

**CITY OF MONROE  
ORDINANCE NO. 008/2014**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING NEW INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE DISPLAY OF SIGNAGE; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 005/2014; ADOPTING PRELIMINARY FINDINGS; SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND ESTABLISHING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE

---

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe regulates the display of signage through Chapter 18.80 of the Monroe Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the City is presently nearing completion of a comprehensive review and overhaul of its permanent sign regulations that began in 2013; and

WHEREAS, during the pendency of this review process, the City adopted the currently effective interim signage regulations under Ordinance No. 002/2013, and subsequently renewed the same under Ordinance Nos. 014/2013 and 005/2014; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to repeal Ordinance No. 005/2014 and to replace the interim sign regulations adopted thereunder with the regulations set forth in Exhibit A, to remain effective until permanent regulations are adopted in the near future.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings. As its preliminary findings in support of the interim regulations set forth in this ordinance, the Monroe City Council hereby adopts the recitals set forth above, together with the following:

- A. The City intends to adopt new permanent signage regulations no later than October 15, 2014; however, the City's draft permanent sign regulations are still undergoing final review and revision.
- B. The City's current interim sign regulations, which were originally adopted under Ordinance No. 002/2013, and subsequently renewed by Ordinance Nos. 014/2013 and 005/2014, are scheduled to sunset automatically on July 20, 2014.
- C. The City desires to replace the current interim regulations with those set forth in Exhibit A, which are more reflective of the pending permanent regulations and which contain clearer, more effective and more constitutionally protective provisions, including provisions governing political signage.

- D. The City has a strong public interest in ensuring that the display of signage within Monroe reflects the City's community vision, and that local regulation of signage, particularly political signs, is conducted in a constitutionally defensible manner.
- E. The City has a strong public interest in ensuring that applicants do not vest to the regulations that would otherwise be in effect when the current interim regulations are scheduled to expire.
- F. A public emergency exists requiring this ordinance to take effect immediately upon passage.

Section 2. Repealer. Ordinance No. 005/2014 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 3. Amendment of Chapter 18.80 MMC; Interim Signage Regulations Adopted. As an interim regulation pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390, Chapter 18.80 MMC is hereby amended to provide in its entirety as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth in full.

Section 4. Public Hearing. Pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390, the City Council hereby schedules a post-adoption public hearing on August 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in order to take public testimony concerning the interim regulations set forth in Section 3 above.

Section 5. Transmittal to Department of Commerce. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106, this ordinance shall be transmitted to the Washington State Department of Commerce.

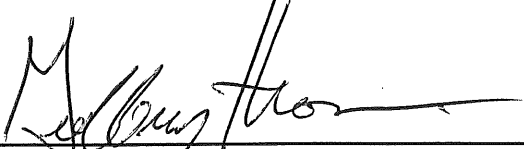
Section 6. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date; Duration. Based upon the findings set forth above, this ordinance shall take effect immediately and shall remain effective for a period of three months unless renewed as provided in RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390, or unless terminated sooner by the City Council. The City Clerk is directed to publish a summary of this ordinance at the earliest possible date.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Monroe, at a regular meeting held this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014.

1<sup>st</sup> & Final Reading: July 15, 2014  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Waived  
Published: July 22, 2014  
Effective: July 15, 2014

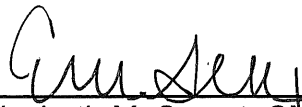
CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth M. Smoot, CMC, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney