

CITY OF LONG BEACH

H-2

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Blvd., 4th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802

(562) 570-5237

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January 7, 2014

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, and declare the Ordinance amending the Zoning Regulations of the Long Beach Municipal Code, Title 21, relating to the regulation of billboards (off-site advertising) read for the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading;

Adopt the Resolution directing the Director of Development Services to submit the Ordinance amendments to the California Coastal Commission for a finding of conformance with the Certified Local Coastal Program; and

Accept the Categorical Exemption CE-13-118. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In December 2009, the City Council adopted an Ordinance initiating a one-year moratorium on the issuance of permits for the development of billboards (off-site advertising), "supergraphic" signs, and conversion of existing billboards to electronic billboards within the City. In December 2010, the City Council extended the moratorium for another year to allow staff more time to research and develop new, comprehensive regulations for billboards throughout the City. On October 20, 2011, the Planning Commission heard and recommended that the Council approve staff's proposed Ordinance, which would allow for the construction of electronic billboards in Long Beach in exchange for the removal of nonconforming billboards at specified ratios (referred to as a "cap-and-replace" program). The Council approved this Ordinance on December 6, 2011, but on the second reading on December 13, 2011, directed staff to remove all provisions relating to the permitting of electronic billboards and the cap-and-replace program. On March 6, 2012, the Council approved the revised Ordinance with a ban on electronic billboards and without the cap-and-replace program. This Ordinance was finalized on the second reading on March 13, 2012.

On October 8, 2013, City Council directed staff to return with a revised Billboard Ordinance, to include the electronic billboard provisions and the cap-and-replace

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL January 7, 2014 Page 2 of 3

program that were not adopted in December 2011. The Council also specified three provisions to be included in the revised Ordinance:

- A billboard company would have the ability to negotiate a development agreement if they can demonstrate that they cannot meet the cap-and-replace criteria set forth in the Ordinance.
- A billboard company would be required to provide an accurate inventory of their billboard locations as a condition of any development agreement.
- City staff would report to the City Council when the inventory of non-conforming billboards Citywide is depleted.

Staff has returned the revised Ordinance as directed. The revised Ordinance will allow for construction of electronic billboards, through the approval of a Conditional Use Permit only. When any new billboard is constructed or any existing billboard is converted to electronic, other nonconforming billboard inventory will be required to be permanently removed from within the City, according to the ratios specified in the Ordinance. These ratios are: 8:1 for a new electronic billboard, 6:1 for a new non-electronic ("static") billboard, 4:1 for conversion of an existing static billboard to electronic without expansion of area, and 8:1 for conversion of an existing static billboard inventory is removed from within the City, all ratios will convert to 1:1. This will maintain a continuous limit on the net maximum of billboard inventory in the City. In addition, staff has made several minor changes to the Ordinance as proposed which will make implementation of the regulations smoother.

Public hearing notices were distributed on December 19, 2013, and no responses have been received as of the date of preparation of this report.

In accordance with the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, a Categorical Exemption (CE) was prepared for the proposed project (Exhibit A – CE-13-118).

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael Mais on December 20, 2013, and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on December 19, 2013.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

If the Ordinance is not adopted, the existing billboard regulations, adopted in March 2012, will continue to apply.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal or local job impact associated with this recommendation.

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SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

AMY ... BODEK, AICP

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AJB:JW:SK

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Attachments:

City Council Ordinance City Council Resolution

Exhibit A - Categorical Exemption CE-13-118

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST CITY MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney 333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 21.54, RELATED TO BILLBOARDS

The City Council of the City of Long Beach ordains as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 21.54 of the Long Beach Municipal Code is amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows:

Chapter 21.54

BILLBOARDS

21.54.010 Purpose.

Billboards are recognized as a legitimate form of commercial use in the City. However, the size, number, location and illumination of billboards can have significant influence on the City's visual environment, and can, without adequate control, create or contribute to blighted conditions. The purpose of this Chapter is to provide reasonable billboard control, recognizing that community appearance is an important factor in ensuring the general community welfare. Additionally it is the purpose of this Chapter to eventually eliminate nonconforming billboards from the City, through the creation of incentives for the development of conforming billboards linked to requirements for removal of nonconforming billboards in exchange.

21.54.020 Definition of terms.

A. The terms "billboard" and "off-premises sign" may be used interchangeably to mean the same thing. The term "billboard," when used generally, shall also include electronic billboards and any other form of off-premises advertising;

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- B. Mixed-use districts, when referenced in this Chapter, shall include Planned Development (PD) Districts, or sub-areas thereof, allowing residential and/or commercial uses;
- C. Residential districts, when referenced in this Chapter, shall include those Planned Development (PD) Districts, or sub-areas thereof, allowing residential uses;
- D. "Adjacent," when used to refer to a billboard adjacent to a freeway, shall mean located within, either in whole or in part, an area formed by measuring six hundred sixty feet (660') laterally from the edge of the right-of-way of a landscaped freeway section along a line perpendicular to the center line of the freeway (as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 2242);
- E. "Freeway-oriented" shall mean any billboard that is adjacent to a freeway, as set forth above, and designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the freeway.
- 21.54.030 Consistency with the Outdoor Advertising Act.

To the extent that there is any conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and the provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Act, California Business and Professions Code sections 5200, et seq., the Outdoor Advertising Act shall prevail.

21.54.040 Severability clause.

If any provision or clause of this Chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional or to be otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect other Chapter provisions or clauses or applications, and to this end the provisions and clauses of this Chapter are declared to be severable.

Division I – Use Regulations

21.54.110 Use regulations.

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Billboards are a principal use of land and are restricted to the zoning districts indicated in Table 54-1 of this Chapter. Any type, style, or location of billboard development not specifically permitted by this Chapter shall be prohibited.

21.54.111 Conditional Use Permit required.

Unless a development agreement is applied for and executed in accordance with Section 21.54.112, a Conditional Use Permit shall be obtained prior to the issuance of a building permit for any project involving construction of a new billboard or electronic billboard, conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard, expansion or modification of a billboard, or addition of additional face(s) to a billboard, and as otherwise specified in this Chapter and Title. Required findings are contained in this Chapter.

21.54.112 Development agreements.

- Α. In the event that an applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Planning Commission and the City Council that it is infeasible to comply with the provisions of Section 21.54.160, related to the removal of nonconforming billboards, an applicant shall then be eligible to apply for a development agreement in accordance with Chapter 21.29.
- B. For the purpose of this Section, an applicant shall be required to demonstrate that it lacks an inventory of nonconforming billboards eligible for removal such that would satisfy Section 21.54.160.
- C. For the purpose of this Section, an applicant shall not be deemed ineligible to apply for a development agreement because the applicant cannot meet the lot size requirement set forth in Section 21.29.020.
- D. All development agreements entered into in accordance with this Section shall contain appropriate standards and public benefits and

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shall comply with all other standards imposed by this Chapter except the conditional use permit requirement.

- E. Billboards constructed on property owned by the City or its related agencies may be accomplished by lease or license in lieu of a development agreement, and any reference to a development agreement in this Chapter shall include leases or licenses on such properties.
- 21.54.113 Sponsorship or advertising on public property under Chapter 16.55.

Any contract, permit, license or agreement entered into in accordance with Chapter 16.55 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall not be subject to the zoning regulations set forth in this Chapter.

21.54.114 Separate applications.

Each individual proposal for construction of a new billboard or electronic billboard, or modification of a billboard, or conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard, shall be considered a separate application, and each application shall be separately and individually subject to a Conditional Use Permit, and the provisions and requirements of this Chapter. Multiple sites shall not be combined into one application. This Section shall not apply to development agreements under Section 21.54.112.

21.54.115 Required findings.

In addition to the required findings for a Conditional Use Permit (Section 21.25.206), the Planning Commission or City Council, as applicable, shall not approve a Conditional Use Permit for any billboard project unless positive findings also can be made for the following:

- Α. The proposed billboard does not represent a net increase in billboard sign area Citywide,
 - B. The applicant or developer has provided a written plan and a

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letter of intent explaining how the requirements of Section 21.54.160.A or B (which require removal of certain amounts of existing billboard area in exchange for rights to construct a new billboard or convert an existing billboard to electronic) will be accomplished.

