

registered mail, return receipt requested, of the failure to comply. After five (5) days from receipt of such notification, if corrective action has not been taken, the person, corporation, organization, firm or entity having beneficial use of and/or the owner of the premises, shall be subject to the penalties provided in section 9.5-32 hereunder.

(Ord. No. 1261, § 1, 9-10-02)

Sec. 9.5-36. Fences.

Fence design must be in harmony with the nature of the district.

(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-36), 4-11-00)

Sec. 9.5-37. Floodlights (HC).

The Crowley Historic District (HC) shall not be illuminated by privately controlled floodlights or other illumination except as approved by the historic district commission or as permitted specifically by this article.

(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-37), 4-11-00)

Sec. 9.5-38. Overhanging balconies (HC).

No overhanging balconies or galleries may be removed, but new or additional balconies may be entered if they conform to the distinctive architecture of the Crowley Historic District (HC). The permit for all such new construction or any renovation shall be subject to the requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-38), 4-11-00)

Sec. 9.5-39. Signs (HC).

(a) *Definitions.*

- (1) *Sign* shall include any symbol, device, image, poster, flag, banner, billboards, design or directional sign used for advertising purposes, whether painted upon, attached to, erected on, or otherwise maintained on any premises containing any words, letters or

parts of letters, figures, numerals, phrases, sentences, emblems, devices, trade names or trademarks by which anything is made known, such as are used to designate an individual, a firm, an association, a corporation, a profession, or a business or commodity or product, which is visible from any public street and is used to attract attention.

- (2) *Display* includes erect, paint, repaint, place, replace, hang, re-hang, repair, maintain paint directly upon a building or other structure, inlay, embed in or otherwise exhibit in public view.

(b) *Signs must confirm to the character of the district.* In addition to the prohibitions contained in this section, approval of the display of a sign in the Historic District (HC) of the City of Crowley shall be granted by the commission only when such signs and the plans therefor, so far as they relate to the appearance, color, size, position, method of attachment, texture of materials and design, conform to the quaint and distinctive character of the historic district or do not injuriously affect it or impair the value to the community of those buildings having architectural or historical worth.

(c) *No signs to be displayed in certain places.* No sign shall be displayed from the parapet or roofs of any buildings in the Historic District (HC). No sign shall be displayed or placed in any manner whatsoever so as to disfigure or conceal any significant architectural feature or detail of any building.

(d) *What signs may advertise.* No sign shall be displayed in the historic district unless such sign advertises a bona fide business conducted in or on the premises and, if it does do so, no more than fifty 50 per cent of the area of such sign may be used to advertise products or commodities actually sold on the premises. This is exclusive of any pre-existing, historic "ghost" signs.

(e) *Number of primary signs.* In general, one primary sign is allowed to each store, shop or bona fide place of business and this sign shall be no larger than the maximum stipulated in this section.

- (1) In the case of a business operated on a corner lot that faces two (2) streets, one primary sign on each street facing is allowed and shall be regulated as if each side were a separate storefront.
- (2) In the case of a single sign being inappropriate, multiple primary signs may be used, the total face area of which may not exceed the maximum size stipulated in this article.

(f) *Surface area of signs.* The surface area of any sign shall be in direct proportion to the amount of front footage of each ownership and shall be as follows:

- (1) For single-faced signs, attached flat against the wall and including painted wall signs, there shall be allowed thirty (30) square inches of sign surface area to each foot of lot frontage.

