

# District Regulations Of General Applicability

# ARTICLE IX

---

## PART I-C SIGN REGULATIONS

### 9-106 SIGNS

9-106 A. Purpose. The regulation of signs by this Code is intended to promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare by reducing the depreciation of property values caused by signs that are incompatible with surrounding land uses; by creating a more attractive economic and business climate within the office, commercial and manufacturing areas of the Village; by enhancing and protecting the physical appearance of all areas of the Village; and by reducing the distractions, obstructions and hazards to pedestrian and auto traffic caused by the indiscriminate placement and use of signs.

9-106 B. Scope. The regulations of this Section shall govern and control the erection, enlargement, expansion, alteration, operation, maintenance, relocation and removal of all signs within the Village visible from any street, sidewalk or public or private common open space. Any sign not expressly permitted by these regulations shall be prohibited. The regulations of this Section relate to the location of signs, by function and type, within zoning districts and shall be in addition to provisions of Chapter 6, Articles II and VI of the Northbrook Municipal Code applicable to the construction and maintenance of signs. Regulations concerning the use and termination of nonconforming signs appear in Section 10-106 of this Code.

9-106 C. Certificate of Zoning Compliance Required.

1. Certificate Required. Except as expressly provided in Subsection F hereof, no sign shall be erected, enlarged, expanded, altered, relocated or maintained unless a Certificate of Zoning Compliance evidencing the compliance of such work with the provisions of this Section and other applicable provisions of this Code shall have first been issued in accordance with the provisions of Section 11-401 of this Code; provided, however, that routine sign maintenance, changing of parts designed to be changed or changing the content of a sign in any manner does not change the functional classification of the sign and shall not, standing alone, be considered an alteration of the sign requiring the issuance of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance hereunder.
2. Additional Application Requirements. In addition to the information and documents required by Section 11-401 of this Code, every application for a Certificate of Zoning Compliance for a sign shall be accompanied by:
  - a) Plans and specifications showing the location on the lot or building face and the method of construction, illumination and support of such sign;

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- b) A scale drawing showing sign faces, exposed surfaces and the proposed message and design, accurately represented as to size, area, proportion and color;
- c) Photographs of the street sides of the property in question, showing all existing signs on the property;
- d) A calculation of the total amount of sign area presently existing on the property;
- e) The applicant's attestation that the sum of the areas of the requested sign or signs and the existing signs does not exceed the maximum allowed by the provisions of this Code; and
- f) Evidence of a valid Village business license, when required, issued for any business to which the sign is accessory.

9-106 D. General Standards. The following general standards shall apply to all signs.

1. Illumination.

- a) Location and Design of Light Source. Whenever an external artificial light source is used for a sign, such source shall be located, shielded and directed so as not to be directly visible from any public street or private residence. No receptacle or device housing a permitted light source for a sign shall protrude more than twelve (12) inches from the face of the sign or building to which it is attached; provided, however, that a receptacle or device housing a permitted light source for a sign may be located more than twelve (12) inches from the face of the sign if such light source is ground mounted, locked in place, and cannot be redirected.
- b) Level of Illumination. In no event shall the illumination of any sign, resulting from any internal or external artificial light source, exceed 175 foot candles when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the sign face at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face. All artificial illumination shall be so designed, located, shielded, and directed as to prevent the casting of glare or direct light upon adjacent property or streets.
- c) Signs Adjacent to Residential Areas. Any illuminated sign located on a lot abutting or across a street from, and visible from, any residentially zoned area shall not be illuminated between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. except that such sign may remain illuminated during such time as the activity to which the sign pertains is open for business so long as such sign is not a public or private nuisance.
- d) Flashing Lights Prohibited. Except for permanent public service signs, institutional bulletin boards with electronic message board displays, and business signs with electronic message board displays expressly permitted by this Section, no flashing, blinking or intermittent lights shall be permitted.

2. Electrical Elements. All wiring, fittings and materials used in the construction, connection and operation of electrically illuminated signs shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6, Articles II and VI of the Northbrook Municipal Code.

No metal sign illuminated by any means requiring internal wiring and no electrical fixtures attached to any sign shall be lower than nine (9) feet from grade unless it is grounded by the use of a grounding conductor run with the circuit conductors and is also grounded by being bonded to a grounding electrode at the sign site.

3. Structural Elements. The construction and structural components of all signs shall be in accordance with the standards and regulations of Chapter 6 of the Northbrook Municipal

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

Code. All permanent signs shall be constructed of fire-resistant materials and shall be capable of withstanding wind pressures of at least thirty (30) pounds per square foot of surface area and of receiving dead loads based on the actual weight of the structure. In no case shall the structural elements of a pylon sign extend above the top of the sign face.

4. Minimum Elevation of Certain Signs. The bottom of every awning, canopy, marquee, wall and pylon sign shall be elevated at least eight (8) feet above grade. Whenever possible wall signs on the same facade shall maintain the same top and bottom elevations above grade.
5. Obstruction of Access Ways. No sign or sign structure shall obstruct free ingress to or egress from a fire escape, door, window or other required access way.
6. Obstruction of Window Surface. No sign shall project over, occupy or obstruct any window surface required for light or ventilation by any applicable provision of Chapter 6, Article II of the Northbrook Municipal Code.
7. Traffic Safety.
  - a) Confusion With Traffic Signals. No sign shall be maintained at any location where by reason of its position, size, shape, content, color, or illumination it may obstruct, impair, obscure, interfere with the view of, or be confused with, any traffic control sign, sign or device, or where it may interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic.
  - b) Obstruction of Sight Triangles Prohibited. No sign, nor any part of a sign other than a supporting pole or brace no greater than eighteen (18) inches in width or diameter shall be located lower than eight (8) feet from grade within the area of any sight triangle as defined in Subsection 12-206 S of this Code.
9. Signs in Rights-of-Way. Except as provided in this Paragraph, no sign except governmental signs authorized in this Section shall be placed in or extend into or over any public property or right-of-way. Temporary signs advertising civic functions may extend into or over a public right-of-way upon the specific prior approval of the Village Manager on the basis of need and impact on pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and impact on surrounding properties.
10. Sign Identification. All signs shall be plainly marked with the name of the person, firm or corporation hanging or erecting the sign and the sign permit number.
11. Sign Maintenance. The owner of a sign and the owner of the premises on which such sign is located shall be jointly and severally liable to maintain such sign, including its illumination sources, in compliance with this Code and all applicable laws, in a safe and secure condition, and in a neat and orderly condition and good working order at all times, and to prevent the development of any rust, corrosion, rotting or other deterioration in the physical appearance or safety of such sign. The premises around ground and pylon signs shall be kept clean and free of all rubbish and weeds.
12. Sign Measurement.
  - a) Area to be Included. The supporting structure or bracing of a sign shall be omitted in measuring the area of the sign unless such structure or bracing is made part of the message or face of the sign. Where a sign has more than one display face, all faces shall be included in determining the area of the sign.
  - b) Area of Signs With Backing. The area of all signs with backing shall be measured by computing the area of the sign backing.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- c) Area of Signs Without Backing. The area of all signs without backing shall be measured by computing the area of the smallest regular geometric figures that can separately encompass all words, letters, figures, emblems and other elements of the sign message.
  - d) Area of Signs With and Without Backing. The area of all signs formed by a combination of elements with and without backing shall be measured by counting the area of such elements measured in accordance the foregoing subparagraphs.
13. Signs on Lots With Multiple Users. Where more than one user occupies a zoning lot, the owner of the lot shall be responsible for allocating permitted signage among such users.
14. General Safety. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, no sign shall be located in any area or in any manner so as to create a nuisance or a threat to the public safety and welfare.

