



Planning Commission Report

To: City Council

From: Planning Commission

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**Planning
Commission
Recommendation:** Approval.

**Recommended
Action:** Adopt an amendment to the Redmond Zoning Code (RZC) in order to repeal and remove Section 21.44010(J) –Removal and Disposal of Illegal Signs.

Summary: City Council members had noted an increase in the incidents of illegally displayed temporary portable signs throughout all zones of the City. In an attempt to better control the non-compliant display of these signs, staff was directed to explore alternative approaches to “enhancing and streamlining” the enforcement procedures that were/are currently being used. Several alternative approaches were presented to City Council at a November 22, 2011 Study Session.

After reviewing and discussing the alternative approaches, there was a general consensus among City Council members that the current temporary sign code language sufficiently addresses the time, place, and manner of the display of temporary signs, providing that the sign

code is enforced in a timely, efficient, and consistent manner. Council then directed staff to retain the current language, but to step-up enforcement.

In response to this directive, Code Enforcement has increased sign sweeps and streamlined the removal procedure by issuing fewer warnings and adhering to a “tightened-up” removal fee and fine structure.

Further, in an effort to meet Council’s directive of making the enforcement procedure more efficient, Code Enforcement began the public process of amending the RZC in order to repeal and remove Section 21.44.010(J) so that the unchanged code section may then be relocated to the Redmond Municipal Code (RMC), alongside the City’s other code enforcement provisions.

Reasons the Proposal should be Adopted:

The proposed amendment should be adopted because:

- By moving the language regulating the removal and disposal of illegal signs from Section 21.44.010(J) of the RZC, to Section 1.14 of the RMC, all sign code enforcement language will be located in one section, along with the City’s other code enforcement provisions.
- Section 1.14.020 of the RMC, provides for penalties where violations have occurred and also to deter future violations.
- Moving the sign code enforcement language currently located in Section 21.44.010(J) of the RZC to Section 1.14 of the RMC is in accordance with City Council’s zoning code rewrite mission statement and project principals.
- Moving Section 21.44.010(J) to the RMC places the language in an obvious location, groups and consolidates the language, reduces the complexity of the RZC, increases efficiency, and improves the usability of the applicable code sections for City staff, business owners, and residents.