- C. The billboard shall not constitute a hazard to the safe and efficient operation of vehicles upon a street or freeway.
- D. For a new billboard, adequate spacing will exist between the proposed billboard and any existing or proposed billboards in the vicinity, such that negative visual and aesthetic impacts upon the neighborhood and surrounding land uses shall be avoided,
- F. The size of the proposed billboard will not be out of context with its visual environment, or be visually disruptive to neighboring properties and structures.
- G. For electronic billboards, the applicant has demonstrated that the billboard will not cause light and glare to intrude upon residential land uses, including those in mixed-use districts.
- Н. Approval of this permit is consistent with the intent of Chapter 21.54 (Billboards), which is, primarily, to provide reasonable billboard control and to cause the eventual elimination of nonconforming billboards from the City.
- 21.54.118 Locations allowed.

Billboards shall be allowed in the locations set forth in Table 54-1.

21.54.119 Street classification types allowed.

A billboard shall only be located on a lot having frontage on a certain classification of public right-of-way, as set forth in Table 54-1.

- 21.54.120 Locations prohibited.
 - Α. General.

No new off-premises sign (billboard) shall be located:

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- 1. On or over a public right-of-way;
- 2. Within ninety feet (90') of any residential, institutional or park district;
- 3. Within any Planned Development District (PD), unless explicitly allowed by that PD ordinance;
- 4. On the roof of any building whether the building is in use or not:
- 5. On a wall of a building or otherwise attached or integrated to, or suspended from a building;
 - 6. Overhanging a building; or
- 7. Within eight feet (8'), in any direction, of a building, measured at the nearest distance between the sign surface and the building, so as not to provide an attractive nuisance for graffiti and vandalism.
 - B. Additional freeway-oriented restrictions.

In addition to the above restrictions, no new freeway-oriented offpremises sign (billboard) shall be placed or maintained:

- 1. Within five hundred feet (500') of any residential, institutional or park district;
- 2. On property adjacent (within six hundred sixty feet (660')) to a section of a freeway that has been landscaped if the advertising display is designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the maintraveled way of the landscaped freeway, including landscaped portions of freeway in the following areas:
 - a. 710 Freeway:
- (1) North City boundary to south side of interchange with 91;
 - (2) South of interchange with 91 to south side

1	of northbound Long Beach Boulevard off-ramp on east side of freeway only;
2	(3) South of north edge of southbound Del
3	Amo Avenue off-ramp to south edge of northbound Del Amo Avenue off-
4	ramp;
5	(4) North edge of southbound transition ramp
6	to 405 Freeway to south edge of the 405 to 710 southbound transition ramp
7	on west side of 710;
8	(5) North edge of 405 to 710 transition ramp
9	to south edge of northbound Pacific Coast Highway off-ramp on east side;
10	(6) North edge of southbound Willow Street
11	off-ramp to south edge of southbound Willow Street on-ramp on west side of
12	710;
13	(7) North edge of southbound Anaheim Street
14	off-ramp to center line of Anaheim Street;
15	(8) South of Fifth Street.
16	b. 91 Freeway:
17	(1) West City boundary to east edge of
18	eastbound Long Beach Boulevard on-ramp;
19	(2) Western edge of 710 Freeway right-of-
20	way to eastern City boundary;
21	c. 405 FreewayEntire length in City;
22	d. 605 FreewayEntire length in City;
23	e. 22 FreewayEntire length in City.
24	21.54.125 Types of billboards prohibited.
25	As set forth in Section 21.54.110, any type or location of billboard
26	development not specifically permitted by this Chapter shall be prohibited.
27	Additionally, the following types of prohibited billboards are specified for
28	clarity. However, this shall not limit the types of prohibited billboards to

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those described below:

Mobile billboards. Any billboard installed upon, mounted, attached, or applied to any vehicle, non-motorized vehicle, bicycle, scooter, or trailer whose primary purpose is conveyance, transportation, or support of the billboard message surface shall be prohibited from any display or placement on public or private property or the public right-of-way in a manner making it visible from any other public or private property or the public right-of-way;

- В. Any billboard integrated, incorporated, or otherwise included into the architectural design of a building; and
- C. Supergraphics. Any off-site advertisement meeting the definition of "supergraphic" as defined in Section 21.15.2980 shall be prohibited. The only exception shall be for a temporary supergraphic allowed under a special events permit.
- 21.54.130 Landscaped segment relocation credits.

No new billboard shall be constructed or installed within the City through utilization of credits given by the California Department of Transportation or State law for relocation of billboards located in landscaped freeway segments, unless so mandated by State law. This shall include credits originating from billboards located either within the City of Long Beach or in other jurisdictions. Conversion of existing billboards located in landscaped freeway segments to electronic billboards using such credits shall be the sole exception, and in this case all removal requirements of Section 21.54.160.A or B shall apply.

21.54.140 Conversion of non-electronic billboards to electronic.

The City hereby declares that the vested rights held by existing billboards, whether conforming or nonconforming to this Chapter, do not allow conversion of said billboards to electronic billboards as a matter of

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right. No existing billboard shall be converted to an electronic billboard unless the following conditions are met:

- Α. A Conditional Use Permit is obtained by the applicant;
- В. The billboard meets the requirements of Table 54-1;
- C. The applicant obtains all required building permits; and
- D. Other existing billboard display surface area is permanently removed from the City as required by Section 21.54.160.A or B, as applicable (see Table 54-2 for summary).
- 21.54.150 Expansion of billboard area or addition of faces to existing billboards.

The City hereby declares that the vested rights held by existing billboards, whether conforming or nonconforming to this Chapter, do not allow expansion of billboard area or addition of billboard faces as a matter of right. No billboard shall have its area increased or have an additional face added unless the following conditions are met:

- Α. A Conditional Use Permit is obtained by the applicant;
- B. The billboard meets the requirements of Table 54-1;
- C. The applicant obtains all required building permits; and
- D. Other existing billboard display surface area is permanently removed from the City as required by Section 21.54.160.A or B, as applicable (see Table 54-2 for summary).
- 21.54.160 Citywide billboard capacity limited.

The City of Long Beach finds that, at the time of adoption of this Chapter, a plenitude of modes of advertising were available via television, newspaper, magazines, circulars, direct mail, bulk mail, internet, email, mobile phones, City bus ads, bus stop posters, and other constantlydeveloping sources of ad placement. Also, the City finds that a sufficient or more than sufficient amount of billboard advertising capacity exists in the

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City to meet or exceed the community's need for outdoor advertising, and that a reduction in the amount of billboards Citywide will not impose any hardship upon the community through diminution of overall advertising capacity or options. Therefore, no building permit shall be issued for a new billboard, conversion of an existing non-electronic billboard to an electronic billboard, or expansion or addition of faces to an existing billboard, unless the following requirements are met:

- An existing nonconforming billboard or billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, shall first be permanently removed from within the City as follows (see Table 54-2 for summary):
- 1. If a new electronic billboard is proposed, nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than eight (8) times the display surface area of the proposed electronic billboard shall be removed;
- 2. If conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard is proposed, nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than four (4) times the display surface area of the existing size of the converted billboard shall be removed. If the billboard is proposed to be expanded as part of the conversion to electronic, it shall be considered a new electronic billboard and nonconforming billboard(s) totaling eight (8) times the display surface area of the final size of the proposed billboard shall be removed;
- 3. If a new non-electronic billboard is proposed, nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than six (6) times the display surface area of the proposed billboard shall be removed;
- 4. If expansion of an existing electronic billboard is proposed, the portion that represents a net increase over the existing display surface area shall require removal of existing nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than eight (8) times the area of the net increase:

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- 5. If expansion of an existing non-electronic billboard is proposed, the portion that represents a net increase over the existing display surface area shall require removal of existing nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than six (6) times the area of the net increase:
- 6. Nonconforming billboards shall be removed with the following priority, in order of highest priority to lowest:
- Nonconforming billboards located in a residential a. zoning district and not adjacent to a street classified as a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial;
- b. Nonconforming billboards located in a Planned Development District (or a subarea thereof) allowing residential uses and not adjacent to a street classified as a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial:
- C. All other nonconforming billboards located in a residential zoning district or Planned Development District allowing residential uses:
- d. All other nonconforming billboards located in a General Plan Land Use District allowing residential uses; and
 - All other nonconforming billboards; e.
- B. If existing nonconforming billboards are permanently removed to satisfy Section 21.54.160.A, until no such nonconforming billboards as specified in Section 21.54.170 remain in the City, then the following requirements shall apply instead of Section 21.54.160.A (see Table 54-2 for summary):
- 1. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services, that no nonconforming billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, remain

in the City;

- 2. If a new billboard or electronic billboard is proposed, an existing billboard or billboards with total display surface area equal to or greater than that of the proposed billboard shall first be permanently removed from within the City;
- 3. If conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard is proposed, an existing billboard or billboards with total display surface area equal to or greater than that of the proposed conversion shall first be permanently removed from within the City;
- 4. For any other billboard modification or expansion, any net increase in the size of the display area shall first require removal of an existing billboard or billboards with an area equal to or greater than that of the net increase in size of the existing billboard;
- C. In determining the existing display surface area to be removed to satisfy (A) or (B) above, if a billboard with more than one face is proposed, the sum of both faces shall be used. For example, if a billboard with two 300-square-foot faces is proposed, a sum of 600 square feet shall be used to calculate the amount of removal required;
- D. In all cases, the required removals shall be completed prior to issuance of a building permit for the new, converted, or expanded billboard. The developer shall provide a list of all billboards to be removed to meet the removal requirements of (A) or (B) above, and shall obtain a separate demolition permit for each, and provide proof, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services, that such removal has been completed, prior to building permit issuance for a new billboard. In order that the developer should not be subject to possible loss of development rights lawfully obtained through a Conditional Use Permit and performance of subsequent required removal of billboards, said development rights, once

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obtained, shall be considered vested for one (1) year, contingent upon completion of the required prior removal of billboards;

- E. Fractional numbers. The purpose of (A) and (B) above is to require removal of a certain amount of billboard display surface area, rather than a specific number of billboards. However, it is not desirable for an existing billboard to be altered to reduce its size to comply with these requirements, due to the negative aesthetic impacts such alteration may create. Therefore, no billboard shall be reduced in size or otherwise altered to provide for the required removal, and only whole, entire billboard(s) shall be removed. In no case shall less than the required amount of display surface area be removed;
- F. Ownership. Section 21.54.160.B shall not come into effect until all nonconforming billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, are removed from within the City, regardless of the ownership or management of those nonconforming billboards. Specifically, a party owning or managing billboards shall not be eligible for Section 21.54.160.B if only the nonconforming billboards owned or managed by that party are removed, while other nonconforming billboards yet remain in the City;
- G. Other removal. Any billboard removed or demolished from within the City, or reduced in size, not in conjunction with a project requiring removal under Section 21.54.160.A or B, shall not be credited toward the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160.A or B above.
- 21.54.170 Nonconformity defined for purposes of removal requirements.

A billboard shall be considered nonconforming for the purposes of the removal requirements set forth in Section 21.54.160, if it is any of the following:

- Α. Not located in a zoning district allowed by Table 54-1;
- B. Not located adjacent to a freeway or street having a street

classification type allowed in Table 54-1;

- Freeway-oriented, and located within 660 feet of a landscaped freeway segment, as set forth in Section 21.54.120.B.2;
 - Located on a building or building rooftop D.

Table 54-1 Billboard Development Standards

	Standard				
Type of Billboard	Maximum Area (sq. ft.)	Max. Height	Spacing between billboards ^(a)	Street Classification Types Allowed ^(b)	Zoning Districts Allowed
New freeway- oriented billboard, electronic or non- electronic	675 sq. ft.	40 ft. above nearest freeway lane.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise 300 ft.	Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)
2. Other new billboard, electronic or non-electronic	675 sq. ft.	35 ft. above curb grade.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise 300 ft.	Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only ^{(c)(d)}	CHW ^(e) , IL, IM, IG
3. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic (with or without expansion of area) 675 sq. ft. ^(g)		No higher than existing billboard, or 35 ft. above curb grade (or 40 ft. above nearest freeway lane, if freeway-oriented), whichever is greater.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise no limit	Freeway Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only ^(c)	CCA, CCP, CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)

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4. Expansion of existing electronic or non-electronic billboard (does not include conversion to electronic)	No higher than existing billboard, or 35 ft. above curb grade (or 40 ft. above nearest freeway lane, if freeway-oriented), whichever is greater.	N/A	Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only ^(c)	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)
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Footnotes:

- (a) Required spacing between billboards on same side of the right-of-way.
- (b) Street classifications are as shown on the Functional Classification of Streets map in the Transportation Element of the General Plan. See equivalence table (Table 54-1A) for updated designations adopted into the 2013 General Plan Mobility Element.
- (c) If a lot has frontage on a right-of-way that is a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, and on a street that is not a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, the billboard shall be located no more than 25 feet from the property line with frontage on a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial.
- (d) Any billboard adjacent to a freeway right-of-way, but not freeway-oriented and not adjacent to a Regional Corridor or Major Arterial, shall be prohibited.
- (e) Also allowed in the deprecated CH commercial highway zoning district.
- (f) Billboards in the IP zoning district shall require approval of the Harbor Department.
- (g) Size shall not be increased over that of the existing billboard unless explicitly approved by the Planning Commission.

Table 54-1A Equivalence of Street Classification Type Designations

1991 General Plan Transportation Element Street Classification Type Designation	2013 General Plan Mobility Element Street Classification Type Designation
Freeway	Freeway
Regional Corridor	Regional Corridor Boulevard
Major Arterial	Major Avenue
Minor Arterial	Minor Avenue
Collector Street	Neighborhood Connector
Local Street	Local Street

Table 54-2 Summary of Billboard Removal Ratios

Under Section 21.54.160.A (If nonconforming billboards are still present in City)				
Project	Required Removal Ratio			
New electronic billboard	8 times the area of the proposed billboard			
2. New non-electronic billboard	6 times the area of the proposed billboard			
3. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic with no expansion of area	4 times the area of the billboard to be converted			
Conversion of existing billboard to electronic with expansion of area	8 times the area of the final size of the proposed billboard			
5. Expansion of existing electronic billboard	8 times the area of the proposed net increase in area			
6. Expansion of existing non-electronic billboard	6 times the area of the proposed net increase in area.			
Under Section 21.54.160B (After all nonconforming billboards have been removed from City)				
Project	Required Removal Ratio			
New electronic or non-electronic billboard	Area equal to the proposed billboard			
2. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic	Area equal to the proposed billboard			
3. Expansion of existing billboard (electronic or non electronic)	Area equal to the proposed net increase.			

Division II – Development Standards

21.54.210 Maximum area.

The maximum area of billboards shall be as indicated in Table 54-1.

21.54,220 Maximum height.

The maximum height of billboards shall be as indicated in Table 54-1.

21.54.221 Maximum number of faces.

No billboard shall have more than two (2) faces. A face shall be

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considered the display surface upon which an advertising message is displayed.

21.54.222 Face orientation.

No billboard shall have more than one (1) face (display surface) oriented in the same vertical plane.

21.54.223 Name of owner.

No billboard shall be maintained in the City unless the name of the person or company owning or maintaining it is plainly displayed thereon. 21.54.230 Spacing.

Spacing between billboards on the same side of a right-of-way shall be as indicated in Table 54-1. For spacing purposes, any double-faced, Vtype, or back-to-back billboard with more than one (1) face (display surface) shall be considered as a single billboard.

21.54.240 Supports.

Billboards shall be provided with no more than one (1) support, and the support shall be constructed of steel. The support shall be architecturally treated to the satisfaction of the Planning Commission. Bare steel structural supports and wood structural supports shall be prohibited. 21.54.250 Lighting.

In order to decrease the negative effects of light pollution, illumination for non-electronic billboards shall be designed, aimed, and shielded if necessary so that all light falls on the billboard display surface, and light trespass into the night sky or onto adjacent private or public property is prevented. All service wiring shall be underground. Prior to issuance of a building permit, the billboard developer shall provide proof to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services that this requirement is met. It shall be the responsibility of the billboard owner to develop and maintain the billboard lighting system in compliance with this Section.

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21.54.260 Clearance.

- Α. Driveways. Billboards projecting over a driveway or driving aisle shall have a minimum clearance of sixteen feet (16') between the lowest point of the sign and the driveway grade.
- B. Pedestrian Walkway. Billboards projecting over a pedestrian walkway shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') between the lowest point of the sign and the walkway grade.
- All Others. All other billboards shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') between the lowest point of the sign and ground level so as not to provide an attractive nuisance for graffiti and vandalism.

21.54.265 Projection

No billboard shall project over a public sidewalk unless an encroachment permit is granted by the Department of Public Works. In all cases, a billboard shall be a minimum of two (2) feet away from the curb. No billboard shall project over a public alley.

21.54.270 Screening.

All back or rear portions of single-faced and V-type billboards visible from a public right-of-way or other public or private property shall be screened. The screening shall cover all structural members of the sign, not including the pole supports.

