

City of Coral Gables Planning Department Staff Report

To: Planning and Zoning Board Members

From: Planning Department

Date: February 11, 2009

Subject: **Zoning Code Text Amendment - Article 5, “Signs”.** An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables amending Zoning Code Article 5, Division 19, entitled “Signs”, Section 5-1909, “Campaign”, by providing for the allowance of campaign and political signs within specified zoning districts, providing the size of campaign and political signs within specified zoning districts, providing for the length of time campaign and political signs are allowed in the City of Coral Gables following elections and other miscellaneous provisions; and, Article 8, “Definitions”, by providing for definitions; and providing for severability, repealer, codification, and an effective date.

Recommendation

The Planning Department in association with the Building and Zoning Department recommends approval of various amendments to Zoning Code Article 5, Division 19, entitled “Signs”, Section 5-1909, “Campaign”, as provided in the attached Ordinance (see Attachment A).

Background

On December 20, 2008, a text amendment to the Sign code provisions, specifically with reference to “Campaign Signs”, was considered and approved with a unanimous vote by the Planning and Zoning Board. The text amendments were then scheduled for City Commission consideration on January 13, 2009. The Commission requested various modifications to the provisions and approved the amendments on First Reading by a 5 to 0 vote.

After further review by City Staff, additional changes were identified which, in the opinion of City staff, necessitated reconsideration of the amendments. Changes were necessary from a legal standpoint as well as technical standpoint. Therefore, City Staff is requesting reconsideration of the proposed amendments by the Board and City Commission. Changes from the existing provisions of the Zoning Code are noted in the attached Ordinance in ~~strike thru~~ / underline format (see Attachment A).

Building and Zoning Department Staff and the City Attorneys Office will outline the proposed changes at the meeting and secure further input.

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Public Hearing Timeline

Upon recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Board, the proposed text amendment will be scheduled for public hearing consideration by the City Commission as follows:

City Commission, 1st Reading - February 24, 2009, 9:00 a.m.

City Commission, 2nd Reading - March 10, 2009, 9:00 a.m.

The above dates and times are subject to change.

Public Notification

The Planning and Zoning Board meeting agenda has been advertised and posted on the City web page. The staff report and attachments are also posted on the City web page.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Riel, Jr.
Planning Director

Attachment:

A. Draft Ordinance.