- (2) For double-faced signs, suspended by brackets or arms perpendicularly from the wall of a building, the surface area shall be the sum of the area of each face, not to exceed thirty (30) square inches of sign surface area to each foot of lot frontage.
 - (3) In the case of multiple businesses operating at a single location, the total face area of signage may be increased to 1½ times the maximum stipulated in this article.
- (g) *Secondary signs.* In addition to primary sign(s) referred to in subsection (e) hereinabove, small secondary signs may be used to identify the following:
- (1) Entrance doors.
 - (2) Operating hours.
 - (3) Temporary signs.
- (h) *Temporary signs.* Temporary signs of a promotional nature may be placed on the interior of store windows. In no case may they remain longer than sixty (60) days. A permit is not required for the placement of a temporary sign. Temporary signs may be placed on the exterior of a building for the following special situations:
- (1) For the identify of real estate for sale.
 - (2) For political advertisement. Except for signs larger than 2'x2' yard sign, no application is required.
 - (3) For promotion by nonprofit organizations. In no case may these signs exceed the size limitations of this article.
- (i) *Portable and changeable letter signs.* No portable or changeable letter signs may be erected or allowed to remain within the Downtown Commercial Historic District.
- (j) *Illuminated signs.* No illuminated signs may be constructed or erected within the (HC) Historic District without the express approval of the Crowley Historic District Commission.
- (1) Concealed lighting is recommended. Bulbs may not be exposed. The light should enhance the sign as well as the building on which it is mounted.
 - (2) Internally illuminated signs are not permitted.
 - (3) Flashing or intermittent signs (exclusive of historic signs) are not permitted.
- (k) *Signs no longer serving as advertisement to be taken down.* Any sign displayed which no longer advertises a bona fide business (exclusive of historic or "ghost" signs) conducted upon the premises shall, upon notification by the Crowley Historic District Commission or its agent (who is hereby specifically authorized to so proceed), be taken down, removed or obliterated within five (5) days after such notification and failure to so comply on the part of the owner, occupant, agent or person having the beneficial use of any building or premises upon which such sign may be found shall subject such person to be the penalty provided in section 9.5-32.
- (l) *Zoning ordinance applicable to signs.* All signs under this section shall be further governed by existing regulations of the zoning ordinance of the city, which are not in conflict with this section.

(m) *Application for signs to be submitted to commission.* All applications for permits to display signs within the historic district of the city shall be permitted to the historic district commission for approval before a permit therefor may be issued in conformity with section 9.5-29.

(n) *Application to display signs and accompanying drawings.* Application for permit to display signs in the historic district of the city shall be made to the commission upon forms furnished by the commission. Such an application shall also be accompanied by sketches and drawings in triplicate, showing details of construction and foundation when required by the building code adopted by the city and shall delineate the size, shape, design, coloring, lighting and position in relation to the building from or upon which it shall be displayed.
(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-39), 4-11-2000)

Sec. 9.5-40. Aerials, antennas etc., prohibited.

The construction of aerials, antennas or satellite dishes of any type within the Crowley Historic District (HC) is prohibited without the express approval of the historic district commission.
(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-40), 4-11-2000)

Sec. 9.5-41. Minimum maintenance requirements.

In order to insure the protective maintenance of resources, the exterior features of such properties shall be maintained to meet the requirements of the city's minimum housing code and the city's adopted building code.
(Ord. No. 1229, § 1(2-41), 4-11-2000)

Sec. 9.5-42. Demolition by neglect.

(a) Any resource which is within a preservation district shall be preserved by the owner or such other person or persons as may have the legal custody or control thereof against decay and deterioration and free from unreasonable structural defects. The owner or other person having legal custody and control thereof shall repair such resource if it is found to have one or more of the following defects:

- (1) Deterioration to the extent that it creates or permits a hazardous or unsafe condition as determined by the city building inspector.
- (2) Deterioration, as determined by the city building inspector, of a building characterized by one or more of the following:
 - a. Those buildings that have parts thereof which are so attached that they may fall and injure persons or property.
 - b. Deteriorated or inadequate foundations.
 - c. Defective or deteriorated floor supports or floor supports insufficient to carry imposed loads with safety.

ARTICLE VII. REGULATION OF SIGNS

Sec. 7.1. General restrictions.

All signs hereafter erected on any lot in any district, except official traffic and street signs, shall conform to the provisions of this article. Unless otherwise provided in this ordinance, the following regulations shall apply to signs in all districts:

- (7.101) No sign shall be erected so as to prevent free ingress or egress from any door, window or fire escape and no sign of any kind shall be attached to a standpipe or fire escape.
- (7.102) No sign shall be erected at the intersection of any streets in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision or at any location where, by reason of position it may interfere with or obstruct the view of traffic sign lines or traffic-control devices. If located within direct line of vision of a traffic-control device, no flashing or intermittent red, green or amber illumination shall be used.
- (7.103) Any sign affixed flat against the wall of a building and not more than fifteen (15) inches in thickness shall not be deemed a projecting sign. Projecting signs may extend not more than forty-eight (48) inches beyond the building line, or over public property, in no event closer than two (2) feet to the curb line, and shall be at least ten (10) feet above the finished grade of the sidewalk. Wall signs shall not extend more than fifteen (15) inches over public property; however, lighting devices may extend not more than six (6) feet over public property provided the lowest part of such device is at least fifteen (15) feet above the finished grade.
- (7.104) The illumination of any sign within fifty (50) feet of and facing a residential zone lot line shall be diffused or indirect and designed to prevent direct rays of light from shining into adjoining residential districts and in no event shall flashing or intermittent illumination be permitted where the sign faces directly into and is nearer than three hundred (300) feet to dwellings in a residential district.
- (7.105) Directional or informational signs of a public or quasi-public nature not exceeding six (6) square feet in area may be permitted in any district on approval of the zoning administrator. Any illumination shall be nonflashing, uncolored and confined to the face of the sign. No advertising matter whatsoever shall be permitted on signs of this type.
- (7.106) Temporary signs indicating an event of public interest such as a state or local fair, local or general election, cattle or horse show, etc., may be erected on a thirty (30) day nonrenewable permit in any zone on approval of the zoning administrator.
- (7.107) Whenever a sign becomes structurally unsafe or endangers the safety of a building or premises, or endangers the public safety, the zoning administrator shall give written notice to the owner of the sign or the owner of the premises of which the sign is located that such sign be made safe or removed within ten (10) days.
- (7.108) Any business or outdoor advertising sign legally existing prior to the adoption of this ordinance and which does not conform to these provisions shall not be altered, or changed in over-all dimensions, except to conform to the provisions of this ordinance. If damaged to an extent in excess of one-half of its current replacement value, it shall not be rebuilt, provided that nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent normal maintenance and repairs, repainting or posting of such signs or structures.

(7.109) Unless otherwise provided in these regulations, all signs shall be constructed and erected in accordance with the building code for the City of Crowley and a fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for nonelectric signs shall be charged.

(7.110) To provide reasonable flexibility in these regulations, the board of zoning adjustment may approve an application for a business sign or advertising structure which may not conform with the provisions of the district in which it is to be located, where the location, size or addition would not be inconsistent with the character of the area or neighborhood in which such sign or structure is to be located.

(Ord. No. 1433, § 2, 12-13-11)

Sec. 7.2. Signs in R Residential districts.

In residential districts no sign shall be permitted except the following:

(7.201) A sign, not exceeding two (2) square feet in area, giving the name and/or address only of the land or building on which displayed or the owner or lessee thereof.

(7.202) A sign pertaining to the lease or sale of a building or property, provided such sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in surface area and is unilluminated.

(7.203) Temporary signs, for one year, advertising a new subdivision development of five (5) lots or more, provided such signs do not exceed sixty (60) square feet in surface area, are not more than fifteen (15) feet, nor less than two (2) feet above ground, advertise only the development in which they are located and are erected only at dedicated street entrances.

(7.204) One unilluminated sign identifying an engineer, architect or contractor engaged in the construction of a building, provided such sign shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet in surface area, is no more than fifteen (15) feet or less than two (2) feet above ground and is removed within thirty (30) days following occupancy of the building.

(7.205) One identification sign not to exceed thirty (30) square feet in area, for the following uses: Church, school, hospital, library, farm, park, clinic or similar uses. Such sign shall be solely for the purpose of displaying the name of the institution and its activities or services. It may be illuminated but not flashing.

(7.206) Directional signs not to exceed two (2) square feet in surface area for the following uses: Church, school, hospital, library, sanitarium, clinic or similar use provided that each shall be limited to one such sign per major thoroughfare approach. No such sign shall be permitted on minor residential streets.

(7.207) One name plate sign for a dwelling group of four (4) or more units not exceeding five (5) square feet in surface area. Such signs may indicate the names and addresses of the buildings or it may be a directory for occupants.

Sec. 7.3. Signs in M-1 Medical Service districts.

~~(7.301) All signs permitted in R districts.~~

Sec. 7.4. Signs in C-2 Neighborhood Commercial districts.

In the districts signs are permitted subject to the following regulations:

(7.401) All signs permitted in the R, M-1 and C-1 districts.