- 21.54.280 Design and brightness restrictions.
 - Α. Billboards shall not contain any of the following:
 - 1. Moving parts;
 - 2. Appendages, cut-out letters or figures that exceed twenty percent (20%) of the permitted sign area or that protrude more than twelve inches (12") beyond the flat surface of the sign face;
 - 3. Lights that flash, shimmer, glitter or give the appearance of flashing, shimmering or glittering. Exceptions to this

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restriction include time, temperature and smog index units, provided the frequency of change does not exceed four (4) second intervals;

- 4. Walls or screens at the base of the sign which create a hazard to public safety or provide an attractive nuisance;
- 5. Copy which simulates any traffic sign in a manner which confuses the public; or
- Devices which emit audible sound, or odor or 6. particulate matter.
- For electronic billboards, the following restrictions also shall apply:
- 1. The duration of each message displayed shall be at least eight (8) seconds;
- 2. No message shall move, flash, shimmer, glitter, or give the appearance of moving, flashing, shimmering or glittering;
- 3. There shall be a direct change from each message to the next, with no blank or dark interval in between, to avoid a flashing or blinking effect;
- 4. Display of any form of motion or apparent motion within the message, and any form of video, are prohibited;
- 5. Any sign area not comprising the electronic display panel is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, static sign area, appendages, cut-out letters, and figures;
- 6. The brightness of the display surface shall be limited as follows:
 - a. Dawn to dusk: unlimited;
- b. Dusk to dawn: the display surface shall not produce luminance in excess of 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light conditions, or the level recommended by the Illuminating Engineering

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Society of North America (IESNA) for the specific size and location of the billboard, whichever is less;

- The display brightness shall be controlled by a C. photocell or light sensor that adjusts the brightness to the required dusk-todawn level based on ambient light conditions without the need for human input. Use of other brightness adjustment methods, such as timer- or calendar-based systems, shall only be used as a backup system;
- The display shall be factory-certified as capable of complying with the above brightness standards. Such certification shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services; and
- The billboard owner shall provide to the City, e. upon request, certification by an independent contractor that the brightness levels of the electronic billboard are in compliance with the requirements of this Section.
- 7. All electronic billboards shall be oriented, and adequately shielded if necessary, so as to prevent the trespass of light and glare upon any residential land uses, including those in mixed-use districts, as existed on the date of building permit issuance; and
- 8. All electronic billboards shall be equipped with a control system that, in the event of a display or control malfunction, "freezes" the display on either a single, unchanging message, or a blank screen. 21.54.285 Additional requirements.

Prior to issuance of a building permit for any billboard project subject to the requirements of this Chapter, the applicant shall provide the following:

Α. The telephone number of a maintenance service, to be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, to be contacted in the event that a billboard becomes dilapidated or damaged, or malfunctions in the case of electronic billboards;

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- В. Proof of lease demonstrating a right to install the billboard on the subject property;
- C. A list and map of locations of all billboards in the City owned or managed by the entity that will own or manage the subject billboard, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services. This information also shall be provided on a map. The intent of this requirement is to facilitate analysis of the proposed billboard's compliance with the spacing and location requirements, as well as the nonconforming billboard removal requirements of this Chapter.

21.54.290 Maintenance.

All billboard structures shall be maintained in a neat, clean, and orderly condition. Any structure which is highly rusted, has peeling paint or sign copy, or in any other way appears unattractive or in disrepair shall be deemed in violation of this Chapter and shall be removed or repaired in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. Any structure which the City Engineer identifies as an immediate threat to public safety may be removed by the City Engineer, or his designee, without notice to the property owner and at the property owner's expense.

Division III - Abandoned and Illegal Billboards 21.54.310 Abandoned billboards.

Any billboard meeting the definition of abandonment in this Title, and which can, under the applicable provisions of State law, be considered abandoned and having no rights to remain, shall be removed immediately at the expense of either the billboard owner or property owner. Consistent with State law, the City Manager or his designee shall have the authority to enter onto private property and cause such removal, and recover the costs of said removal from the property owner.

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21.54.320 Illegal billboards.

Illegal billboards shall have no vested rights under the Long Beach Municipal Code. Illegal billboards shall either be brought into legal conforming status, or removed by the owner immediately, subject to any applicable restrictions in State law. Consistent with State law, the City Manager or his designee shall have the authority to enter onto private property and cause such removal, and recover the costs of said removal from the property owner.

Division IV - Nonconforming Billboards

21.54.410 Amortization of nonconforming billboards.

It is the intent of this Division to require the eventual elimination of existing billboards which do not conform to the provisions of this Chapter, as allowed by State law. It is also the intent of this Section to ensure that the elimination of nonconforming billboards occurs as expeditiously and fairly as possible and avoids any unreasonable invasion of established property rights.

21.54.420 Removal by amortization.

A. A nonconforming billboard shall be removed if the billboard meets the criteria set forth in Subsection 21.54.420.B. Any billboard meeting these criteria is allowed to remain in existence seven (7) years after notice to remove nonconforming billboard has been issued, in order that the value of the billboard may be amortized. The adoption of this Section and Chapter shall not have the effect of extending the time in which a Billboard shall be removed if written notice of removal was given prior to the effective date of this Section and Chapter.

- B. Criteria. A billboard shall be removed if:
 - 1. The billboard is located within an area identified as

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residential on the general plan land use map; and

2. The billboard is located within an area zoned for residential use.

Continuation of use. 21.54.430

Subject to the removal requirements set forth in Section 21.54.420, a nonconforming billboard use may be continued and change of billboard copy shall not be prohibited, provided that:

- The billboard, including copy, is maintained in good repair; and
- B. The billboard is not enlarged, and additional faces are not erected on the billboard structure.

21.54.440 Repair.

A legal nonconforming billboard may be repaired, provided that: a building permit is obtained for the repair.

21.54.450 Nonconforming billboards--Replacement.

Catastrophic Damage. A nonconforming off-premises sign which is damaged by accident, storm, earthquake, other forces of nature, fire or act of vandalism, sabotage or warfare to an extent too great to be repaired shall not be replaced at a site where it is a non-conforming use, but may be relocated to a site where it is a conforming use, subject to the following:

- Α. The billboard shall be of the same size or smaller, with the same number of faces or fewer, and the billboard shall not be an electronic billboard if the destroyed billboard was not an electronic billboard. A conditional use permit shall be required in accordance with Section 21.54.111, and the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160 shall apply, if the replacement does not comply with this Subsection;
- B. All development standards of this Chapter and Title shall be met, excepting the conditional use permit requirements of Section 21.54.111, and the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160;

- C. A building permit shall be obtained;
- D. In cases of uncertainty as to the extent of damage to the billboard, the Long Beach Building Official shall be authorized to determine if the billboard is catastrophically damaged; and
- E. It shall be the responsibility of the billboard owner or the
 property owner to remove the catastrophically damaged billboard within ten
 (10) days of the date of catastrophic damage.

Section 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance by the City Council and cause it to be posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the City of Long Beach, and it shall take effect on the thirty-first (31st) day after it is approved by the Mayor.

	l here	eby certify that the for	regoing ordinance was ac	dopted	by the City Counci
of the	City of Long	Beach at its meeting	of,	, 20,	by the following
vote:					
	Ayes:	Councilmembers:			
	Noes:	Councilmembers:			
	Absent:	Councilmembers:			
	, 1000111.				
			City	y Clerk	
Appro	oved:			. ,	
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Chapter 21.54

BILLBOARDS

21.54.010 Purpose.

Billboards are recognized as a legitimate form of commercial use in the City. However, the size, number, location and illumination of billboards can have significant influence on the City's visual environment, and can, without adequate control, create or contribute to blighted conditions. The purpose of this Chapter is to provide reasonable billboard control, recognizing that community appearance is an important factor-in ensuring the general community welfare. Additionally it is the purpose of this Chapter to eventually eliminate nonconforming billboards from the City, through the creation of incentives for the development of conforming billboards linked to requirements for removal of nonconforming billboards in exchange.

21.54.020 Definition of terms.

- A. The terms "billboard" and "off-premises sign" may be used interchangeably to mean the same thing. The term "billboard," when used generally, shall also include electronic billboards and any other form of off-premises advertising.
- B. Mixed-use districts, when referenced in this Chapter, shall include Planned Development (PD) Districts, or sub-areas thereof, allowing residential and/or commercial uses.
- C. Residential districts, when referenced in this Chapter, shall include those Planned Development (PD) Districts, or sub-areas thereof, allowing residential uses.
- D. "Adjacent," when used to refer to a billboard adjacent to a freeway, shall mean located within, either in whole or in part, an area

formed by measuring six hundred sixty feet (660') laterally from the edge of the right-of-way of a landscaped freeway section along a line perpendicular to the center line of the freeway (as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 2242).

E. "Freeway-oriented" shall mean any billboard that is adjacent to a freeway, as set forth above, and designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the freeway.

