limited to no more than 10 consecutive days.
- 4) Signs shall be either freestanding or supported in an alternative manner meeting the satisfaction of the Community Development Director, and shall be constructed of durable, sturdy materials such as plastic, wood, cloth or metal. Use of paper or cardboard is prohibited.
- 5) Signs may no be located within the public right-of-way, except as provided for in subsection A, Temporary signs within public rights-of-way.

**Please remember:**

- Signs must not distract drivers and cannot resemble official traffic signs.
- Signs must not be placed in any median strip or tree well.
- Signs cannot obstruct clear views of pedestrians and traffic.
- If a sign placed in the public right-of-way is found to be in violation, the person(s) responsible for the sign will be notified. If the violation is not corrected within 72 hours, the sign will be removed and held at the City's maintenance facility for a minimum of 72 hours where it may be retrieved.
- Any sign placed in the public right-of-way that is determined to present an immediate pedestrian or vehicular hazard may be summarily removed without notice. The person(s) responsible for the sign will be notified. The sign will be held at the City's maintenance facility for a minimum of 72 hours where it may be retrieved.
- All signs must be removed within five (5) days after the event.
- There IS a difference between public right-of-way and city-owned property. An example of city-owned property would be; the vacant lot at the northeast corner of Imperial Highway and Yorba Linda Blvd., Library property, City Hall property, Community Center property, future Town Center property, parks, etc. These properties are not subject to the requirements of YLMC 18.24.070 A. Any signs located within these areas are subject to immediate removal and disposal.

This memorandum supplies a useful overview, but is not a substitute for familiarity with State, County or City codes. If you should have any questions regarding temporary sign placement or obvious violations of the Sign Code, please contact the Community Preservation Office at (714) 961-7138.

**Please contact the Yorba Linda Public Works Dept. at (714) 961-7170 for more detail on public right-of-way widths.**