- (7.402) The total area of all business signs on a building or lot shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet or the sum of three (3) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage, whichever is the greater. No single business sign surface may exceed three hundred (300) square feet in area, nor shall two (2) or more smaller signs be so arranged and integrated as to create a surface area in excess of three hundred (300) square feet.
- (7.403) Advertising sign structures shall be limited to not more than one structure for a lot of one hundred (100) foot frontage or less, and to one additional structure for each one hundred (100) feet of additional lot frontage. Such structure may contain not more than two (2) signs per facing nor exceed fifty-five (55) feet in length and no advertising sign may exceed three hundred (300) square feet in area. No advertising sign shall be erected within fifty (50) feet of an adjoining residence district if designed to face into such district.
- (7.404) Coordinated shopping centers. Each coordinated shopping center may have one incidental or freestanding identification sign for each street frontage, set back at least twenty (20) feet from the front property line and announcing only the name of the shopping center and business located therein, and the hours of business.

Sec. 7.5. Signs in C-3 Highway Commercial districts and C-4 Central Business districts.

In the C-3 and C-4 districts signs are permitted with following regulations:

- (7.501) All signs permitted in the R and M-1 districts.
- (7.502) The total surface area of a business sign or signs on a lot shall not exceed six (6) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage.
- (7.503) Advertising sign structures shall be limited to no more than one structure for a lot of fifty (50) foot frontage or less, and to one additional structure for each fifty (50) feet of additional lot frontage. Such structure may contain not more than two (2) signs per facing, nor exceed fifty-five (55) foot length. No advertising sign may be erected within fifty (50) feet of an adjoining residence district if designed to face into such district.
- (7.504) Coordinated shopping center. Each coordinated shopping center may have one incidental or freestanding identification sign for each street frontage, set back at least twenty (20) feet from the front property line and announcing only the name of the shopping center and business located therein, and the hours of business.

Sec. 7.6. Signs in I-1 and I-2 Industrial districts.

In the I-1 and I-2 districts signs are permitted subject to the following regulations:

- (7.601) All signs permitted in the R and M-1 districts.
- (7.602) The total surface area of a business sign or signs on a building or lot shall not exceed ten (10) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage.

(7.402) The total area of all business signs on a building or lot shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) square feet or the sum of three (3) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage, whichever is the greater. No single business sign surface may exceed three hundred (300) square feet in area, nor shall two (2) or more smaller signs be so arranged and integrated as to create a surface area in excess of three hundred (300) square feet.

(7.403) Advertising sign structures shall be limited to not more than one structure for a lot of one hundred (100) foot frontage or less, and to one additional structure for each one hundred (100) feet of additional lot frontage. Such structure may contain not more than two (2) signs per facing nor exceed fifty-five (55) feet in length and no advertising sign may exceed three hundred (300) square feet in area. No advertising sign shall be erected within fifty (50) feet of an adjoining residence district if designed to face into such district.

(7.404) Coordinated shopping centers. Each coordinated shopping center may have one incidental or freestanding identification sign for each street frontage, set back at least twenty (20) feet from the front property line and announcing only the name of the shopping center and business located therein, and the hours of business.

Sec. 7.5. Signs in C-3 Highway Commercial districts and C-4 Central Business districts.

In the C-3 and C-4 districts signs are permitted with following regulations:

(7.501) All signs permitted in the R and M-1 districts.

(7.502) The total surface area of a business sign or signs on a lot shall not exceed six (6) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage.

(7.503) Advertising sign structures shall be limited to no more than one structure for a lot of fifty (50) foot frontage or less, and to one additional structure for each fifty (50) feet of additional lot frontage. Such structure may contain not more than two (2) signs per facing, nor exceed fifty-five (55) foot length. No advertising sign may be erected within fifty (50) feet of an adjoining residence district if designed to face into such district.

(7.504) Coordinated shopping center. Each coordinated shopping center may have one incidental or freestanding identification sign for each street frontage, set back at least twenty (20) feet from the front property line and announcing only the name of the shopping center and business located therein, and the hours of business.

Sec. 7.6. Signs in I-1 and I-2 Industrial districts.

In the I-1 and I-2 districts signs are permitted subject to the following regulations:

(7.601) All signs permitted in the R and M-1 districts.