21.54.030 Consistency with the Outdoor Advertising Act.

To the extent that there is any conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and the provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Act, California Business and Professions Code sections 5200, et seq., the Outdoor Advertising Act shall prevail.

21.54.040 Severability clause.

If any provision or clause of this Chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional or to be otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect other Chapter provisions or clauses or applications, and to this end the provisions and clauses of this Chapter are declared to be severable.

Division I - Use Regulations

21.54.110 Use regulations.

Billboards are a principal use of land and are restricted to the zoning districts indicated in Table 54-1 of this Chapter. Any type, style, or location of billboard development not specifically permitted by this Chapter shall be prohibited.

21.54.111 Conditional Use Permit required.

Unless a development agreement is applied for and executed in accordance with Section 21.54.112, A-a Conditional Use Permit shall be obtained prior to the issuance of a building permit for any project involving construction of a new billboard or electronic billboard, conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard, expansion or modification of a billboard, or addition of additional face(s) to a billboard, and as otherwise specified in this Chapter and Title. Required findings are contained in this Chapter.

21.54.112. Development agreements.

- A. In the event that an applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Planning Commission and the City Council that it is infeasible to comply with the provisions of Section 21.54.160, related to the removal of nonconforming billboards, an applicant shall then be eligible to apply for a development agreement in accordance with Chapter 21.29.
- B. For the purpose of this Section, an applicant shall be required to demonstrate that it lacks an inventory of nonconforming billboards eligible for removal such that would satisfy Section 21.54.160.
- C. For the purpose of this Section, an applicant shall not be deemed ineligible to apply for a development agreement because the applicant cannot meet the lot size requirement set forth in Section 21.29.020.
- D. All development agreements entered into in accordance with this Section shall contain appropriate standards and public benefits and shall comply with all other standards imposed by this Chapter except the conditional use permit requirement.

E. Billboards constructed on property owned by the City or its related agencies may be accomplished by lease or license in lieu of a development agreement, and any reference to a development agreement in this Chapter shall include leases or licenses on such properties.

21.54.113 Sponsorship or advertising on public property under Chapter 16.55.

Any contract, permit, license or agreements entered into in accordance with Chapter 16.55 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall not be subject to the zoning regulations set forth in this Chapter.

21.54.11221.54.114 Separate applications.

Each individual proposal for construction of a new billboard or electronic billboard, or modification of a billboard, or conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic billboard, shall be considered a separate application, and each application shall be separately and individually subject to a Conditional Use Permit, and the provisions and requirements of this Chapter. Multiple sites shall not be combined into one application. This Section shall not apply to development agreements under Section 21.54.112.

21.54.115 Required findings.

In addition to the required findings for a Conditional Use Permit (Section 21.25.206), the Planning Commission or City Council, as applicable, shall not approve a Conditional Use Permit for any billboard project unless positive findings also can be made for the following:

The billboard shall not constitute a hazard to the safe and efficient operation of vehicles upon a street or freeway.

A. The proposed billboard does not represent a net increase in billboard sign area Citywide,

- B. The applicant or developer has provided a written plan and a letter of intent explaining how the requirements of Section 21.54.160.A or B (which require removal of certain amounts of existing billboard area in exchange for rights to construct a new billboard or convert an existing billboard to electronic) will be accomplished.
- C. The billboard shall not constitute a hazard to the safe and efficient operation of vehicles upon a street or freeway.
- D. For a new billboard, adequate spacing will exist between the proposed billboard and any existing or proposed billboards in the vicinity, such that negative visual and aesthetic impacts upon the neighborhood and surrounding land uses shall be avoided,
- F. The size of the proposed billboard will not be out of context with its visual environment, or be visually disruptive to neighboring properties and structures.
- G. For electronic billboards, the applicant has demonstrated that the billboard will not cause light and glare to intrude upon residential land uses, including those in mixed-use districts.
- H. Approval of this permit is consistent with the intent of Chapter 21.54 (Billboards), which is, primarily, to provide reasonable billboard control and to cause the eventual elimination of nonconforming billboards from the City.

21.54.118 Locations allowed.

Billboards shall be allowed in the locations set forth in Tables 32-1 and 32-2Table 54-1.

21.54.119 Street classification types allowed.

A billboard shall only be located on a lot having frontage on a

certain classification of public right-of-way, as set forth in Table 54-1.

21.54.120 Locations prohibited.

A. <u>General.</u> No new off-premises sign (billboard) shall be located:

- 1. On or over a public right-of-way;
- 2. Within ninety feet (90') of any residential, institutional or park district;
- 3. Within any Planned Development District (PD), unless explicitly allowed by that PD ordinance;
- 4. On the roof of any building whether the building is in use or not;
- 5. On a wall of a building or otherwise attached or integrated to, or suspended from a building;
 - 6. Overhanging a building; or
- 7. Within eight feet (8'), in any direction, of a building, measured at the nearest distance between the sign <u>structure surface</u> and the building, so as not to provide an attractive nuisance for graffiti and vandalism.
- B. <u>Additional freeway-oriented restrictions.</u> In addition to the above restrictions, no new freeway-oriented off-premises sign (billboard) shall be placed or maintained:
- 1. Within five hundred feet (500') of any residential, institutional or park district;
- 2. On property adjacent (within six hundred sixty feet (660')) to a section of a freeway that has been landscaped if the advertising display is designed to be viewed primarily by persons traveling on the main-traveled way of the landscaped freeway, including

landscaped portions of freeway in the following areas:

- a. 710 Freeway:
- (1) North City boundary to south side of interchange with 91;
- (2) South of interchange with 91 to south side of northbound Long Beach Boulevard off-ramp on east side of freeway only;
- (3) South of north edge of southbound Del Amo Avenue off-ramp to south edge of northbound Del Amo Avenue off-ramp;
- (4) North edge of southbound transition ramp to 405 Freeway to south edge of the 405 to 710 southbound transition ramp on west side of 710;
- (5) North edge of 405 to 710 transition ramp to south edge of northbound Pacific Coast Highway off-ramp on east side;
- (6) North edge of southbound Willow Street off-ramp to south edge of southbound Willow Street on-ramp on west side of 710;
- (7) North edge of southbound Anaheim Street off-ramp to center line of Anaheim Street;
 - (8) South of Fifth Street.
 - b. 91 Freeway:
- (1) West City boundary to east edge of eastbound Long Beach Boulevard on-ramp;
- (2) Western edge of 710 Freeway right-of-way to eastern City boundary.

- c. 405 Freeway--Entire length in City;
- d. 605 Freeway--Entire length in City;
- e. 22 Freeway--Entire length in City.

21.54.125 Types of billboards prohibited.

As set forth in Section 21.54.110, any type or location of billboard development not specifically permitted by this Chapter shall be prohibited. Additionally, the following types of prohibited billboards are specified for clarity. However, this shall not limit the types of prohibited billboards to those described below.

A. Electronic or digital billboards. This includes a prohibition against converting a non-electric or non-digital billboard to either an electronic or digital billboard;

- A.B. Mobile billboards. Any billboard installed upon, mounted, attached, or applied to any vehicle, non-motorized vehicle, bicycle, scooter, or trailer whose primary purpose is conveyance, transportation, or support of the billboard message surface shall be prohibited from any display or placement on public or private property or the public right-of-way in a manner making it visible from any other public or private property or the public right-of-way;
- <u>B.</u>C. Any billboard integrated, incorporated, or otherwise included into the architectural design of a building; and
- <u>C.</u>D. Supergraphics. Any off-site advertisement meeting the definition of "supergraphic" as defined in Section 21.15.2980 shall be prohibited. The only exception shall be for a temporary supergraphic allowed under a special events permit.
- 21.54.130 Landscaped segment relocation credits.

No new billboard shall be constructed or installed within the City

through utilization of credits given by the California Department of Transportation or State law for relocation of billboards located in landscaped freeway segments, unless so mandated by State law. This shall include credits for originating from billboards located either within the City of Long Beach or in other jurisdictions. Conversion of existing billboards located in landscaped freeway segments to electronic billboards using such credits shall be the sole exception, and in this case all removal requirements of Section 21.54.160(A) or (B) shall apply.

21.54.140 Conversion of non-electronic billboards to electronic.

The City hereby declares that the vested rights held by existing billboards, whether conforming or nonconforming to this Chapter, do not allow conversion of said billboards to electronic billboards as a matter of right. No existing billboard shall be converted to an electronic billboard unless the following conditions are met:

- A. A Conditional Use Permit is obtained by the applicant;
- B. The billboard meets the requirements of Table 54-1;
- C. The applicant obtains all required building permits; and
- D. Other existing billboard display surface area is permanently removed from the City as required by Section 21.54.160.A or B, as applicable (see Table 54-2 for summary).
- 21.54.150 Expansion of billboard area or addition of faces to existing billboards.

The City hereby declares that the vested rights held by existing billboards, whether conforming or nonconforming to this Chapter, do not allow expansion of billboard area or addition of billboard faces as a matter of right. No billboard shall have its area increased or have an additional face added unless the following conditions are met:

- A. A Conditional Use Permit is obtained by the applicant;
- B. The billboard meets the requirements of Table 54-1;
- C. The applicant obtains all required building permits; and
- D. Other existing billboard display surface area is permanently removed from the City as required by Section 21.54.160.A or B, as applicable (see Table 54-2 for summary).

21.54.160 Citywide billboard capacity limited.

The City of Long Beach finds that, at the time of adoption of this Chapter, a plenitude of modes of advertising were available via television, newspaper, magazines, circulars, direct mail, bulk mail, internet, email, mobile phones, city bus ads, bus stop posters, and other constantly-developing sources of ad placement. Also, the City finds that a sufficient or more than sufficient amount of billboard advertising capacity exists in the City to meet or exceed the community's need for outdoor advertising, and that a reduction in the amount of billboards

Citywide will not impose any hardship upon the community through diminution of overall advertising capacity or options. Therefore, no building permit shall be issued for a new billboard, conversion of an existing non-electronic billboard to an electronic billboard, or expansion or addition of faces to an existing billboard, unless the following requirements are met:

- A. An existing nonconforming billboard or billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, shall first be permanently removed from within the City as follows (see Table 54-2 for summary):
- 1. If a new electronic billboard is proposed,
 nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than eight (8) times the
 display surface area of the proposed electronic billboard shall be

<u>removed.</u>				
2. If conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic				
billboard is proposed, nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than				
four (4) times the display surface area of the existing size of the				
converted billboard shall be removed. If the billboard is proposed to be				
expanded as part of the conversion to electronic, it shall be considered a				
new electronic billboard and nonconforming billboard(s) totaling eight (8)				
times the display surface area of the final size of the proposed billboard				
shall be removed.				
3. If a new non-electronic billboard is proposed,				
nonconforming billboard(s) equal to or greater than six (6) times the				
display surface area of the proposed billboard shall be removed.				
4. If expansion of an existing electronic billboard is				
proposed, the portion that represents a net increase over the existing				
display surface area shall require removal of existing nonconforming				
billboard(s) equal to or greater than eight (8) times the area of the net				
increase.				
5. If expansion of an existing non-electronic billboard is				
proposed, the portion that represents a net increase over the existing				
display surface area shall require removal of existing nonconforming				
billboard(s) equal to or greater than six (6) times the area of the net				
increase.				
6. Nonconforming billboards shall be removed with the				
following priority, in order of highest priority to lowest:				
a. Nonconforming billboards located in a				
residential zoning district and not adjacent to a street classified as a				
Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial:				

b. Nonconforming billboards located in a				
Planned Development District (or a subarea thereof) allowing residential				
uses and not adjacent to a street classified as a Freeway, Regional				
Corridor, or Major Arterial;				
c. All other nonconforming billboards located in				
a residential zoning district or Planned Development District allowing				
residential uses;				
d. All other nonconforming billboards located in				
a General Plan Land Use District allowing residential uses; and				
e. All other nonconforming billboards.				
B. If existing nonconforming billboards are permanently				
removed to satisfy Section 21.54.160.A until no such nonconforming				
billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, remain in the City, then the				
following requirements shall apply instead of Section 21.54.160.A (see				
Table 54-2 for summary):				
1. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to				
demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services,				
that no nonconforming billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170,				
remain in the City;				
2. If a new billboard or electronic billboard is proposed,				
an existing billboard or billboards with total display surface area equal to				
or greater than that of the proposed billboard shall first be permanently				
removed from within the City;				
3. If conversion of an existing billboard to an electronic				
billboard is proposed, an existing billboard or billboards with total display				
surface area equal to or greater than that of the proposed conversion				
shall first be permanently removed from within the City.				

- 4. For any other billboard modification or expansion, any net increase in the size of the display area shall first require removal of an existing billboard or billboards with an area equal to or greater than that of the net increase in size of the existing billboard.
- C. In determining the existing display surface area to be removed to satisfy (A) or (B) above, if a billboard with more than one face is proposed, the sum of both faces shall be used. For example, if a billboard with two 300-square-foot faces is proposed, a sum of 600 square feet shall be used to calculate the amount of removal required.
- D. In all cases, the required removals shall be completed prior to issuance of a building permit for the new, converted, or expanded billboard. The developer shall provide a list of all billboards to be removed to meet the removal requirements of (A) or (B) above, and shall obtain a separate demolition permit for each, and provide proof, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services, that such removal has been completed, prior to building permit issuance for a new billboard. In order that the developer should not be subject to possible loss of development rights lawfully obtained through a Conditional Use Permit and performance of subsequent required removal of billboards, said development rights, once obtained, shall be considered vested for one (1) year, contingent upon completion of the required prior removal of billboards.
- E. Fractional numbers. The purpose of (A) and (B) above is to require removal of a certain amount of billboard display surface area, rather than a specific number of billboards. However, it is not desirable for an existing billboard to be altered to reduce its size to comply with these requirements, due to the negative aesthetic impacts such

alteration may create. Therefore, no billboard shall be reduced in size or otherwise altered to provide for the required removal, and only whole, entire billboard(s) shall be removed. In no case shall less than the required amount of display surface area be removed.

- F. Ownership. Section 21.54.160.B shall not come into effect until all nonconforming billboards, as specified in Section 21.54.170, are removed from within the City, regardless of the ownership or management of those nonconforming billboards. Specifically, a party owning or managing billboards shall not be eligible for Section 21.54.160.B if only the nonconforming billboards owned or managed by that party are removed, while other nonconforming billboards yet remain in the City.
- G. Other removal. Any billboard removed or demolished from within the City, or reduced in size, not in conjunction with a project requiring removal under Section 21.54.160.A or B, shall not be credited toward the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160.A or B above.

21.54.170 Nonconformity defined for purposes of removal requirements.

A billboard shall be considered nonconforming for the purposes of the removal requirements set forth in Section 21.54.160, if it is any of the following:

A. Not located in a zoning district allowed by Table 54-1;

B. Not located adjacent to a freeway or street having a street classification type allowed in Table 54-1;

C. Freeway-oriented, and located within 660 feet of a landscaped freeway segment, as set forth in Section 21.54.120.B.2;

Located on a building or building rooftop

<u>Table 54-1</u>
<u>Billboard Development Standards</u>

Standard Standard						
Type of Billboard	Maximum Area (sq. ft.)	Max. Height	Standard Spacing between billboards (a)	Street Classification Types Allowed (b)	Zoning Districts Allowed	
1. New freeway- oriented billboard, electronic or non- electronic	675 sq. ft.	40 ft. above nearest freeway lane.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise 300 ft.	Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)	
2. Other new billboard, electronic or non-electronic	675 sq. ft.	35 ft. above curb grade.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise 300 ft.	Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only (c)(d)	CHW ^(e) , IL, IM, IG	
3. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic (with or without expansion of area)	675 sq. ft. (g)	No higher than existing billboard, or 35 ft. above curb grade (or 40 ft. above nearest freeway lane, if freeway-oriented), whichever is greater.	As required by California Department of Transportation, otherwise no limit	Freeway Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only (c)	CCA, CCP, CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)	
4. Expansion of existing electronic or non-electronic billboard (does not include conversion to electronic)	675 sq. ft. ^(g)	No higher than existing billboard, or 35 ft. above curb grade (or 40 ft. above nearest freeway lane, if freeway-oriented), whichever is greater.	N/A	Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only ^(c)	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)	

Footnotes:

⁽a) Required spacing between billboards on same side of the right-of-way.

- (b) Street classifications are as shown on the Functional Classification of Streets map in the Transportation Element of the General Plan. See equivalence table (Table 54-1A) for updated designations adopted into the 2013 General Plan Mobility Element.
- (c) If a lot has frontage on a right-of-way that is a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, and on a street that is not a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, the billboard shall be located no more than 25 feet from the property line with frontage on a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial.
- (d) Any billboard adjacent to a freeway right-of-way, but not freeway-oriented and not adjacent to a Regional Corridor or Major Arterial, shall be prohibited.
- (e) Also allowed in the deprecated CH commercial highway zoning district.
- (f) Billboards in the IP zoning district shall require approval of the Harbor Department.
- (g) Size shall not be increased over that of the existing billboard unless explicitly approved by the Planning Commission.

