

Introduction

Sign regulations have been adopted by the City of Buellton and are contained in Sections 19.04.170 through 19.04.174 of the Municipal Code.

These sign regulations are based on the City's responsibility to protect public health, safety and welfare. The sign regulations are intended to promote the economic viability of the City, and to provide minimum standards necessary to maintain the aesthetic appeal of the community.

The purposes of these sign regulations include the following:

1. To provide the means for effective business identification;
2. To reduce traffic and safety hazards from confusing or distracting signs;
3. To foster the ability of the City to maintain existing businesses and attract future economic development;
4. To enable fair and consistent sign regulation and enforcement; and
5. To improve the aesthetic environment of the community by limiting the type, size, number, location, and design of signs.



(12/2011)

For additional information or application forms, please contact the Planning Department.

Summary of Sign Regulations



City of Buellton Planning Department

107 W. Highway 246
Buellton, CA 93427
Phone: 805-688-7474
Fax: 805-686-1729
e-mail: Planning@cityofbuellton.com
Web site: www.cityofbuellton.com

Prohibited Signs

The following are some of the signs that are prohibited in the City of Buellton. Please refer to the Buellton Municipal Code for a complete listing.

- **Animated Signs.** Signs that are moving, flashing, blinking, reflecting, glaring or revolving, except time and temperature signs.
- **Handbills/Flyers.** Announcements or posters attached to utility poles, street lights, trees, fence posts, and other fixed structures, or placed on the windshields of parked cars.
- **Inflatable Signs.** Blimps, balloons, inflatable representations of products, motion picture or television characters, and similar lighter-than-air or inflated advertising devices.
- **Sandwich Boards.** Portable A-framed signs located in the public right-of-way. (Sandwich boards may be allowed if they are located on private property and have been approved by zoning clearance, are no larger than three feet high and two feet wide, and are located within 10 feet of the main entrance to the business.)

Temporary Signs

Temporary business signs, including banners, may be in place up to four times a year for a cumulative total of 60 days. The temporary sign shall not exceed an area of 30 square feet; shall be affixed to a building; and shall not exceed the roof eave line of the building to which it is affixed, but in no case shall the temporary sign be higher than 30 feet. Temporary business signs for the grand opening of a new business may be in place for a maximum of 30 continuous days. In addition, temporary business signs may be in place for 4

days during any of the 10 Federal holidays, which include New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Temporary business signs for grand openings and Federal holidays do not count against the cumulative total of 60 days. Other temporary signs to announce community or nonprofit approved events may be allowed up to 4 weeks prior to the event. A no fee zoning clearance is required for all temporary signs.

Exempt Signs

Several types of unlighted signs do not require a sign permit from the City. These signs include (please refer to the Buellton Municipal Code for the complete listing of exempt signs):

- Business directory signs that do not exceed 15 square feet in total.
- Construction signs (must be removed within seven days of issuance of a certificate of occupancy).
- Garage sale signs (signs can only be installed one day before the garage sale and removed no later than one day after the garage sale).
- Signs within buildings.
- Political signs (may be installed 60 days before an election and removed within seven days after an election).
- Safety and directional signs.
- Hotel/motel reader boards (exempt only if less than 12 square feet in size).
- Real estate signs



Sign Permits

For any sign that requires a sign permit from the City of Buellton, the following shall be submitted:

- The Zoning Clearance application form.
- A Zoning Clearance review fee of \$45.
- Two site plans drawn to scale showing the location of all proposed signs (four site plans if the sign requires an electrical permit – see below).
- Two sets of scale drawings of the proposed signs, including the calculation of sign area (four sets if the sign requires an electrical permit – see below).

The application packet shall be submitted to the City of Buellton Planning Department for review and approval. Signs requiring an electrical permit also require the review and approval of the County of Santa Barbara Building and Safety Division.