(7.602) The total surface area of a business sign or signs on a building or lot shall not exceed ten (10) square feet for each lineal foot of lot frontage.

(7.603) Advertising sign structures shall be permitted subject to the general restrictions section [section 7.1] of this article.

Sec. 7.7. Off-premises signs and permitting.

Off-premises signs shall be regulated pursuant to this section as follows:

(7.701) *Permitted locations.* Off-premises signs are prohibited within the corporate limits of the City of Crowley except in all areas zoned commercial or industrial, adjacent to Interstate 10 within the corporate limits, and within the control area. The control area of Interstate 10 shall be three hundred (300) feet from the center of the median.

(7.702) *Erection of signs.* Off-premises signs shall be ground mounted only by means of a single steel support post. Signs may be erected double decked or stacked, back to back, or "v" type with not more than two (2) displays on each side. Signs may not be erected side by side.

(7.703) *Set-back requirements.* All off-premises signs shall be setback a minimum distance of ten (10) feet from the front and rear property lines and shall be setback a minimum distance of five (5) feet from all side property lines.

(7.704) *Measurements.* All measurements for off-premises signs shall be measured from the closest outermost extremity of the sign and not from the base structure unless the base structure is the outermost extremity which is closest.

~~(7.705) *Minimum distance between signs.* No off-premises sign shall be located closer than one thousand (1000) feet from another off-premises sign, measured along front property lines on the same side of the street, corners included.~~

(7.706) *Construction requirements.* All off-premises signs shall be constructed to meet one hundred (100) m.p.h. wind load, as certified on engineering drawing, by a certified and licensed engineer of the State of Louisiana. Note: Engineering drawing shall be supplied to the City of Crowley Building Inspector, prior to the permit being issued.

(7.707) *Prohibited off-premises outdoor advertising signs.* The following is a list of all prohibited types of off-premises signs:

- (1) Any sign or billboard which contains, as part of the message, mirror like surfaces.
- (2) Any sign or billboard which emits smoke, vapor, particles or odor.
- (3) Any sign or billboard which is illuminated and said illumination directs in any directions which can be deemed dangerous or annoying by the public or traffic flowing on Interstate 10.
- (4) Signs which are obsolete, including billboards which have been blank for six (6) months, structures not meeting construction standards, and signs which have been erected without a permit.

(7.708) *Permit process.* All applicants for an off-premises sign shall submit a plat of survey indicating exact location of the sign, property lines, distance from property lines, size of the sign, all measurements of the sign (height, length, square footage per face), any easements, right-of-ways, utility lines, coulees, and any other pertinent information.

(7.709) *Permit fees.* All applicants shall pay a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) construction/inspection fee to the City of Crowley, at the time that said application is made. Additionally, applicant shall be assessed a fee of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of anticipated construction cost, at the time that said permit is approved and issued.

(Ord. No. 1224, § 1, 12-14-99)

ARTICLE VIII. ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 8.1. Enforcement.

It shall be the duty of the zoning administrator to enforce this ordinance. The board of aldermen shall appoint a zoning administrator who may hold other municipal office in the city. It shall also be the duty of all officers and employees of the City of Crowley, Louisiana, and especially of all members of the police department to assist the zoning administrator by reporting to him upon new construction, alterations, relocations, repairs or land uses, or upon seeming violations. Appeal from the decision of the zoning administrator may be made to the board of zoning adjustment as provided in Article IV of this ordinance.

Sec. 8.2. Building permits.

No building or structure shall be erected, altered, repaired or relocated until a permit therefor has been issued by the zoning administrator. The application for and issuance of such permits shall not be issued until application for a certificate of zoning compliance has been made and approved.

Sec. 8.3. Certificate of zoning compliance.

No change in the use or occupancy of land or of a existing building shall be made, nor shall any new building be used or changed in use, until a certificate of zoning compliance shall have been issued by the zoning administrator, stating that the proposed use of the building or land complies with the provisions of this ordinance. The issuance of such a certificate shall be in accordance with the following procedures:

(8.301) Applications for a certificate of zoning compliance shall be made coincident with the application for a building permit. After determining that the proposed erection, alteration, repair, relocation or change in use is in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, each such application shall be approved by the zoning administrator and shall be countersigned by the director of the planning commission.