<u>Table 54-1A</u> Equivalence of Street Classification Type Designations

1991 General Plan Transportation Element Street Classification Type Designation	2013 General Plan Mobility Element Street Classification Type Designation
<u>Freeway</u>	Freeway
	Regional Corridor
Regional Corridor	<u>Boulevard</u>
<u>Major Arterial</u>	Major Avenue
Minor Arterial	Minor Avenue
Collector Street	Neighborhood Connector
Local Street	Local Street

<u>Table 54-2</u> <u>Summary of Billboard Removal Ratios</u>

Under Section 21.54.160.A (If nonconforming billboards are still present in City)					
Project	Required Removal Ratio				
1. New electronic billboard	8 times the area of the proposed billboard				
2. New non-electronic billboard	6 times the area of the proposed billboard				
3. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic with no expansion of area	4 times the area of the billboard to be converted				
4. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic with expansion of area	8 times the area of the final size of the proposed billboard				
5. Expansion of existing electronic billboard	8 times the area of the proposed net increase in area				
6. Expansion of existing non-electronic billboard	6 times the area of the proposed net increase in area.				
Under Section 21.54.160B (After all nonconforming billboards have been removed from City)					
Project	Required Removal Ratio				
New electronic or non-electronic billboard	Area equal to the proposed billboard				
2. Conversion of existing billboard to electronic	Area equal to the proposed billboard				
3. Expansion of existing billboard (electronic or non electronic)	Area equal to the proposed net increase.				

Division II - Development Standards

21.54.210 Maximum area.

The maximum area of billboards shall be as indicated in Table 54-1.

21.54.220 Maximum height.

The maximum height of billboards shall be as indicated in Table 54-1.

21.54.221 Maximum number of faces.

No billboard shall have more than two (2) faces. A face shall be considered the display surface upon which an advertising message is displayed.

21.54.222 Face orientation.

No billboard shall have more than one (1) face (display surface) oriented in the same vertical plane.

21.54.223 Name of owner.

No billboard shall be maintained in the City unless the name of the person or company owning or maintaining it is plainly displayed thereon.

21.54.230 Spacing.

Spacing between billboards on the same side of a right-of-way shall be as indicated in Table 54-1. For spacing purposes, any double-faced, V-type, or back-to-back billboard with more than one (1) face (display surface) shall be considered as a single billboard.

21.54.240 Supports.

Billboards shall be provided with no more than two (2) supports one (1) support, and the supports support shall be constructed of steel.

The support shall be architecturally treated to the satisfaction of the Planning Commission. Bare steel structural supports and wood structural supports shall be prohibited.

21.54.250 Lighting.

In order to decrease the negative effects of light pollution, illumination for <u>non-electronic</u> billboards shall be designed, aimed, and shielded if necessary so that all light falls on the billboard display surface, and light trespass into the night sky or onto adjacent private or public property is prevented. All service wiring shall be underground.

Prior to issuance of a building permit, the billboard developer shall provide proof to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services that this requirement is met. It shall be the responsibility of the billboard owner to develop and maintain the billboard lighting system in compliance with this Section.

21.54.260 Clearance.

- A. Driveways. Billboards projecting over a driveway or driving aisle shall have a minimum clearance of sixteen feet (16') between the lowest point of the sign and the driveway grade.
- B. Pedestrian Walkway. Billboards projecting over a pedestrian walkway shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') between the lowest point of the sign and the walkway grade.
- C. All Others. All other billboards shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet (8') between the lowest point of the sign and ground level so as not to provide an attractive nuisance for graffiti and vandalism.

21.54.265 Projection

No billboard shall project over a public sidewalk unless an encroachment permit is granted by the Department of Public Works. In all cases, a billboard shall be a minimum of two (2) feet away from the curb. No billboard shall project over a public alley.

21.54.270 Screening.

All back or rear portions of single-faced and V-type billboards visible from a public right-of-way or other public or private property shall be screened. The screening shall cover all structural members of the sign, not including the pole supports.

21.54.280 Design and brightness restrictions.

	<u>A.</u>	_Billbo	ards shall not contain any of the following:
		A. 1.	Moving parts;
		<u>₿.2.</u>	Appendages, cut-out letters or figures that exceed
	twenty	y perce	ent (20%) of the permitted sign area or that protrude
	more	than tw	velve inches (12") beyond the flat surface of the sign
	face;		
		C. 3.	Lights that flash, shimmer, glitter or give the
	appea	arance	of flashing, shimmering or glittering. Exceptions to
	this re	estrictio	on include time, temperature and smog index units,
	provid	ded the	frequency of change does not exceed four (4)
	secor	nd inter	vals;
		D. <u>4.</u>	Walls or screens at the base of the sign which
	create	e a haz	ard to public safety or provide an attractive nuisance;
		<u> </u>	Copy which simulates any traffic sign in a manner
	which	confus	ses the public; or
		F. <u>6.</u>	Devices which emit audible sound, or odor or
	partic	ulate m	natter.
	<u>B.</u>	For e	lectronic billboards, the following restrictions also shall
apply	<u>:</u>		
		1	The duration of each message displayed shall be at
least	eight (8	3) seco	nds;
		2.	No message shall move, flash, shimmer, glitter, or
give t	he app	earanc	e of moving, flashing, shimmering or glittering;
		3.	There shall be a direct change from each message
to the	next, v	with no	blank or dark interval in between, to avoid a flashing
<u>or blir</u>	nking e	ffect;	
		4.	Display of any form of motion or apparent motion within
	WWDD \	D004/D00	REDLINED VERSION

the message, and any form of video, are prohibited;					
5. Any sign area not comprising the electronic display					
panel is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, static sign area,					
appendages, cut-out letters, and figures;					
6. The brightness of the display surface shall be limited					
as follows:					
a. Dawn to dusk: unlimited;					
b. Dusk to dawn: the display surface shall not					
produce luminance in excess of 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light					
conditions, or the level recommended by the Illuminating Engineering					
Society of North America (IESNA) for the specific size and location of the					
billboard, whichever is less;					
c. The display brightness shall be controlled by					
a photocell or light sensor that adjusts the brightness to the required					
dusk-to-dawn level based on ambient light conditions without the need					
for human input. Use of other brightness adjustment methods, such as					
timer- or calendar-based systems, shall only be used as a backup					
system;					
d. The display shall be factory-certified as					
capable of complying with the above brightness standards. Such					
certification shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Director of					
Development Services; and					
e. The billboard owner shall provide to the City,					
upon request, certification by an independent contractor that the					
brightness levels of the electronic billboard are in compliance with the					
requirements of this Section.					
7. All electronic billboards shall be oriented, and					

adequately shielded if necessary, so as to prevent the trespass of light and glare upon any residential land uses, including those in mixed-use districts, as existed on the date of building permit issuance; and

8. All electronic billboards shall be equipped with a control system that, in the event of a display or control malfunction, "freezes" the display on either a single, unchanging message, or a blank screen.

21.54.285 Additional requirements.

Prior to issuance of a building permit for any billboard project subject to the requirements of this Chapter, the applicant shall provide the following:

- A. The telephone number of a maintenance service, to be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, to be contacted in the event that a billboard becomes dilapidated or damaged, or malfunctions in the case of electronic billboards;
- B. Proof of lease demonstrating a right to install the billboard on the subject property;
- C. A list <u>and map</u> of locations of all billboards in the City owned or managed by the entity that will own or manage the subject billboard, to the satisfaction of the Director of Development Services.

 This information also shall be provided on a map. The intent of this requirement is to facilitate analysis of the proposed billboard's compliance with the spacing and location requirements, as well as the nonconforming billboard removal requirements of this Chapter.

21.54.290 Maintenance.

All billboard structures shall be maintained in an a neat, clean,

and orderly condition. Any structure which is highly rusted, has peeling paint or sign copy, or in any other way appears unattractive or in disrepair shall be deemed in violation of this Chapter and shall be removed or repaired in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. Any structure which the City Engineer identifies as an immediate threat to public safety may be removed by the City Engineer, or his designee, without notice to the property owner and at the property owner's expense.

