

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD  
REQUEST FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION  
For Inclusion on Board Agenda

Resolution or Ordinance (Blue) \_\_\_\_\_ *Waiver of First Requested*  
X Recommendations of Boards, Commissions & Committees (Green)  
Other Business (Pink)

TO: PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FROM: William T. Lichter, Village Manager  
DATE: September 26, 2006 (BOT) Date: October 5, 2006  
TITLE: PC 06-26: Text Amendments to the Lombard Sign Ordinance  
SUBMITTED BY: Department of Community Development *DAH*

BACKGROUND/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your Plan Commission transmits for your consideration its recommendation relative to the above-mentioned petition. This petition requests an amendment to Section 153.602 of the Lombard Sign Ordinance to clarify the definition and calculation method for the Area of a Sign.

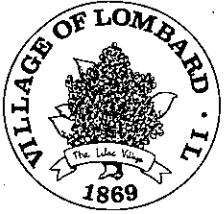
The Plan Commission recommended approval of this petition.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

Review (as necessary):

Village Attorney X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Village Manager X *W. T. Lichter* \_\_\_\_\_ Date *9/26/06*

NOTE: All materials must be submitted to and approved by the Village Manager's Office by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, prior to the Agenda Distribution.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** William T. Lichter, Village Manager

**FROM:** David A. Hulseberg, AICP  
Assistant Village Manager/Director of Community Development

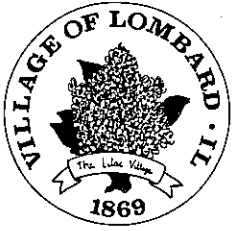
**DATE:** October 5, 2006

**SUBJECT:** PC 06-26 Text Amendments to the Sign Ordinance

DH

Attached please find the following items for Village Board consideration as part of the October 5, 2006 Village Board meeting:

1. Plan Commission referral letter;
2. IDRC reports for PC 06-26; and
3. An Ordinance granting approval of text amendments to the Sign Ordinance as described within the IDRC reports and referral letter. The actual text amendment additions and deletions to the Sign Ordinance can be found in the IDRC report.



## VILLAGE OF LOMBARD

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**Village President**  
William J. Mueller

**Village Clerk**  
Brigitte O'Brien

**Trustees**  
Greg Alan Gron, Dist. 1  
Richard J. Tross, Dist. 2  
John "Jack" T. O'Brien, Dist. 3  
Steven D. Sebby, Dist. 4  
Kenneth M. Florey, Dist. 5  
Rick Soderstrom, Dist. 6

**Village Manager**  
William T. Lichter

October 5, 2006

Mr. William J. Mueller,  
Village President, and  
Board of Trustees  
Village of Lombard

**Subject: PC 06-26: Text Amendments to the Lombard Sign Ordinance  
(Sign Area Calculations)**

Dear President and Trustees:

Your Plan Commission transmits for your consideration its recommendation regarding the above-referenced petition. The Village of Lombard is proposing an amendment to Section 153.602 of the Lombard Sign Ordinance to clarify the definition and calculation method for the Area of a Sign.

After due notice and as required by law, the Plan Commission conducted a public hearing for this petition on September 18, 2006. William Heniff, Senior Planner, presented the staff report. He noted that staff is proposing changes to definitions section of the Sign Ordinance to clarify the method of calculating the area of a sign. This amendment is not intended to increase or decrease any signage rights afforded by the Ordinance, but rather to add clarity to existing code. Historically, staff has used the rectangular shape as the continuous geometric figure. However, if one were to argue that a polygon is a type of continuous geometric figure, it would be for difficult for staff to dispute this interpretation. He then referenced example showing how the difference could manifest itself for a hypothetical wall sign.

"Our shared *Vision* for Lombard is a community of excellence exemplified by its government working together with residents and business to create a distinctive sense of spirit and an outstanding quality of life."

"The *Mission* of the Village of Lombard is to provide superior and responsive governmental services to the people of Lombard."

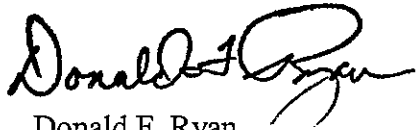
Chairperson Ryan asked if there was anyone in the audience who was in favor or against the petition. Hearing none, the meeting was opened to the Plan Commissioners. The Commissioners did not have any comments on the proposed amendments.

After due consideration of the petition and the testimony presented, the Plan Commission found that the proposed text amendments do comply with the standards of the Lombard Zoning Ordinance. Therefore, the Plan Commission, by a roll call vote of 4 to 0, recommended to the Corporate Authorities, approval of PC 06-26.

October 5, 2006  
Re: PC 06-26  
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Respectfully,

**VILLAGE OF LOMBARD**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald F. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donald" being the most prominent part.

Donald F. Ryan  
Chairperson  
Lombard Plan Commission

att-  
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**VILLAGE OF LOMBARD**  
**INTER-DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW GROUP REPORT**

TO: Lombard Plan Commission      HEARING DATE: September 18, 2006  
FROM: Department of Community      PREPARED BY: William J. Heniff, AICP  
Development      Senior Planner

**TITLE**

**PC 06-26: Text Amendments to the Lombard Sign Ordinance:** The Village of Lombard is proposing an amendment to Section 153.602 of the Lombard Sign Ordinance to clarify the definition and calculation method for the Area of a Sign.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Planning Services Division of the Community Development Department is proposing changes to definitions section of the Sign Ordinance (Section 153.602) to clarify the method of calculating the area of a sign. This amendment is not intended to increase or decrease any signage rights afforded by the Ordinance.

