

**TOWNSHIP OF EDGEWATER PARK
FIRST READING
ORDINANCE NO. 2014-1**

*An Ordinance of the Township of Edgewater Park, County of Burlington, New Jersey
Amending Chapters §16-3 Titled “Definitions”, §16-90.1 Titled “Signs, General Regulations”,
16-90.6 Titled “Digital Display Signs”, 16-90.7 Titled “Illumination of Signs”*

WHEREAS, Township Committee wishes to amend the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Edgewater Park.

Whereas, the Township Committee has determined that the Township Code should be amended to provide for electronic signs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Edgewater Park, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey, that the Township Codes of the Township of Edgewater Park be and is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1:

§ 16-3 Definitions. (REVISED TO ADD THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS)

DIGITAL DISPLAY SIGN (DDS)

A ground or pylon sign erected for the purpose of displaying information or an image using any form of electronic technology such as Light Emitting Diodes (LED). Typical DDS examples include Electronic Message Centers (EMC), on-premise DDSs, and off-premise digital billboards.

Illuminated signs

Any sign which has character, letters, figures, designs or outline illumination by electric lights or luminous tubes as a part of the sign.

Light trespass

That amount of the level of illumination which a light source on one property shines onto another property measured in foot-candles (or lux).

Luminance

A measure of the perceived brightness of a surface as measured in nits *or* candela per square meter (cd/m²).

§ 16-90 Signs.

No person shall erect, alter or relocate any sign without obtaining both a zoning permit and a construction permit, unless exempted under the following provisions. Prior to submission for a construction permit, an application for a zoning permit shall be made to the Zoning Officer. Upon approval of a zoning permit, application shall be made to the Construction Official for a construction permit. The permit fees for such signs shall be as provided in the schedule set forth in Township ordinances. Whenever a sign is changed, the fee for such change shall be as provided in the schedule set forth the Township ordinances. Normal maintenance and the removal of a sign shall not require a permit.

§ 16-90.1 General regulations.

A. Prohibited signs.

- (1) Animated, flashing and illusionary signs. Signs using mechanical and/or electrical devices to revolve, flash, change intensity of illumination or display movement or the illusion of movement. Prohibited signs shall include changeable-type signs and reader-board signs. An exception to this requirement is Digital Display signs as permitted by § 16-90.6.
- (2) Signs illuminated externally by bare-bulbs.
- (3) Banner-type signs, except in celebration of public events and erected with the approval of the governing body.
- (4) Mobile signs, including signs that are not permanently attached to a building, or not placed in the ground in such a fashion as to be permanent in a manner conforming to the Uniform Construction Code, or signs mounted on wheels, trailers or unregistered motor vehicles. Delivery trucks should be stored out of sight of the front of the building. Any registered vehicle(s) that has as its principal purpose the advertising of a business from a site as opposed to serving as a delivery or service vehicle for other business purposes of this section is prohibited. If a vehicle with advertising on it is not parked on the property where the business is located, out of sight of the front of the building, and remains in a single location for more than two hours and is not actively engaged in making a delivery, it shall be presumed that it is in violation of this section.
- (5) Neon lit signs, except for neon illumination covered by a colored, translucent lens to ensure that there are no exposed neon bulbs, channels or tubes visible from the street or adjacent properties.
- (6) No signs shall be placed within the right-of-way which is defined for purposes of this restriction as the area between the street paving and the furthest edge of the sidewalk, or, if there is no sidewalk, the area extending back ten (10') feet from the edge of the street paving. Any sign so placed shall be subject to removal and destruction by the Township.
- (7) Signs shall not be painted or otherwise applied directly to the surface of a building.
- (8) All signs not specifically permitted are prohibited.

- B. Attached signs. Signs parallel to walls shall project between 6 and 15 inches from the surface of the wall. Signs perpendicular to walls shall extend no more than five (5) feet from the surface of the wall, shall not exceed four (4) square feet in sign area, shall be supported in a structurally sound manner approved by the Township Engineer and/or Construction Official and shall have a clearance of at least nine (9) feet between the bottom of the sign to the finished grade.

