

AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 11/17/20 ITEM NO. RA 15

Comments received after the Planning and Zoning
Commission Hearing (October 28, 2020)

NOV 13 2020 PM 01:08 PCC/K (F H)
MS
g/w

From: Phil .Y <phil3155@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2020 3:18 PM
To: Thomas Drzazgowski <Thomas.Drzazgowski@pima.gov>
Subject: Agenda item #6 sign code revisions

It is with grave concern that I have read Pima County may be relaxing its advertising-sign lighting restrictions.

Until recently I was a night guide up at the Kitt Peak. It was our pleasure to show the wonders of the night sky to thousands of guests from all over the world. Many came from metropolitan areas that never had the opportunity to see a night sky like the ones we have down here. The reason we have these beautiful dark skies is that the county and the city of Tucson have passed rules to keep the skies that way.

One of the greatest concerns we have down here in southern Arizona is the responsible use of our resources. Whether the resource is water or dark skies we should feel obligated to future generations to protect them.

Since I moved to the Tucson area in 2011, I felt that this area was interested in not only preserving our beautiful deserts but also the night skies that astronomers, and the general public find so enthralling. It is why I moved here. It would be a pity to find out the county has subverted the wishes of so many residents for dark skies to a handful who would willfully destroy and profit from it.
Please stand up for what's right.

Thank You
Phil Yehle

12990 West Summer Poppy St.
Tucson, Az

11/2/20 via email

Hi Janet and Tom,

We appreciate your time to discuss our issues that we have in regards to the 6:00 pm illumination moratorium for electronic message centers. We understand the concerns that the astronomy consortium and others have in regards to illumination. The existing Outdoor Lighting code was carefully drafted with stakeholder involvement and coming to eventual consensus. As noted in our meeting we strongly recommend that the existing Outdoor lighting code be utilized and enforced. We suggest that if changes are to be made to current Outdoor Lighting code that this be done not at this time in conjunction with the sign code update. The proposed illumination moratorium brings a number of concerns including:

- The draft code does not accommodate a business or end user that is open after 6:00 pm
- The draft code will hinder after hours activities such as deliveries
- The illumination from parking lots and sports venues far exceeds the illumination from any sign
- The proposed illumination moratorium does not appear to be directly related to solving a documented issue
- The proposed illumination moratorium may impede emergency services
- We believe that continued continuity in the administration and enforcement of the Outdoor Lighting Code is beneficial for the City, county and all end users.
- EMCs at 200 nits is about 1/3 as bright as the recommended brightness standards and will not appear any brighter than a typical static sign

Thanks for meeting with us to discuss these issues.

Let us know if you have any questions or need any information.

Best,

James B Carpentier AICP

Director State & Local Government Affairs

1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 301

Alexandria, VA 22314

(480) 773-3756 Cell

www.signs.org | www.signexpo.org

james.carpentier@signs.org



Metropolitan Pima Alliance

Honorable Chairman and Supervisors of the Board
Pima County
130 W. Congress Street, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Honorable Chairman and Supervisors of the Board:

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Sign Code Revision Project presented by the Department of Development Services. We are impressed with the diligent work put forth by staff in facilitating a collaborative and streamlined process amongst Development Services and the stakeholders. MPA has been engaged in the effort to revise the code to both bring it into legal compliance and update the antiquated existing code. While recognizing the need to balance community standards and aesthetics are important to all community stakeholders, businesses are by far the greatest users of signage and therefore the class that modifications to the sign code most affect. As vested community partners, the goal of our membership is to have a streamlined Sign Code with predictability within the process and clearly articulated sign design elements.

The timing of this update is critical in coming into legal compliance with Reed vs. Gilbert and this opportunity to make these adjustments along with identifying additional efficiencies for both the City and business community. We believe the code that has been put before you to adopt accomplishes this and request that you support it and close out the two-year revision process that has produced this new code.

Sincerely,

Allyson Solomon
Executive Director
Metropolitan Pima Alliance

Cc: Chuck Huckleberry, County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Carla Blackwell, Director of Planning and Development Services