### 9-106 E. Classification of Signs.

- 1. Functional Types. For purposes of this Code, signs shall be classified as follows according to function:
  - a) Advertising Sign. A sign, other than an off-premises identification sign, that directs attention to or identifies a business, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located. This term shall include signs, other than customary identification lettering and advertising posters on buses and taxicabs, attached to parked or moving vehicles.
  - b) Attention-getting Device. A sign designed to attract attention by means of flashing or moving parts, bright color or light, or movement of any kind. Examples of such signs include pennants hung in series, whirligigs, spinners, streamers, flashing lights, search lights and balloons.
  - c) Business Sign. A sign that directs attention to or identifies a business or profession conducted, or to a commodity or service sold, offered or manufactured, or to an entertainment offered on the premises where the sign is located.
  - d) Construction Sign. A temporary sign erected on premises on which construction is taking place, during the period of such construction, indicating the names of the architects, engineers, landscape architects, contractors, and similar artisans, and the owners, financial supporters, sponsors and similar persons or firms having a role or interest in the construction activity.
  - e) Drive-Through Sign. A sign that facilitates the operation of a drive-through facility by aiding with the pick-up, drop-off, ordering or service of such a facility. It includes, but is not limited to, such signs as changeable copy menu boards.
  - f) Governmental Signs. A sign erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function or required by any law, ordinance or governmental regulation.
  - g) Holiday Decorations. Signs in the nature of decorations, clearly incidental to and customarily and commonly associated with any national, local or religious holiday.
  - h) Identification Sign. A sign giving only the name, trademark or other readily recognized symbol or address, or any combination thereof, of a building, business, development or establishment on the premises where it is located.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- i) Institutional Bulletin Board Sign. A sign that identifies a religious organization, school, library, community center, or similar institutional or community service use on whose premises it is located and that contains only the name of the institution or organization, the name or names of persons connected with it, and greetings, announcements or events or activities occurring at the institution or similar message.
  - j) Joint Identification Sign. An identification sign limited in content to the identification of a planned development, office plaza, shopping center, industrial park or the like and not containing any reference to the individual uses sharing the development, plaza, center, park or the like.
  - k) Memorial Sign. A sign or tablet memorializing a person, place, event or structure.
  - l) Name Plate Sign. A sign limited in content to the name or address, or both, of the owner or occupant of a building or premises on which it is located. If any premises is occupied by more than one occupant, the nameplate sign may identify all such occupants, as well as the premises, and may include necessary directional information.
  - m) Non-Commercial Message Sign. A non-commercial sign placed on a privately-owned zoning lot by the owner or occupant of the zoning lot. Non-commercial message signs do not include advertising signs, business signs, construction signs, identification signs for home occupations, real estate signs, or any other sign promoting a business, commodity, transaction, service, or entertainment.
  - n) Off-premises Identification Sign. A sign giving only the name, trademark or other readily recognized symbol or address, or any combination thereof, of a building, business, development or establishment, which sign is located off the lot on which such building, business, development or establishment is located.
  - o) Official Flag or Emblem. A flag or emblem of a government or of a membership organization.
  - p) On-site Directory Sign. A sign, not readable from any public right-of-way, on which the names and locations of the occupants and/or uses of a building or group of buildings is given.
  - q) On-site Informational Sign. A sign commonly associated with, and limited to, information and directions necessary or convenient for persons coming on the property, including signs marking entrances and exits, parking areas, one-way drives, rest rooms, pick-up and delivery areas and the like.
  - r) Private Sale Sign. A temporary sign advertising private sales of personal property at "house sales," "garage sales," "rummage sales" and the like.
  - s) Private Warning Sign. A sign limited in content to messages warning, caution or danger.
  - t) Public Service Signs. A sign displaying only the time, temperature, stock market quotations or civic messages by means of a lamp bank.
  - u) Real Estate Sign. A sign pertaining to the sale or lease of the premises, or a portion of the premises, on which the sign is located.
2. Structural Types. For purposes of this Code, signs shall be classified as follows according to structure:

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- a) Awning, Canopy or Marquee Sign. A sign that is mounted or painted on or attached to an awning, canopy or marquee that is otherwise permitted by this Code. No such sign shall project above, below, or beyond the physical dimensions of such awning, canopy or marquee.
- b) Electronic Message Board Display. A ground or pylon sign that uses a bank of individually controlled lights to form text and graphical images to convey a message without physically altering the sign face.
- c) Ground Sign. Any sign, other than a pylon sign, placed upon or supported by the ground independently of any other structure.
- d) Moving or Animated Sign. Any sign or part of a sign that changes physical position by any movement or rotation or that gives the visual impression of such movement or rotation.
- e) Portable Sign. A sign that is not permanently affixed to a building, a structure or the ground, but not including customary identification lettering on vehicles and advertising posters on buses and taxicabs.
- f) Projecting Sign. A sign that is wholly or partially dependent upon a building for support and that projects more than twelve (12) inches from such building.
- g) Pylon Sign. A sign that is mounted on a freestanding pole or other supports so that the bottom edge of the sign face is eight (8) feet or more above grade.
- h) Roof Sign. A sign that is mounted or painted on the roof of a building, or that is wholly dependent upon a building for support and that projects above the highest point of a building with a flat roof, the eave line of a building with gambrel, gable or hip roof or the deck line of a building with a mansard roof.
- i) Temporary Sign. A sign or advertising display constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, paper, plywood or other light material and intended to be displayed for a short period of time.
- j) Wall Sign. A sign fastened to the wall of a building or structure in such a manner that the wall becomes the supporting structure for, or forms the background surface of, the sign and that does not project more than twelve (12) inches from such building or structure.
- k) Window Sign. A sign that is applied or attached to the exterior or interior of a window or located within the interior of a structure so that its message can be read from the exterior of the structure.

