



PRESS RELEASE

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FEBRUARY 17, 2010
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CITY WILL WAIVE TEMPORARY SIGN PERMIT FEE FOR PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

(Amarillo, TX) – Only two weeks remain for property owners and business owners to bring all temporary signs on their property into compliance with new sign regulations during the grace period.

In December 2009, the Amarillo City Commission approved a new sign ordinance to address new lighting technologies, driver and pedestrian safety and to improve the community's image; while still providing businesses the ability to adequately advertise their services.

New regulations went into effect last month, on January 3, 2010. The City of Amarillo provided a 60 day enforcement grace period to encourage those responsible for a temporary sign the opportunity to comply with new sign regulations. In the past 45 days, fewer than 20 permits have been issued for temporary signs

In an effort to help those responsible for bringing temporary signs into compliance with new regulations, the City of Amarillo Building Safety Department will waive temporary sign permit fees for all temporary sign applications received by Friday, March 5, 2010.

"As of today, the vast majority of temporary signs in Amarillo remain unpermitted. Business owners and property owners are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this period to get their signs permitted and in compliance with the new spacing and timing regulations. Applicants should allow adequate time for processing. In multi-tenant developments, permits will be issued on a first come first served basis," said Scott McDonald, Building Official.

One temporary sign is allowed per business. Multi-tenant developments may have up to four (4) temporary signs. No temporary sign may be closer than 75 feet to another temporary sign. If a temporary sign has not been permitted or is not in compliance with new regulations by March 5, 2010, property owners or business owners will receive a notice of violation. If not corrected, the property owner or business owner will be subject to fines up to a maximum of \$2,000 per day per violation.

For help understanding the new sign regulations, visit signs.amarillo.gov. If you have questions, please call (806) 378-6290.

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