

**PARMA PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Recommended Changes to Proposed PCO Chapter 1196**

Additions appear in **Blue** text. Deletions appear in **Red** text.  
 Bullet point items under Sign Schedules provide synopsis of recommended changes to schedules. These items are not part of the code.

**1196.03 DEFINITIONS**

Amend definition of **Community Facilities** to “Public buildings, schools, religious institutions, hospitals, recreation centers, meeting halls, athletic fields, and similar uses as permitted in Residential Districts under the Zoning Code.”

Add definition of **Monument Sign** to mean “A freestanding major sign having the appearance of a solid base of landscape construction materials such as brick, stucco, stonework, textured wood, tile or textured concrete materials compatible with the materials of the primary structure on the subject property.”

**1196.06 SIGNS IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

- Eliminate row for EMCs from schedule. Permit EMCs as either Monument Signs or Major Wall Signs under PCO 1196.13(c)(1).
- Increase area of Free-Standing Major Signs in 1-2 Family and Single-Family Cluster districts, and for Community Facilities. This increase in size is meant to compensate for the elimination of EMCs as an additional sign type from the schedule. Keep area of such signs unchanged in Multi-Family districts due to lot size considerations.
- Change footnote numbering to reflect changes.
- Set minimum distance between Minor/Major Signs and right-of-way lines at 5 feet.

**RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED SIGNS**

	<b>1- &amp; 2-Family</b>	<b>Single-Family Cluster</b>	<b>Multi-Family</b>	<b>Community Facilities</b>
<b>Free-Standing (major)</b>	# – 1 per subdiv of at least <del>50</del> <b>30</b> lots <sup>1 2</sup> SF – <del>20</del> <b>32</b> Ht – 5	# – 1 per dvlpmnt of at least <del>8</del> <b>15</b> units <sup>1 2</sup> SF – <del>20</del> <b>32</b> Ht – 5	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – 20 Ht – 5	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – <del>20</del> <b>40</b> Ht – 5
<b>Free-Standing (minor)</b>	# – 2 per dwelling SF – 2 Ht – 3	# – 1 per dwlg unit SF – 2 Ht – 3	# <sup>2 3</sup> SF – 2 Ht – 3	# <sup>2 3</sup> SF – 4 Ht – 4
<b>Wall (major)</b>	not permitted	not permitted	# – 1/ <b>per</b> main bldg SF – 20	# – 1 SF – 20
<b>Wall (minor)</b>	# – 2 per dwelling SF – 2	# – 1 per dwlg unit SF – 2	# – 2/ <b>per</b> main bldg SF – 6	# – 2 per main bldg SF – 6
<b>Canopy</b>	not permitted	not permitted	# – 1 per bldg SF – 10	# – 1 per bldg SF – 10

<b>Temporary (free-standing or wall)</b>	# – 2 per dwelling SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 1 per dwlg unit SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 1 per dwlg unit SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 1 per lot SF – 6 Ht – 4
<b>Portable</b>	not permitted	not permitted	not permitted	# – 1 per lot SF – 40 per face <sup>4</sup> Ht – 6
<b>EMC (major free- standing<sup>5</sup>-or major wall)</b>	<del># – 1 per lot<sup>6</sup> SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types</del>	<del># – 1 per lot<sup>6</sup> SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types</del>	<del># – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types</del>	<del># – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types</del>
<b>Flags</b>	# – 2 per lot SF – 32 <sup>3 5</sup>	# – 2 per lot SF – 32 <sup>3 5</sup>	# – 2 per lot SF – 32 <sup>3 5</sup>	# – 2 per lot SF – 32 <sup>3 5</sup>
<b>Pennants</b>	not permitted	not permitted	not permitted	permitted See 1196.13(f)
<sup>1</sup> plus 1 additional sign for each 500 ft of street frontage. <sup>2</sup> <u>EMCs are prohibited on lots with dwelling structures.</u> <sup>3</sup> <sup>4</sup> as necessary for traffic safety and public information, determined by City staff. <sup>4</sup> <del>cumulative SF of all permitted flags on lot.</del> <u>maximum of two (2) faces per sign.</u> <sup>5</sup> <del>maximum of two (2) faces per sign.</del> <u>cumulative SF of all permitted flags on lot.</u> <sup>6</sup> <del>EMC free-standing signs are limited to monument type signs.</del> <del>EMCs are prohibited on lots with dwelling structures.</del>				
# - Max number of signs ~ SF - Max sign face area (sq ft) per side ~ Ht - Max height (ft) for free-standing signs				

### RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF LOCATION REGULATIONS

	<i>Minor Sign</i>	<i>Major Sign</i>
<b>Minimum Distance From</b>	.....	.....
Lot lines, generally	5 feet	20 feet
<u>Lines of right of ways</u>	<u>5 feet</u>	<u>5 feet</u>
Lines of lots occupied by 1- and 2-family dwellings	10 feet	35 feet

## 1196.07 SIGNS IN COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

- Eliminate row for EMCs from schedule. Permit EMCs as either Monument Signs or Major Wall Signs under PCO 1196.13(c)(1).
- Change footnote numbering to reflect changes.
- Set minimum distance between Minor/Major Signs and right-of-way lines at 5 feet.

### COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED SIGNS

	Retail	Office	Shopping Center	Automobile Parking
<b>Free-Standing (major)</b>	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – 40 Ht – 5	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – 40 Ht – 5	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – 60 Ht – 5	# – 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF – 20 Ht – 5
<b>Free-Standing (minor)</b>	# – 2 per lot entry/exit SF – 4 Ht – 3	# – 2 per lot entry/exit SF – 4 Ht – 3	# – 1 per main bldg or bldg unit SF – 4 Ht – 3	# – 1 per lot <sup>4</sup> SF – 4 Ht – 3
<b>Wall (major)</b>	# – 1 per bldg street frontage SF – 10 + (W x 1.5)	# – 1 per bldg street frontage SF – 10 + (W x 1.5)	# – 1 per bldg street frontage SF – 10 + (W x 1.5)	# – 1 per street with vehicle entrance SF – 6
<b>Wall (minor)</b>	# – 2 per main bldg <sup>3 2</sup> SF – 2	# – 2 per main bldg <sup>3 2</sup> SF – 2	# – 2 per main bldg <sup>3 2</sup> SF – 6	# – 2 per main bldg <sup>3 2</sup> SF – 2
<b>Projecting</b>	# – 1 per bldg or bldg unit <sup>2 3</sup> SF – 12	not permitted	# – 1 per bldg or bldg unit <sup>2 3</sup> SF – 12	not permitted
<b>Canopy</b>	# – 1 per bldg or bldg unit SF – 20	not permitted	# – 1 per bldg or bldg unit SF – 20	not permitted
<b>Temporary (free-standing or wall)</b>	# – 2 per lot SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 2 per lot SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 2 per lot SF – 6 Ht – 4	# – 2 per lot SF – 6 Ht – 4
<b>Temporary (window)</b>	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area
<b>EMC (major free-standing<sup>5</sup> or major wall)</b>	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types
<b>Flags</b>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>4</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>4</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>4</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Inflatable</b>	permitted See 1196.13(e)	not permitted	permitted See 1196.13(e)	not permitted
<b>Pennants</b>	permitted See 1196.13(f)	not permitted	permitted See 1196.13(f)	not permitted
	<sup>1</sup> plus 1 additional sign for each 500 ft of street frontage. <sup>2</sup> <del>with a minimum setback of 20 ft from lot lines and building unit dividing lines.</del> <a href="#">as necessary for traffic safety and public information, determined by City staff.</a>			

	<sup>3</sup> <del>as necessary for traffic safety and public information, determined by City staff.</del> <u>with a minimum setback of 20 ft from lot lines and building unit dividing lines.</u> <sup>4</sup> cumulative SF of all permitted signs on lot. <sup>5</sup> <del>EMC free-standing signs are limited to monument type signs.</del>
# - Max number of signs ~ SF - Max sign face area (sq ft) per side ~ Ht - Max height (ft) for free-standing signs ~ W - width of bldg or unit frontage	

### COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF LOCATION REGULATIONS

	<i>Minor Sign</i>	<i>Major Sign</i>
<i>Minimum Distance From</i>	.....	.....
Lot lines, generally	5 feet	20 feet
<u>Lines of right of ways</u>	<u>5 feet</u>	<u>5 feet</u>
Lines of lots occupied by 1- and 2-family dwellings	10 feet	50 feet

### 1196.08 SIGNS IN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

- Eliminate row for EMCs from schedule. Permit EMCs as either Monument Signs or Major Wall Signs under PCO 1196.13(c)(1).
- Decrease area of Free-Standing Major Signs in Commercial-Manufacturing districts from 100 SF to 40 SF due to lot size considerations.
- In Industrial districts generally, set minimum distance between Minor Signs and right-of-way lines at 5 feet, and set minimum distance between Major Signs and right-of-way lines at 10 feet.
- In Commercial-Manufacturing districts, set minimum distance between Minor/Major Signs and right-of-way lines at 5 feet.

### INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED SIGNS

	<b>Industrial</b>	<b>Industrial Park</b>	<b>Commercial-Manufacturing</b>	<b>Research-Manufacturing</b>
<b>Free-Standing (major)</b>	# - 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF - 100	# - 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF - 100	# - 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF - <del>100</del> <u>40</u>	# - 1 per lot <sup>1</sup> SF - 100
<b>Free-Standing (minor)</b>	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4 Ht - 3	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4 Ht - 3	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4 Ht - 3	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4 Ht - 3
<b>Wall (major)</b>	# - 1 per street frontage w/ vehicular entrance SF - (W x 1)+15	# - 1 per street frontage w/ vehicular entrance SF - (W x 1)+15	# - 1 per street frontage w/ vehicular entrance SF - (W x 1)+15	# - 1 per street frontage w/ vehicular entrance SF - (W x 1)+15
<b>Wall (minor)</b>	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4	# - as necessary <sup>2</sup> SF - 4
<b>Temporary (free-standing or wall)</b>	# - 2 per lot SF - 6 Ht - 4	# - 2 per lot SF - 6 Ht - 4	# - 2 per lot SF - 6 Ht - 4	# - 2 per lot SF - 6 Ht - 4

<b>Temporary (window)</b>	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area	SF – 25% of window area
<b>EMC (major free-standing<sup>6</sup> or major wall)</b>	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types	# – 1 per lot SF – 50% of total face area of permitted sign types
<b>Flags</b>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>3</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>3</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>3</sup>	# – 3 per lot SF – 48 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Pennants</b>	permitted See 1196.13(f)	permitted See 1196.13(f)	permitted See 1196.13(f)	permitted See 1196.13(f)
<b>Billboards</b>	# – 1 per lot SF – 300 <sup>4</sup> Ht – 25 <sup>5</sup>	not permitted	# – 1 per lot SF – 300 <sup>4</sup> Ht – 25 <sup>5</sup>	not permitted
<sup>1</sup> plus 1 additional sign for each 500 ft of street frontage. <sup>2</sup> as necessary for traffic safety and public information, determined by City staff. <sup>3</sup> cumulative SF of all permitted flags on lot. <sup>4</sup> Limited to 12 feet in vertical dimension and 25 feet in horizontal dimension. <sup>5</sup> Maximum height of free-standing billboard above the grade of the street to which sign is oriented. <sup>6</sup> EMC free-standing signs are limited to monument type signs.				
# - Max number of signs ~ SF - Max sign face area (sq ft) per side ~ Ht - Max height (ft) for free-standing signs ~ W - width of building or unit frontage				

### INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS SCHEDULE OF LOCATION REGULATIONS

	<i>Minor Sign</i>	<i>Major Sign</i>
<b>Minimum Distance From</b>	.....	.....
Lot lines, generally	5 feet	20 feet
<u>Lines of right of ways, generally</u>	<u>5 feet</u>	<u>10 feet</u>
<u>Lines of right of ways, Commercial-Manufacturing</u>	<u>5 feet</u>	<u>5 feet</u>
Lines of lots occupied by 1- and 2-family dwellings	10 feet	50 feet

## 1196.09 MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

Sign area, sign location and building frontage, as regulated in this Chapter, shall be measured according to the following standards. The graphics shown in this section are for illustration purposes only.

## 1196.13 SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES REGULATED

### (c) Electronic Message Centers.

- (1) EMC signs shall be permitted as either monument signs or major wall signs.
- (4 2) EMC signs must have automatic brightness controls, either by photocell (hardwired) or via software, that are keyed to ambient light levels in order to bring the EMC lighting levels into compliance with subsection (4 3) hereof.
- (2 3) EMC signs may not exceed a maximum luminance level of 250 cd/m<sup>2</sup> or Nits during nighttime beginning 15 minutes before apparent sunset and ending 15 minutes after apparent sunrise, as determined by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the U.S. Naval Observatory (USNO) for the U.S. Eastern Time Zone (DST). At other times, EMC signs may not exceed a maximum luminance level of 5,000 cd/m<sup>2</sup> or Nits.
- (3 4) EMC signs shall have a minimum display time of eight (8) seconds. The transition time between messages and/or message frames is limited to one (1) second.
- (4 5) The following EMC display features and functions are prohibited: scrolling, traveling, flashing, spinning, rotating, fade, dissolve, any other moving effects, and all dynamic frame effects or patterns of illusionary movement or simulated movement.
- (5 6) EMC signs shall be turned off promptly in the event of a malfunction.

## 1196.12 PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following types of signs are not permitted in any zoning district:

- (a) Feather Signs, as defined in Section 1196.03;
- (b) Flashing, revolving and moving signs of any type, other than Electronic Message Centers as specifically permitted in Section 1196.13(c) and digital Billboards as specifically permitted in Section 1196.13(b);
- (c) Roof signs; and
- (d) Any sign displayed on a parked trailer or truck or other vehicle that is not routinely used for transportation purposes between the hours of 6 a.m. and 12 midnight so that the primary purpose of the vehicle is to display a message or to advertise a product, service, business, or other activity.

(e) Signs displayed on bollards.