9-106 F. Signs Permitted in Any District Without Certificate or Fee. Except as regulated by Subsection D of this Section and except as expressly prohibited in Subsection G of this Section, and notwithstanding any other contrary provisions of this Code, the following signs may, subject to the following limitations, be erected and maintained in any district without obtaining a Certificate of Zoning Compliance, a Certificate of Occupancy or paying the fee required for such Certificates:

1. Governmental Signs. The content and size of any such sign shall not exceed the requirements of the law, ordinance or regulation pursuant to which such sign is erected.
2. Holiday Decorations. Such signs shall be displayed for a period of not more than 45 consecutive days nor more than 20 days following the holiday in connection with which they are displayed; any other provision of this Section to the contrary notwithstanding,

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

such signs may be of any type, number, area, height, location, illumination or animation so long as they create no safety hazard, nuisance or adverse impact on the adjacent properties.

3. Home Occupation Identification Signs. Such signs shall be limited to no more than one (1) wall or ground sign per zoning lot; shall not be illuminated; shall not exceed one (1) square foot in area; and shall contain only the name and occupation of the proprietor. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet or closer to any lot line than six (6) feet.
4. Memorial Signs. Such signs shall be limited to no more than one (1) wall or ground sign per zoning lot; shall be made of durable materials, such as bronze, stone or concrete; shall not be illuminated; and shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet or closer to any lot line than six (6) feet.
5. Name Plate Signs. Such signs shall be limited to no more than one (1) wall or ground sign per occupancy; shall be no more than one (1) square foot in area per occupancy and in no event more than three (3) square feet in area; and shall be non-illuminated. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet nor closer to any lot line than six (6) feet.
6. Non-Commercial Message Sign. Such signs shall be permitted in any zoning district without a certificate or fee subject to the following conditions:
  - a) Limited to the following dimensions:
    - i) A maximum surface area of six square feet per sign face; and
    - ii) A maximum height of four feet.
  - b) May not incorporate animated or automatically changing graphics;
  - c) May not be internally or externally illuminated;
  - d) Must be a removable sign that is not permanently affixed, applied, or painted on a wall or other surface or structure, or permanently secured into the ground with a concrete foundation on the premises; and
  - e) Must be maintained in a state of good repair.
  - f) Non-commercial message signs may not be located closer than six (6) feet to any lot line on any non-residentially zoned property.
7. Official Flags and Emblems. Such signs may be displayed on flag poles and when so displayed shall not exceed 24 square feet in area. Such signs may also be displayed in the form of a wall sign and when so displayed shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area.
8. On-site Informational Signs. Such signs shall be limited to wall or ground signs of not more than six (6) square feet in area; shall be, if a ground sign, not more than four (4) feet in height; and shall be illuminated only as necessary to accomplish their intended purpose.
9. Private Sale Signs. Such signs shall be no more than six (6) square feet in area; shall be located entirely on the premises where such sale is to be conducted; shall be clearly marked with name, address and telephone number of the person responsible for the removal of such sign; shall be erected not more than 24 hours in advance of such sale;

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

and shall be removed within 24 hours following the conclusion of such sale. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet nor closer to any lot line than six (6) feet and may not be internally or externally illuminated.

10. Private Warning Signs. Such signs shall be no more than two (2) square feet in area each; shall be limited to the number necessary to accomplish the intended purpose and shall be illuminated only as required to accomplish such purpose. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet nor closer to any lot line than (6) feet.
11. Real Estate Signs: Standard Size. Real estate signs if limited to one (1) single or double-faced, sign per zoning lot, not to exceed six (6) square feet in area per sign face; and no ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet nor any closer to any lot line than six (6) feet. Real estate signs may not be internally or externally illuminated. Every such sign shall be removed as follows:
  - a) In sale transactions: within four (4) days following the date of the closing or consummation of the transaction.
  - b) In rental transactions: within four (4) days following the complete execution of a lease or rental agreement.
  - c) In multi-unit developments or structures: within fourteen (14) days following the date upon which such development or structure is ninety percent (90%) sold or leased or one (1) year, whichever is less.

The name, address and telephone number of the person responsible for such removal shall be marked on the sign. Real estate signs indicating that the property has sold or is under any contractual obligation shall not be permitted pursuant to this Paragraph. Real estate signs for multi-unit developments or structures and exceeding six (6) square feet in area shall require a permit.

12. Temporary Use Signs. Temporary use signs in compliance with Section 9-103 of this Code when approved pursuant to Subsection 9-103 C of this Code. No ground sign shall be higher than four (4) feet and may not be internally or externally illuminated.
  13. Window Signs, Temporary. The aggregate area of all such signs shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the area of the window in which they are exhibited nor block any window area required for light, ventilation or emergency exit by any applicable Code. Temporary window signs may not be internally or externally illuminated.
- 9-106 G. Signs Specifically Prohibited in All Districts. The following signs, as well as all other signs not expressly permitted by this Section, are prohibited in all districts and shall not be erected, maintained or, except as provided in Section 10-106 of this Code, permitted to continue in any district:
1. Advertising signs.
  2. Attention-getting devices.
  3. Off-premises identification signs except as expressly permitted pursuant to Subsection 9-106 H, K and L below.
  4. Real estate signs indicating that property has been sold or is under any contractual obligation.
  5. Moving or animated signs, except public service signs as expressly authorized in this Section.



## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

6. Portable signs, except when approved in connection with temporary uses pursuant to Paragraph 9-106 F12 above.
7. Projecting signs, except as expressly permitted pursuant to Subsection 8-109 A of this Code.
8. Roof signs.
9. Temporary signs, except as expressly authorized in this Section or Section 9-103 of this Code, and except when approved in connection with temporary uses pursuant to Paragraph 9-106 F12 above.
10. Any sign that advertises, identifies or pertains to a business no longer conducted, or a product no longer sold, on the premises where such sign is located. Such signs shall be removed within thirty (30) days following cessation of the relevant activity.
11. Any sign on a tree or utility pole, whether on public or private property.
12. Any sign on public property, except governmental signs authorized in this Section.
13. Any sign painted directly on a wall, roof or fence.