- C. Sign height. Unless otherwise specified herein, the height of any attached sign shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the height of the wall to which it is attached, except that such sign can be at least two (2) feet in height. No attached sign shall extend above a roofline.
- D. Window signs and posters. Promotional signage and posters displayed in windows shall be fastened or hung on the interior side of the window and shall not exceed ten (10) percent of the total window area.
- E. Illuminated signs. Indirect lighting shall be used for signs wherever feasible. All lighted signs shall have the light source shielded from adjoining or nearby lots, streets and interior drives. Illuminated signs shall have translucent fixtures.
- F. Monument signs. All monument signs shall be mounted on masonry and have complementing landscaping along the base.
- G. Exemptions from sign permits. Street number designations, highway signs, postal boxes, family names on residences, on-site traffic directional and parking signs not exceeding 4 square feet in area, signs posting property as “private property,” “no hunting,” “danger,” “warning” or for similar purposes are permitted but are exempt from other sign area limits as set forth in this chapter. Such signs unless otherwise indicated shall not exceed two (2) square feet each.
- H. No person shall erect, alter or relocate any sign within the public right of way or sight triangle.
- I. All signs, including LED/ Digital Display Signs, shall be maintained in good working condition. Any non-functioning or malfunctioning panels, modules and/or bulbs shall be promptly repaired or replaced. Faded signs shall be repainted or replaced. Inspections for compliance with this requirement shall be made at the discretion of the Zoning Officer and or Property Maintenance Inspector.

§ 16-90.2 through § 16-90.5 - UNCHANGED

§ 16-90.6 Digital Display Signs.

- A. LED/ Digital Display Signs shall be permitted along Route 130 only. Except that all Municipal facilities and Schools shall be permitted to have one Digital Display Sign per facility.
- B. Sizes of LED/Digital Display Signs shall be as required within §16-90.
- C. LED/Digital Display Signs shall contain static messages only. Flashing, video, scrolling, whirling, changing color, or fading in or out, or movement on any part of the sign or structure is prohibited.
- D. A ten (10) second minimum message display time is required.
- E. A one (1) second maximum message transition is permitted. A transition consisting of

flashing, video or changing color is prohibited.

F. Green, yellow, or red backgrounds or any combinations thereof are prohibited.

G. LED/Digital Display Signs at service stations:

- (1) Fuel prices are permitted to be displayed only with green or red illuminated numerals on a black background screen.
- (2) Any other signage shall conform to the requirements herein.

H. Digital Display Sign Illumination:

- (1) The digital sign must have automatic dimming software or solar sensors that reduce luminance during nighttime hours to the level specified in this Sub-Section.
- (2) A maximum of five thousand (5,000) nits (candelas per square meter) at the sign face is permitted during daylight hours.
- (3) A maximum of five hundred (500) nits (candelas per square meter) at the sign face is permitted between dusk and dawn.
- (4) A maximum of two tenths (0.2) foot candles at one hundred fifty (150) feet from the sign face is permitted.
- (5) The sign shall not display light of such intensity or brilliance to cause glare or otherwise impair the vision of drivers or results in a nuisance.
- (6) The requirements of this sub-section shall be verified biennially, and a report (on company letterhead, signed by the person qualified to use the instrumentation) specifying the actual measurement values shall be delivered to the Zoning Officer.

§ 16-90.7 Illumination of Signs.

- A. Where illumination of signs is permitted, the use of a shielded or indirect non-flashing light, (preferably white), or an interior sign light with a translucent face shall be required to reduce undue glare, or offensive or annoying light to surrounding residents.
- B. For signs other than LED/ Digital Display signs, the use of red, green, or amber is not permitted when:
 1. An illuminated sign is located in the same line of vision as a traffic control signal.
 2. Fluorescent paint is used on highly reflective surfaces.
- C. Illuminated tubing or light strings outlining roofs, doors, or wall edges of a building are not permitted.

- D. For all signs not located on Route 130, all lighting associated with signs shall be extinguished by 11:00 p.m., or at the close of the corresponding business, whichever occurs last. The Zoning Officer may authorize extended lighting hours to assist in property protection with the recommendation of the Chief of Police.
- E. Gooseneck reflectors and lights shall be permitted on ground signs and wall signs; provided the reflectors have lenses that concentrate the illumination on the sign area so as to prevent glare upon the street or surrounding properties.
- F. Floodlights at ground level or located within 12 feet of ground level shall be located and shielded so as to prevent any glare or blinding effect upon any lane of moving traffic.
- G. No illuminated sign shall interfere with radio, television, Wi-Fi reception, electrical appliances, or road or highway visibility.

Section 2. If a court of competent jurisdiction shall declare any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township of Edgewater Park heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage. Notice of adoption shall be published as provided by law.

NOTICE

The foregoing was introduced by the Edgewater Park Township Committee at its meeting held on February 4, 2014. This ordinance will be consider for adoption of final reading and public hearing to be held on February 18, 2014 at 7:30 PM, or shortly thereafter, and place to which such meeting may be adjourned, in the Municipal Building, 400 Delanco Road, Edgewater Park, New Jersey. At which time and place all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said Ordinance. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of said ordinance will be made available at the Clerk's office to the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Linda M. Dougherty, R.M.C.,
Municipal Clerk/Administrator