**Proposed Text Amendments and Commentary**

The following are the proposed text additions and amendments for the Zoning Ordinance and Code of Ordinances. **Please note, staff attempted to note proposed changes to the ordinances by striking out old text and underlining new text.** Commentary in italics is provided to further explain the proposed ordinance changes.

**153.602      DEFINITIONS**

**SIGN, AREA OF:**

**1. FREESTANDING SIGNS:**

The area of a freestanding or projecting sign shall have only one face (the largest one) of any double or multi-faced sign counted in calculating its area. Pole covers and other embellishments shall not be included in the area of measurement if they do not bear advertising copy. The area of the sign shall be measured as follows if the sign is composed of one or two individual cabinets:

- A. The area around and enclosing the perimeter of each ~~square~~ or rectangular shape which can wholly enclose the cabinet or module shall be summed and then totaled

to determine the total area. ~~The perimeter of measurable area shall not include embellishments such as advertising copy of such embellishments.~~

- B. If the sign is composed of more than three sign cabinets or modules, the smallest ~~rectangle or square area~~ rectangular shape which can wholly enclose the entire perimeter of all cabinets and/or modules shall ~~be~~ constitute the area of the sign. ~~Pole covers and other embellishments shall not be included in the area of measurement if they do not bear advertising copy.~~

*The amendments set forth above are intended to clarify and/or simplify the area calculations.*

## 2. WALL/AWNING/CANOPY SIGNS:

- A. If the sign is composed of individual letters or symbols using the wall, awning, or canopy as the background with no added decoration, the total sign area shall be calculated by measuring the area within a single, continuous perimeter composed of ~~any straight line geometric figure~~ the smallest rectangular area which encloses the extreme limits of the advertising message.
- B. If the sign is composed of one or more sign cabinets or modules, the ~~area enclosing the entire perimeter of all cabinets and/or modules within a single, continuous geometric figure~~ smallest rectangular area which can wholly enclose the entire perimeter of all cabinets and/or modules shall ~~be~~ constitute the area of the sign.

*This amendment is intended to clarify the method for determining wall sign area. Historically, staff has used the rectangular shape as the continuous geometric figure. However, if one were to argue that a polygon (i.e., a closed plane figure bounded by three or more line segments) is a type of continuous geometric figure, it would be for difficult for staff to dispute this interpretation. The example below shows how the difference could manifest itself for a hypothetical wall sign.*



Area based on a Continuous Geometric Figure



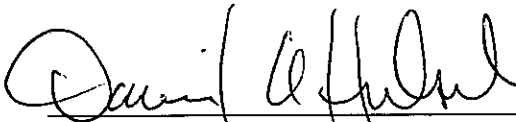
Area Based on a Rectangular Shape

**FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Based on the above considerations, the Inter-Departmental Review Committee recommends that the Plan Commission make the following motion recommending **approval** of the request as proposed:

Based on the submitted petition and the testimony presented, the proposed text amendments comply with the standards required by the Lombard Zoning Ordinance; and, therefore, I move that the Plan Commission find that the findings included as part of the Inter-department Review Report be the findings of the Plan Commission and therefore, I recommend to the Corporate Authorities **approval** of the text amendments described in PC 06-26.

Inter-Departmental Review Group Report Approved By:



David A. Hulseberg, AICP

Assistant Village Manager/Director of Community Development

**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING TEXT AMENDMENTS  
TO THE LOMBARD SIGN ORDINANCE  
TITLE 15, CHAPTER 153 OF THE CODE OF LOMBARD, ILLINOIS**

(PC 06-26: Sign Area Calculations)

WHEREAS, the Village of Lombard maintains a Sign Ordinance which is found in Title 15, Chapter 153 of the Code of Lombard, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees deem it reasonable to periodically review said Sign Ordinance and make necessary changes; and

WHEREAS, as the Director has identified and recommends text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing to consider text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance has been conducted by the Village of Lombard Plan Commission on September 18, 2006 pursuant to appropriate and legal notice; and,

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission has filed its recommendations with the President and Board of Trustees recommending approval of the text amendments described herein; and,

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees approve and adopt the findings and recommendations of the Plan Commission and incorporate such findings and recommendations herein by reference as if they were fully set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

SECTION 1: That Title 15, Chapter 153.602, of the Code of Lombard, Illinois is hereby amended to read in part as follows:

**153.602        DEFINITIONS**

**SIGN, AREA OF:**

**1.    FREESTANDING SIGNS:**

The area of a freestanding or projecting sign shall have only one face (the largest one) of any double or multi-faced sign counted in calculating its area. Pole covers and other embellishments shall not be included in the area of measurement if they do not bear



advertising copy. The area of the sign shall be measured as follows if the sign is composed of one or two individual cabinets:

- A. The area around and enclosing the perimeter of each rectangular shape which can wholly enclose the cabinet or module shall be summed and then totaled to determine the total area.
- B. If the sign is composed of more than three sign cabinets or modules, the smallest rectangular shape which can wholly enclose the entire perimeter of all cabinets and/or modules shall constitute the area of the sign.

SECTION 2: That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

Passed on first reading this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

First reading waived by action of the Board of Trustees this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Passed on second reading this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Nayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Mueller, Village President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brigitte O'Brien, Village Clerk

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Re: PC 06-26  
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Published in pamphlet form this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

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Brigitte O'Brien, Village Clerk