9-106 H. District Regulations -- Residential Districts, the C-1 Commercial District, the VGRC District, portions of the MFRC District, and portions of the RLC District. Signs shall be permitted in all residential districts, the C-1 Commercial District, the VGRC District, the residential portions of the MFRC District, and the residential portions of the RLC District as follows:

1. Functional Types Permitted.
  - a) All Signs Permitted in Any District Without Certificate or Fee, as provided in Section F of this Section.
  - b) Business Signs, but only in the C-1 District and the VGRC District.
  - c) Construction Signs, but for no longer than fourteen (14) days following the conclusion of the construction in question.
  - d) Identification Signs.
  - e) Institutional Bulletin Board Signs.
  - f) Joint Identification Signs.
  - g) On-site Directory Signs, but only in the R-6, R-7, R-8 and RS Districts as part of a planned development.
  - h) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet, but only for multi-unit developments or structures, and for no longer than fourteen (14) days following the date upon which the development or structure is ninety percent (90%) sold or leased or one (1) year, whichever is less.
  - i) Off-Premises Identification Signs, but only in the R-8 District and only when authorized by special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and upon satisfaction of the following standards and conditions:
    - 1) The sign is necessary to prevent or reduce traffic and safety hazards.
    - 2) The sign is solely for the purpose of identifying a duly approved shared driveway and the land uses that have access via a duly approved shared driveway.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

Any off-premises sign so permitted shall not be included in the total sign area calculations or any other signage controls applicable to either the lot on which said sign is located or the lot upon which the building or development to which the sign refers is located.

2. Structural Types Permitted.
  - a) Ground Signs.
  - b) Temporary Signs, but only as authorized in Subsection F of this Section or for pylon construction signs.
  - c) Wall Signs.
3. Number of Signs Permitted Per Lot.
  - a) All signs permitted by Subsection F of this Section; plus
  - b) One (1) construction sign of any permitted structural type; plus
  - c) One (1) real estate sign; plus
  - d) One (1) on-site directory sign; plus
  - e) One (1) ground sign or (1) one wall sign; except in the RS District or VGRC District either one (1) wall sign or one (1) ground sign per 300 feet of zoning lot frontage, or major fraction thereof, to be located within that portion of zoning lot frontage and not less than 300 feet from any other ground sign on the same zoning lot.
4. Maximum Gross Surface Area of Signs Permitted.
  - a) Total Sign Area: There is no maximum limit on allowable gross sign surface area for zoning lots within the C-2, C-3, portions of C-4, and C-5 Commercial Districts, and in the commercial portions of the MFRC and RLC Districts.
  - b) Individual Sign Area Limitations: The following individual sign area limitations shall apply to all signs:
    - 1) Construction Signs: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face no more than two (2) sign faces.
    - 2) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet: Not to exceed 32 square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
    - 3) Business Signs: Not to exceed one-half (1/2) square foot per foot of zoning lot frontage, up to a maximum of 64 square feet.
    - 4) Wall Signs: Not to exceed 25 square feet per sign face or covering more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed, whichever is less.
    - 5) Ground Signs: Not to exceed 25 feet per sign face, nor more than 50 square feet total.
5. Maximum Height of Signs Permitted.
  - a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
  - b) Ground Signs: Eight (8) feet.
  - c) Wall Signs: Twenty (20) feet.
6. Minimum Setback Required. Six (6) feet from all lot lines.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

### 7. Illumination.

- a) Signs Without Permits: Signs permitted pursuant to Subsection F of this Section shall be illuminated only as permitted in that Subsection.
  - b) Other Signs: Signs permitted pursuant to this Subsection H may be illuminated only by indirect white light not exceeding fifty (50) candle power when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the sign face at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face.
8. Signs Accessory to Nonconforming Uses. Signs accessory to nonconforming uses in residential districts shall be subject to the provisions of this Subsection H.

9-106 I. District Regulations -- C-2, C-3, portions of C-4, and C-5 Commercial Districts and portions of the MFRC and the RLC Districts. Signs shall be permitted in the C-2, C-3, portions of C-4, and C-5 Commercial Districts, and in the commercial portions of the MFRC and RLC Districts as follows:

#### 1. Functional Types Permitted.

- a) All Signs Permitted in Any District Without Certificate or Fee, as provided in Subsection F of this Section.
- b) Business Signs, in the C-2, C-3, portions of C-4, and C-5 Commercial Districts and portions of the MFRC and the RLC Districts: provided, however, that business signs with electronic message board displays shall be allowed only (i) upon the issuance of a special permit pursuant to Section 11-602 of this code; (ii) in the C-2 district; and (iii) subject to the following conditions:
  - 1) An electronic message board display may display multi-color images, including text, and may change the displayed image by intermittent lighting changes, provided that such changes may not exceed two (2) changes per day. The displayed image may not flash or be animated.
  - 2) A business sign must comply with the general standards for illumination set forth in subparagraph 9-106 D1 of this code.
  - 3) Images on an electronic message board display shall be limited to either (i) a text description, photograph, or graphic representation of, or product icons or logos for, a commodity, service, or entertainment sold, offered, or manufactured on the premises where the sign is located or (ii) announcements and promotions of civic or community events open to the general public.
  - 4) A business sign with an electronic message board display may only be a ground sign and must include landscaping around the sign base.
  - 5) No more than one business sign with an electronic message board display shall be permitted on a single zoning lot. In no event may a business sign with an electronic message board display be located closer than 1000 lineal feet from any other business sign with any electronic message board display, regardless whether the signs are located on separate zoning lots.
  - 6) No business sign with an electronic message board display may be located within 350 feet of a residential dwelling.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- 7) Business signs with any electronic message board display must satisfy all Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) requirements for outdoor advertising.
  - c) Construction Signs, but for no longer than fourteen (14) days following completion of the construction in question.
  - d) Drive-Through Signs, but only in the C-2, C-3, C-4, and C-5 Districts and only when authorized as part of a special permit for an accessory drive-through facility pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - e) Identification Signs.
  - f) Institutional Bulletin Board Signs, but only in the C-2, C-3, and C-5 Districts.
  - g) Joint Identification Signs.
  - h) Public Service Signs, but only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and only subject to the following conditions:
    - 1) Only clear or white light shall be used;
    - 2) The displayed message may be changed by intermittent lighting changes but such changes shall not exceed twelve (12) per minute.
  - i) On-site Directory Signs.
  - j) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet, but only for multi-unit developments or structures, and for no longer than fourteen (14) days following the date upon which the development or structure is ninety percent (90%) sold or leased or one (1) year, whichever is less.
2. Structural Types Permitted.
    - a) Awning, Canopy and Marquee Signs.
    - b) Ground Signs.
    - c) Pylon Signs.
    - d) Temporary Signs, but only as authorized in Subsection F of this Section or for construction signs.
    - e) Wall Signs.
    - f) Window Signs.
  3. Number of Signs Permitted Per Lot.
    - a) All signs permitted Subsection F of this Section; plus
    - b) One (1) construction sign of any permitted structural type; plus
    - c) One (1) real estate sign; plus
    - d) One (1) joint identification sign per zoning lot frontage; plus
    - e) One (1) on-site directory sign; plus
    - f) One (1) ground or pylon sign per 300 feet of zoning lot frontage, or major fraction thereof, to be located within that portion of zoning lot frontage and not less than 300 feet from any other ground or pylon sign on the same zoning lot, but joint

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

identification signs may be located within 300 feet of ground or pylon signs on the same zoning lot; provided, however:

- 1) additional ground or pylon signs may be authorized for a motor vehicle dealership with multiple franchises operating on the same zoning lot in the C-5 District by special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code, not to exceed one sign per franchise dealership or one sign per 125 feet of zoning lot frontage, whichever is less; or
  - 2) ground signs on the same zoning lot in the C-2 District may be located not less than 200 feet from another ground sign on the same zoning lot by special permit approval; plus
  - g) Any number of other structural types, subject to the area limitations of Subparagraph 9-106 I4 (e) below.
  - h) Any number of drive-through signs, subject to Subparagraph 9-106 I1(d).
4. Maximum Gross Surface Area of Signs Permitted.
- a) Total Sign Area: There is no maximum limit on allowable gross sign surface area for zoning lots within the C-2, C-3, portions of C-4, and C-5 Commercial Districts, and in the commercial portions of the MFRC and RLC Districts.
  - b) Individual Sign Area Limitations: The following individual sign area limitations shall apply to all signs, whether counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area established in Subparagraph 9-106 I 4 (a) or not:
    - 1) Construction Signs: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
    - 2) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
    - 3) Awning, Canopy, and Marquee Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face. No sign identifying an individual tenant of a multi-tenant building shall cover more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed.
    - 4) Wall Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face or covering more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed, whichever is less.
    - 5) Ground or Pylon Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face, or one (1) square foot per foot of zoning lot frontage, whichever is less.
    - 6) Public Service Signs: Not to exceed 16.5 square feet per sign face, nor more than 33 square feet total.
5. Maximum Height of Signs Permitted.
- a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
  - b) Awning, Canopy, Marquee and Wall Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized in the C-2 District or the C-5 District by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - c) Ground Signs: Eight (8) feet; provided, however, that a greater height not to exceed 20 feet, may be authorized in the C-2 District by special permit, or that a greater

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

height may be authorized in the C-5 District by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.

- d) Pylon Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized in the C-5 District by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
- e) Window Signs: No higher than in a window on the level at which principal use is located.

### 6. Minimum Setback Required.

- a) As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
- b) Ground Signs: Fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and six (6) feet from all other lot lines.
- c) Pylon Signs: Six (6) feet from all lot lines; provided, however, that a pylon sign may be located anywhere on the lot in any district where no minimum yard or setback is required.

### 7. Illumination.

- a) Signs Without Permits: Signs permitted pursuant to Subsection F of this Section shall be illuminated only as permitted in that Subsection.
- b) Other Signs: Signs permitted pursuant to this Subsection I be illuminated only by indirect or internal, white light not exceeding 175 foot candles when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the sign face at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face; provided, however, that neon or other gas tube illumination is permitted for window signs.

### 8. Signs Accessory to Nonconforming Uses. Signs accessory to nonconforming uses in Commercial Districts shall be subject to the provisions of this Subsection I.

## 9-106 J. District Regulations -- Portions of C-4 Regional Shopping District.

- 1. Defined Terms. Capitalized terms and phrases used in this Subsection J shall be defined as set forth in Ordinance No. 93-66, as amended by Ordinance No. 95-50, adopted by the Village Board of Trustees on October 30, 1995 (the "Northbrook Court Ordinance"), or as otherwise specifically defined elsewhere in this Code.
- 2. Applicability. The sign regulations set forth in this Subsection J shall apply only to the following portions of the Subject Property: Parcel F, Parcel G, Parcel H, Parcel I, Parcel J, Parcel K, Parcel L, Parcel M, Parcel O, and Parcel P (collectively, the "Northbrook Court Mall Site"). All other portions of the Subject Property and all other property in the C-4 Regional Shopping District, shall be governed by the sign regulations set forth in Subsection I of this Section.
- 3. Functional Sign Types Permitted.
  - a) Business Signs.
  - b) Construction Signs, but for no longer than fourteen (14) days after completion of the construction in question.
  - c) Identification Signs.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- d) Joint Identification Signs.
  - e) On-Site Directory Signs.
  - f) On-Site Informational Signs.
  - g) Governmental Signs.
  - h) Public Service Signs, but only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and only subject to the following conditions:
    - 1) Only clear or white light shall be used; and
    - 2) The displayed message may be changed by intermittent lighting changes but such changes shall not exceed twelve (12) changes per minute.
4. Sign Types Prohibited.
- a) Individual letters constructed of "Jewel-lite," "Channelume," "Let-R-Edge," or similar trim cap products.
  - b) Flat cut out letters of low density PVC foam-type material, painted, or otherwise.
5. Structural Sign Types Permitted.
- a) Awning, Canopy, and Marquee Signs.
  - b) Ground Signs.
  - c) Temporary Signs, but only as authorized in the Northbrook Court Ordinance or in Subsection F of this Section 9-106, and for construction purposes.
  - d) Wall Signs.
  - e) Window Signs.
6. Number of Signs Permitted.
- a) All signs permitted in Subsection F of this Section; plus
  - b) One (1) real estate sign; plus
  - c) One (1) construction sign; plus
  - d) One (1) wall sign identifying the operator of each Retail Department Store shall be permitted on each of three sides of each Retail Department Store; plus
  - e) One (1) entrance identification sign shall be permitted at each entrance of each Retail Department Store; plus
  - f) One (1) changeable reader marquee sign shall be permitted for the Southern Department Store, provided that such store is being occupied and used as an indoor movie theater pursuant to a validly issued, and effective, special permit ordinance; plus
  - g) One (1) wall sign per exterior wall face identifying a tenant space within the Mall Building having its own exterior customer entrance shall be permitted for each such space, subject to the provisions of paragraph 9-106 J13; plus
  - h) One (1) awning, canopy, or entrance wall sign identifying a tenant space within the Mall Building having its own exterior customer entrance shall be permitted for each such space at each such entrance, subject to the provisions of paragraph 9-106 J13; plus
  - i) One (1) informational sign, including signage designating parking zones, per light pole.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- j) The number and location of identification signage, joint identification signage, and on-site directory signage for the Northbrook Court Mall Site and for the Mall Building shall be as depicted on the Northbrook Court Mall Site Identification Signage Plan, a copy of which is attached to this Code as Appendix D.
7. Maximum Gross Surface Area of Signs Permitted.
- a) Area To Be Included. The supporting architectural structure or bracing of a sign shall not be included in calculating the area of the sign. If a sign has more than one display face, all faces shall be included in calculating the total area of the sign. In calculating the area of a sign, the elements to be measured are the elements that communicate a message, such as, without limitation, letters, symbols, logo, logotype, emblems, figures, and words. The area of a sign shall be calculated by multiplying the height and the width of the smallest regular geometric figure(s) that can separately encompass all words, letters, figures, emblems, and other elements of the sign message.
- b) Individual Total Sign Area Limitations.
- 1) The sign area for identification signage, joint identification signage, and on-site directory signage for the Northbrook Court Mall Site and for the Mall Building shall be as depicted on the Northbrook Court Mall Site Identification Signage Plan, a copy of which is attached to this Code as Appendix D.
  - 2) Wall signs on Retail Department Stores shall not exceed the lesser of five (5) percent of the area of the Retail Department Store frontage to which it is affixed or three hundred (300) square feet. Square footage of the wall signs on Retail Department Stores shall be independently calculated on perimeter dimensioning of both symbol or logo and logotype.
  - 3) Wall signs for tenant spaces within the Mall Building having their own exterior customer entrance shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in sign face, except that wall signs on the south side of the Mall Building east of the Southern Department Store shall not exceed seventy five (75) square feet in sign face.
  - 4) Wall signs at Mall Building entrances shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet in sign face.
  - 5) Awning and canopy signs at Mall Building Entrances shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in sign face.
  - 6) Awning, canopy, and entrance wall signs at entrances to tenant spaces within the Mall Building having their own exterior customer entrance shall not exceed twenty five (25) square feet in sign face.
  - 7) Parking identification signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet total per sign face or a total of twelve (12) square feet per sign.
8. Maximum Height of Signs Permitted.
- a) Ground Signs. Eight (8) feet.
- b) Wall Signs. Mounting placement of the top of a wall sign shall not exceed ninety (90) percent of the height of the wall of the Mall Building on which the sign is located; provided, however, that (i) no wall sign on the south side of the Mall Building east of Southern Department Store shall exceed seventy five (75) percent of the height of the Mall Building in that area and (ii) no entrance wall sign shall exceed fifteen (15) feet in height, measured from the finished grade at the applicable entrance.



## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- c) Temporary Signs. Ten (10) feet.
- d) Retail Department Stores.
  - 1) The maximum height of the signs on each Retail Department Store except the Marshall Fields Department Store and the Southern Department Store, shall be thirty-five (35) feet.
  - 2) The maximum height of the signs on the Marshall Fields Department Store and on the Southern Department Store shall not exceed forty seven and one half (47.5) feet.
- 9. Projection. Wall signs shall not project more than twelve (12) inches from the face of the structure on which they are located.
- 10. Minimum Setback Required. There shall be a minimum setback of fifteen (15) feet from the curb(s) for identification signs along Lake Cook Road.
- 11. Illumination.
  - a) Signs may be illuminated by indirect or internal lighting (*i.e.* halo-lit channel letters and/or forms, or internally lit individual solid letters and/or forms) not exceeding three hundred (350) footcandles when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the face of the sign at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face. No direct lighting of any sign shall be allowed without the prior approval of the Corporate Authorities by resolution duly adopted.
  - b) Neon may be utilized as a luminaire for open faced channel letters or form(s) and as an internal light source. All other applications of exposed neon are prohibited.
  - c) Illumination that radiates glare and/or unevenness is prohibited.
  - d) Illumination of signs on the south face of the Mall Building shall be turned off at the time that is the earlier to occur of (i) the time that the applicable tenant space closes for business or (ii) 11:30 p.m.
  - e) Window signs shall not be illuminated.
- 12. Materials and Colors.
  - a) Permitted signage materials and colors shall be a palette compatible with, and a complement to, the materials utilized as part of the Mall Building.
  - b) Hardware and techniques shall comply with industry standards except as otherwise prohibited by Paragraph 9-106 J3 of this Code.
- 13. Additional Restrictions.
  - a) Limitation of Certain Signs on South Elevation of Mall Building. No signage other than (i) Mall Building identification signage; (ii) Mall Building entrance identification signage; and (iii) signage on the Retail Department Stores shall be allowed on the south elevation of the Mall Building without the prior approval of the Corporate Authorities by resolution duly adopted. Such approval shall occur only after a public hearing is held by the Corporate Authorities for which written notice by certified mail is delivered to the presidents of the Williamsburg Square Homeowner's Association, the Courts of Northbrook Homeowner's Association, and the Condominiums of Northbrook Association; and the owners of record of all properties located on Williamsburg Drive and Red Coach Lane that abut the Northbrook Court Mall Site. Such notice shall be delivered no less than fifteen (15) days, nor more than thirty (30) days in advance of the

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

public hearing date. There shall be no more than four (4) wall signs and no more than four (4) awning, canopy, or entrance wall signs identifying tenant spaces within the Mall Building having their own exterior customer entrance (other than the Retail Department Stores) on the south face of the Mall Building.

- b) Lee Road Signs Prohibited. There shall be no signs for, or indicating access to, the Mall Building on Lee Road.
- c) Pylon Signs. There shall be no pylon signs on the Lake Cook Road frontage of the Northbrook Court Mall Site.

14. Conflicts. The provisions and regulations of this Subsection J shall apply to and control all signage located in the C-4 Commercial District. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Subsection J and any other provision of this Code, the provisions of this Subsection J shall control."

9-106 K. District Regulations - Office Districts. Signs shall be permitted in all Office Districts as follows:

1. Functional Types Permitted.

- a) All Signs Permitted in Any District Without Certificate or Fee, as provided in Subsection F of this Section.
- b) Business Signs.
- c) Construction Signs, but for no longer than fourteen (14) days following completion of the construction in question.
- d) Drive-Through Signs, but only in the O-2, O-3, O-4 Districts and only when authorized as part of a special permit for an accessory drive-through facility pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
- e) Identification Signs.
- f) Institutional Bulletin Board Signs, but only in the O-2, O-3, O-4 and O-5 Districts.
- g) Joint Identification Signs.
- h) Off-Premises Identification Signs, but only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and upon satisfaction of all of the following standards and conditions:
  - 1) The off-premises identification sign is necessary to prevent or reduce traffic and safety hazards.
  - 2) The off-premise identification sign shall have no more than two (2) sign faces and shall have a maximum gross surface area of no more than 25 square feet per face.
  - 3) The off-premise identification sign shall not be located within 70 feet of any other identification or joint identification sign regardless of the lot on which said other identification or joint identification sign is located; and
  - 4) The street and number of the building or development to which the off-premises sign refers shall be marked on said sign.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

Any off-premises identification sign so permitted shall not be included in the total sign area calculations or any other signage controls applicable to either the lot on which said sign is located or the lot upon which the building or development to which the sign refers is located.

- i) Public Service Signs, but only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and only subject to the following conditions:
    - 1) Only clear or white light shall be used.
    - 2) The displayed message may be changed by intermittent lighting changes but such changes shall not exceed twelve (12) per minute.
  - j) On-site Directory Signs.
  - k) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet, but only for multi-unit developments or structures, and for no longer than fourteen (14) days following the date upon which the development or structure is ninety percent (90%) sold or leased or one (1) year, whichever is less.
2. Structural Types Permitted.
- a) Awning, Canopy and Marquee Signs.
  - b) Ground Signs.
  - c) Pylon Signs.
  - d) Temporary Signs, but only as authorized in Subsection F of this Section or for construction signs.
  - e) Wall Signs.
  - f) Window Signs.
3. Number of Signs Permitted Per Lot.
- a) All signs permitted by Subsection F of this Section; plus
  - b) One (1) construction sign of any structural type; plus
  - c) One (1) real estate sign; plus
  - d) One (1) joint identification sign per zoning lot frontage; plus
  - e) One (1) on-site directory sign; plus
  - f) One (1) ground or pylon sign plus one (1) additional ground or pylon sign per 300 feet of zoning lot frontage or major fraction thereof, in excess of the first 300 feet of zoning lot frontage, to be located within that portion of zoning lot frontage and not less than 300 feet from any other ground or pylon sign on the same zoning lot, but joint identification signs may be located within 300 feet of ground or pylon signs on the same zoning lot; provided, however, that additional ground signs with landscaping approved by the Village Manager around the sign base may be authorized on the same zoning lot in the O-4 Boulevard Office District by special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code, not to exceed one sign per 100 feet of zoning lot frontage; plus
  - g) Any number of other structural types, subject to the area limitations of Subparagraph 9-106 K4(e) below. Where more than one (1) use occupies a zoning lot, the owner on the lot shall be responsible for allocating permitted signage among such uses.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- h) Any number of drive-through signs, subject to Subparagraph 9-106 KI(d).
4. Maximum Gross Surface Area of Signs Permitted.
- a) Total Sign Area; O-1, O-2, O-3 and O-4 Districts: The total area of all signs on a zoning lot within the O-1, O-2, O-3 and O-4 districts shall not exceed one (1) square foot per foot of zoning lot frontage; provided, however, that construction signs, real estate signs, joint identification signs, signs allowed without permits, and drive-through signs allowed as part of a special permit for any accessory drive-through facility shall not be counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area permitted on a zoning lot.
- b) Total Sign Area; O-5 District: Sign area limitations for zoning lots within the O-5 district are established in Subsection 6-109 A; provided, however, that construction signs, real estate signs, and signs allowed without permits shall not be counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area permitted on a zoning lot.
- c) Individual Sign Area Limitations: The following individual sign area limitations shall apply to all signs within the O-1, O-2, O-3 and O-4 districts, whether counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area established in Subparagraph 9-106 K4(a) or not:
- 1) Construction Signs: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
  - 2) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
  - 3) Awning, Canopy, and Marquee Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face. No sign identifying an individual tenant of a multi-tenant building shall cover more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed.
  - 4) Wall Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face or covering more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed, whichever is less. In the O-3 District and O-4 District, wall signs in excess of 100 square feet per sign face and in excess of five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed shall be allowed by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - 5) Ground or Pylon Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face, nor more than 200 square feet total. In the O-4 District, ground signs in excess of 100 square feet per sign face shall be allowed by special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code; provided; however that in no event shall any ground sign exceed 150 square feet per sign face.
  - 6) Public Service Signs: Not to exceed 16.5 square feet per sign face, nor more than 33 square feet total.
5. Maximum Height of Signs Permitted.
- a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
- b) Awning, Canopy, Marquee and Wall Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized in the O-1, O-3 and O-4 Districts by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- c) Ground Signs: Eight (8) feet; provided that, however that a greater height may be authorized in the O-3 and O-4 Districts by special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - d) Pylon Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized in the O-1, O-3 and O-4 Districts by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - e) Window Signs: No higher than in a window on the level at which the principal use is located.
6. Minimum Setback Required.
- a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Section.
  - b) Ground Signs: Fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and six (6) feet from all other lot lines.
  - c) Pylon Signs: Six (6) feet from all lot lines.
7. Illumination.
- a) Signs Without Permits: Signs permitted pursuant to Subsection F of this Section shall be illuminated only as permitted in that Subsection.
  - b) Other Signs: Signs permitted pursuant to this Subsection K may be illuminated only by indirect or internal, white light not exceeding 175 foot candles when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the sign face at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face; provided, however, that neon or other gas tube illumination is permitted for window signs.
  - c) Special Illumination Standards for Signs in O-5 District: See Subsection 6-109 A.
8. Signs Accessory to Nonconforming Uses. Signs accessory to nonconforming uses in the Office Districts shall be subject to the provisions of this Subsection K.
- 9-106 L. District Regulations -- Open Space, Industrial and Institutional Buildings Districts. Signs shall be permitted in the Open Space, Institutional Buildings, and Industrial Districts as follows:
1. Functional Types Permitted.
- a) All Signs Permitted in Any District Without Certificate or Fee, as provided in Subsection F of this Section.
  - b) Business Signs, in the OS, ICS, I-1, I-2 and IB districts; provided, however, that business signs with electronic message board displays shall be allowed only (i) upon the issuance of a special permit pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code; (ii) in the I-1 district; (iii) on a zoning lot abutting the right-of-way of the I-94 Edens Spur, and (iv) subject to the following conditions:
    - 1) An electronic message board display may display multi-color images, including text, and may change the displayed image by intermittent lighting changes, provided that that such changes shall not exceed one (1) change every ten (10) seconds. The displayed image shall not flash.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- 2) All business signs must comply with the general standards for illumination set forth in subparagraph 9-106 D(1) of this Code; provided, however, that hours of operation of the electronic message board display shall not extend beyond 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, regardless of the hours of operation of the business on the premises on which the sign is located.
  - 3) Images on an electronic message board display shall be limited to a text description, photograph or graphic representation of, or product icons or logos for, a commodity, service, or entertainment sold, offered or manufactured by the business on the premises on which the sign is located.
  - 4) A business sign with an electronic message board display shall be either a ground sign or a pylon sign and shall be designed with landscaping around the sign base.
  - 5) A business sign with an electronic message board display shall be located along that portion of a zoning lot that is within 30 feet of the right-of-way of the I-94 Edens Spur.
  - 6) No more than one business sign with an electronic message board display shall be permitted on a single zoning lot irrespective of the number of businesses that may be located on that lot.
  - 7) No business sign with an electronic message board display shall be located within 1,000 lineal feet of any other business sign with an electronic message board display.
  - 8) No business sign with an electronic message board display shall be located within 350 feet of a dwelling.
  - 9) Business signs with an electronic message board display must satisfy all Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) requirements and regulations for outdoor advertising.
- c) Construction Signs, but for no longer than fourteen (14) days following completion of the construction in question.
- d) Identification Signs.
- e) Institutional Bulletin Board Signs, but not in Industrial Districts. Institutional Bulletin Board Signs that incorporate electronic message board displays shall only be allowed in the IB and OS zoning districts and shall be subject to the following conditions:
- 1) Institutional Bulletin Board Signs that incorporate electronic message board displays may only be permitted if they are constructed as ground signs with landscaping around the sign base approved by the Village Manager.
  - 2) Electronic message displays shall be restricted to a single color for the entire message screen. The display may only use white or amber light.
  - 3) The electronic message board component may comprise no more than 60 percent of the sign's total area.
  - 4) The message shall not flash. The displayed message may be changed by intermittent lighting changes, but such changes shall not exceed twelve (12) per minute.