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Table 54-1
Billboard Development Standards

	Standard						
Type of Billboard	Maximum Area (sq. ft.)	Max. Height	Spacing between billboards (a)	Street Classification Types Allowed- ^(b)	Zoning Districts Allowed		
New freeway- oriented billboard	675-sq. ft.	40 ft. above nearest freeway lane.	500 ft. between billboards	Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)		
2. Other new billboard	300 sq. ft.	35 ft. above curb grade.	300 ft between billboards	Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only (e)(d)	CHW ^(e) , IL, IM, IG		
3. Expansion of existing billboard (includes addition of faces) 300 sq. ft., 675 sq. ft. if freeway-oriented		No higher than existing billboard, or 35 ft. above curb grade (or 40 ft. above nearest freeway-lane, if freeway-oriented), whichever is greater.		Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial only ^(e)	CHW ^(e) , CS, IL, IM, IG, IP ^(f)		

Footnotes:

- (a) Required spacing between billboards on same side of the right-of-way.
- (b) Street classifications are as shown on the Functional Classification of Streets map in the Transportation Element of the General Plan. See equivalence table (Table 54-1A) for updated designations adopted into the pending (as of 2011) General Plan Mobility Element.
- (c) If a lot has frontage on a right-of-way that is a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, and on a street that is not a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial, the billboard shall be located no more than 25 feet from the property line with frontage on a Freeway, Regional Corridor, or Major Arterial.
- (d) Any billboard adjacent to a freeway right-of-way, but not freeway-oriented and not adjacent to a Regional Corridor or Major Arterial, shall be prohibited.
- (e) Also allowed in the deprecated CH commercial highway zoning district.
- (f) Billboards in the IP zoning district shall require approval of the Harbor Department prior to application for a Conditional Use Permit.
- (g) Size shall not be increased over that of the existing billboard unless explicitly approved by the Planning Commission.

Table 54-1A

Equivalence of Street Classification Type Designations

1991 General Plan Transportation Element Street Classification Type Designation	Pending (2011) General Plan Mobility Element Street Classification Type Designation
Freeway	Freeway
Regional Corridor	Regional Connector
	Boulevard
Major Arterial	Major Avenue
Minor Arterial	Minor Avenue
Collector Street	Neighborhood-Street
Local Street	Local Street

Division III - Abandoned and Illegal Billboards

21.54.310 Abandoned billboards.

Any billboard meeting the definition of abandonment in this Title, and which can, under the applicable provisions of State law, be considered abandoned and having no rights to remain, shall be removed immediately at the expense of either the billboard owner or property owner. Consistent with State law, the City Manager or his designee shall have the authority to enter onto private property and cause such removal, and recover the costs of said removal from the property owner.

21.54.320 Illegal billboards.

Illegal billboards shall have no vested rights under the Long

Beach Municipal Code. Illegal billboards shall either be brought into legal conforming status, or removed by the owner immediately, subject to any applicable restrictions in State law. Consistent with State law, the City Manager or his designee shall have the authority to enter onto private property and cause such removal, and recover the costs of said removal from the property owner.

Division IV - Nonconforming Billboards

21.54.410 Amortization of nonconforming billboards.

It is the intent of this Division to require the eventual elimination of existing billboards which do not conform to the provisions of this Chapter, as allowed by State law. It is also the intent of this Section to ensure that the elimination of nonconforming billboards occurs as expeditiously and fairly as possible and avoids any unreasonable invasion of established property rights.

21.54.420 Removal by amortization.

A. A nonconforming billboard shall be removed if the billboard meets the criteria set forth in Subsection 21.54.420.B. Any billboard meeting these criteria is allowed to remain in existence seven (7) years after notice to remove nonconforming billboard has been issued, in order that the value of the billboard may be amortized. The adoption of this Section and Chapter shall not have the effect of extending the time in which a Billboard shall be removed if written notice of removal was given prior to the effective date of this Section and Chapter.

- B. Criteria. A billboard shall be removed if:
- 1. The billboard is located within an area identified as residential on the general plan land use map; and

- 2. The billboard is located within an area zoned for residential use.
- 21.54.430 Continuation of use.

Subject to the removal requirements set forth in Section 21.54.420, a nonconforming billboard use may be continued and change of billboard copy shall not be prohibited, provided that:

- A. The billboard, including copy, is maintained in good repair;
- B. The billboard is not enlarged, and additional faces are not erected on the billboard structure.
- 21.54.440 Repair.

A legal nonconforming billboard may be repaired, provided that: a building permit is obtained for the repair.

21.54.450 Nonconforming billboards--Replacement.

Catastrophic Damage. A nonconforming off-premises sign which is damaged by accident, storm, earthquake, other forces of nature, fire or act of vandalism, sabotage or warfare to an extent too great to be repaired shall not be replaced in a zone at a site where it is a nonconforming use, but may be relocated to a zone site where it is a conforming use, subject to the following:

- A. The billboard shall be of the same size or smaller, with the same number of faces or fewer-, and the billboard shall not be an electronic billboard if the destroyed billboard was not an electronic billboard. A conditional use permit shall be required in accordance with Section 21.54.111, and the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160 shall apply, if the replacement does not comply with this Subsection.
 - B. All development standards of this Chapter and Title shall

be met, excepting the conditional use permit requirements of Section 21.54.111, and the removal requirements of Section 21.54.160.

- C. A building permit shall be obtained.
- D. In cases of uncertainty as to the extent of damage to the billboard, the Long Beach Building Official shall be authorized to determine if the billboard is catastrophically damaged.
- E. It shall be the responsibility of the billboard owner or the property owner to remove the catastrophically damaged billboard within ten (10) days of the date of catastrophic damage.

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney 33 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES TO SUBMIT AMENDMENTS
TO THE LONG BEACH ZONING REGULATIONS TO THE
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL

WHEREAS, on ______, 2014, the City Council of the City of Long Beach amended certain provisions of the Long Beach Zoning Regulations, Title 21 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, relating to the regulation of billboards; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to submit the above referenced zoning regulation amendments to the California Coastal Commission for its review; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission and City Council gave full consideration to all facts and the proposals respecting the amendments to the zoning regulations at a properly noticed and advertised public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved the proposed amendments to the zoning regulations by adopting amendments to Chapter 21.54. The proposed zoning regulation amendments are to be carried out in a manner fully consistent with the Coastal Act and become effective in the Coastal Zone immediately upon Coastal Commission certification; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby finds that the proposed amendments will not adversely affect the character, livability or appropriate development in the City of Long Beach and that the amendments are consistent with the goals, objectives and provisions of the General Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as follows:

	Section 1.	The amendn	nent to the Long Beach Zoning Regulations of the
City of Long	Beach adopte	ed on	, 2014, by Ordinance No.
ORD-14	, а сор	y of which is a	attached to and incorporated in this resolution as
Exhibit "A", is	s hereby subn	nitted to the C	California Coastal Commission for its earliest
review as to	that part of the	e ordinance th	nat directly affects land use matters in that portion
of the Califor	nia Coastal Z	one within the	e City of Long Beach.
	Section 2.	The Director	of Development Services of the City of Long
Beach is here	eby authorize	d to and shall	submit a certified copy of this resolution, together
with appropri	ate supportin	g materials, to	o the California Coastal Commission with a
request for its	s earliest actio	on, as an ame	endment to the Local Coastal Program that will
take effect au	utomatically u	pon Commiss	sion approval pursuant to the Public Resources
Code or as a	n amendmen	t that will requ	uire formal City Council adoption after Coastal
Commission	approval.		
	Section 3.	This resolution	on shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
by the City C	ouncil, and th	e City Clerk s	shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.
	I certify that t	his resolution	was adopted by the City Council of the City of
Long Beach	at its meeting	of	, 2014, by the following vote:
Ayes:	Cound	cilmembers:	
Noes:	Cound	cilmembers:	
Absen	it: Cound	cilmembers:	
			·
			City Clerk



NOTICE of EXEMPTION from CEQA

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 W. OCEAN BLVD., 5TH FLOOR, LONG BEACH, CA 90802

(562) 570-6194 FAX: (562) 570-6068

lbds.longbeach.gov

PERCENT AND PROPERTY AND PROPER		PARTICIPATION AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	
1	Office of Planning & Research 400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814	FROM:	Department of Development Services 333 W. Ocean Blvd, 5 th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802
 E 1	A. County Clerk Environmental Fillings 2400 E. Imperial Hwy. 2 nd Floor, Room 20 Norwalk, CA 90650	001	
Categorical	Exemption CE- <u>IS-118</u>		
Project/Activity	ion/Address: Citywida ty Description: Amendment to to ng to billboards, including ropic billboards.	he Zoni	ing Regulations ange to allow construction
Applicant Nar Mailing Addre		of Dev Alcor, L ant Signatur	elopment Services Long Beach, CA 90802
	BELOW THIS LINE FOR	STAFF USE ON	
	umber: <u>0911-03</u> Planner's I	nitials: S	
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	idual billboard project to re its own CEQA analy	Howing . ISIS.	this action will
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Contact Person	on: Scott Kinson	Contact Ph	none: (562) 570-(6)94
Signature:	Sal HANSE	Dat	te: 12(17/13