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- 5) All institutional bulletin board signs with an electronic display shall comply with the restrictions on hours and intensity of illumination established in 9-106D(1) of this Code.
  - 6) No more than one electronic message board display shall be permitted on any one zoning lot provided, however, that zoning lots in the IB or OS zoning district that are in excess of 200 acres in size and have frontage on more than one public street may have up to two electronic message board displays so long as such displays are; (a) separated by a minimum of 1,000 lineal feet and (b) located on separate public street frontages.
  - 7) In addition to the above conditions, any institutional bulletin board sign with an electronic display that is to be located within 250 feet of a principal residential structure shall also require the issuance of a special permit pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
- f) Joint Identification Signs.
  - g) Public Service Signs, but only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code and only subject to the following conditions:
    - 1) Only clear or white light shall be used, unless the public service sign includes an electronic message board display that is approved pursuant to subparagraph 9-106 L(1)(b)..
    - 2) The displayed message may be changed by intermittent lighting changes but such changes shall not exceed twelve (12) per minute.
  - h) On-site Directory Signs.
  - i) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet, but only for multi-unit developments or structures, and for no longer than fourteen (14) days following the date upon which the development or structure is ninety percent (90%) sold or leased or one (1) year, whichever is less.
  - j) Off-Premises Identification Signs, but only in the I-2 Light Industrial District and only when authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
2. Structural Types Permitted.
    - a) Awning, Canopy and Marquee Signs.
    - b) Ground Signs.
    - c) Pylon Signs.
    - d) Temporary Signs, but only as authorized by Subsection F of this Section or for construction signs.
    - e) Wall Signs.
    - f) Window Signs.
  3. Number of Signs Permitted Per Lot.
    - a) All signs permitted by Subsection F of this Section; plus
    - b) One (1) construction sign of any structural type; plus
    - c) One (1) real estate sign; plus
    - d) One (1) joint identification sign per zoning lot frontage; plus

## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- e) One (1) on-site directory sign; plus
- f) One (1) ground or pylon sign per 300 feet of zoning lot frontage, or major fraction thereof, subject to the following conditions:
  - i) On zoning lots in the Institutional Buildings and Open Space Districts, ground or pylon signs shall be located within that portion of zoning lot frontage and not less than 300 feet from any other ground or pylon sign on the same zoning lot, but joint identification signs may be located within 300 feet of ground or pylon signs on the same zoning lot; and
  - ii) On zoning lots in the ICS, I-1 and I-2 Districts, not more than one pylon sign shall be permitted, and ground or pylon signs shall be located within that portion of zoning lot frontage and not less than 200 feet from any other ground or pylon sign on the same zoning lot, except in the ICS District where ground or pylon signs may be allowed to be located less than 200 feet of each other by special permit approval, but joint identification signs may be located within 200 feet of ground or pylon signs on the same zoning lots; plus
- g) Any number of other structural types, subject to the area limitations of subparagraph 9-106 L4(e) below. Where more than one use occupies a zoning lot, the owner on the lot shall be responsible for allocating permitted signage among such uses.

#### 4. Maximum Gross Surface Area of Signs Permitted.

- a) Total Sign Area: The total area of all signs on a zoning lot shall not exceed one (1) square foot per foot of zoning lot frontage subject only to the following exceptions:
  - i) Functional Types Not Included in Calculation: Construction signs, real estate signs, joint identification signs, and signs allowed without permits shall not be counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area permitted on a zoning lot.
  - ii) Exception for I-2 Light Industrial District: Signs exceeding the total allowable gross sign surface area established in this Subparagraph 9-106 L4(a) may be authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code but only in the I-2 Light Industrial District.
- b) Individual Sign Area Limitations: The following individual sign area limitations shall apply to all signs, whether counted toward the total allowable gross sign surface area established in Subparagraph 9-106 L4(a) or not:
  - 1) Construction Signs: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
  - 2) Real Estate Signs Exceeding Six (6) Square Feet: Not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet per sign face nor more than two (2) sign faces.
  - 3) Awning, Canopy, and Marquee Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face. No sign identifying an individual tenant of a multi-tenant building shall cover more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed.
  - 4) Wall Signs: Not to exceed 100 square feet per sign face or covering more than five percent (5%) of the wall to which it is affixed, whichever is less.
  - 5) Ground or Pylon Signs:



## Village of Northbrook, Illinois

- i) On zoning lots in the Institutional Buildings and Open Space Districts, ground or pylon signs shall not exceed 100 square feet per sign face, nor more than 200 square feet total; and
  - ii) On zoning lots in the ICS, I-1 and I-2 Districts, one ground or pylon sign shall not exceed 100 square feet per sign face, or more than 200 square feet total, and any additional signs shall be ground signs permitted by Subsection 9-106L3(f) of this code not exceeding 25 square feet per sign face or more than 50 square feet total.
- 6) Public Service Signs: Not to exceed 16.5 square feet per sign face, nor more than 33 square feet total.
5. Maximum Height of Signs Permitted.
  - a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Section F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
  - b) Awning, Canopy, Marquee and Wall Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
  - c) Ground Signs: Eight (8) feet; provided, however, that a greater height, not to exceed 20 feet, may be authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code in the ICS, I-1, and I-2 districts.
  - d) Pylon Signs: Twenty (20) feet; provided, however, that a greater height may be authorized by a special permit issued pursuant to Section 11-602 of this Code.
6. Minimum Setback Required.
  - a) Signs Without Permits: As provided in Subsection F of this Section for signs permitted pursuant to that Subsection.
  - b) Ground Signs: Fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and six (6) feet from all other lot lines.
  - c) Pylon Signs: Six (6) feet from all lot lines.
7. Illumination.
  - a) Signs Without Permits: Signs permitted pursuant to Subsection F of this Section shall be illuminated only as permitted in that Subsection.
  - b) Other Signs: Signs permitted pursuant to this Subsection L may be illuminated only by indirect or internal white light not exceeding 175 foot candles when measured with a standard light meter held perpendicular to the sign face at a distance equal to the narrowest dimension of such sign face; provided, however, that neon or other gas tube illumination is permitted for window signs.
8. Signs Accessory to Nonconforming Uses. Signs accessory to nonconforming uses in the Industrial Districts shall be subject to the provisions of this Subsection L.