

**VIOLATIONS**



Authorized temporary signs in the ROW must be A-Frames. The signs above and below were removed.



This sign was removed because it was located in the roadway.



This sign was removed because it was not placed at least 5 feet from the edge of the roadway.



This sign was removed because it did not provide a 5-foot wide pedestrian zone.



This sign was removed because it is not located in a residential zone.



This sign was removed because it obstructs the area between the pedestrian curb ramp and the property line.



This sign was removed because it was located in a median.

For more information contact:

City of Lake Oswego  
 Planning and Building Services  
 Department

380 A Avenue  
 Post Office Box 369  
 Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Phone: 503-635-0290  
 E-mail: [planning@lakeoswego.city](mailto:planning@lakeoswego.city)

Revised: 05/24

**TEMPORARY  
 SIGNS IN THE  
 RIGHT-OF-WAY**



City of Lake Oswego  
 380 A Avenue  
 Lake Oswego, OR 97034

# Temporary Signs in the Right-of-Way



Prior to 2002, temporary signs were not allowed in the public rights-of-way (ROW) in Lake Oswego. After discussions with the real estate industry, the Sign Code (Chapter 47 of the Lake Oswego Code) was amended to allow temporary signs in the ROW only under very limited circumstances. In an effort to protect the health, safety, property and welfare of the public and to minimize adverse safety impacts to travelers, the City collects temporary signs that are improperly placed in the ROW. Improperly placed signs may also be subject to Notice of Civil Violation and fines. These efforts help provide an attractive, clean and orderly appearance of the community. The regulations below summarize the conditions under which temporary signs can be placed in the ROW.



**What types of temporary signs are allowed in the ROW?** Only A-Frame signs that are not attached to the ground or to a structure are allowed in the ROW. Signs attached to utility poles and stop signs, for example, or signs driven into the ground on a stake are prohibited.

**What size of portable sign is allowed in the ROW?** A portable sign can be no larger than 5 square feet in area (counting one side of the sign), and can be no taller than 30 inches (including legs).

**When are portable signs allowed in the ROW?** Temporary signs in the ROW are only allowed on Sundays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**In what zones are portable signs allowed?** Temporary signs in the ROW are only allowed in the following residential zoning districts: R-0, R-2, R-2.5, R-3, R-5, R-6, R-7.5, R-10, R-15, R-DD (Old Town), and R-W (Waterfront Cabana). Temporary signs in the ROW are not allowed in other zones.

**Do I have to notify the abutting property owners/residents before placing a portable sign in the ROW?** Yes. You must make a good faith effort to obtain permission from the abutting property owner/resident prior to placing a sign in the ROW. If you are unable to contact the property owner, you must leave written notice at the residence that includes your name and contact information, and a description of the efforts taken to contact the property owner. A property owner may take down and lay flat any portable sign that he/she did not give permission to place in the ROW abutting his/her property. [Please refer to Section 47.08.300(2)(c) for the specifics regarding property owner notification.]

In addition, each portable sign in the ROW must include the sign owner's name, address, and telephone number where the sign owner can be contacted during the time the sign is displayed.

**Do portable signs in the ROW have to advertise a house for sale or lease?** No, the Sign Code is content neutral. Anything can be advertised on a temporary A-frame sign.

**Can I place a temporary A-Frame sign on private property?** No, except that a temporary A-frame sign can be placed on the driveway serving the property owned or controlled by the person placing the sign.

**Where can temporary portable signs be placed?** Portable signs placed in the ROW must meet the standards below. Portable signs must:

- Be placed entirely outside of the paved roadway and any shoulder.

- Be placed entirely outside the area in a ROW between the lines created by extending the edges of any curb ramp to the property line.
- Where no curb exists, be placed at least 5 feet from the roadway.
- Not obstruct a continuous through pedestrian zone of at least 5 feet in width.
- Not obstruct pedestrian and wheelchair access from the sidewalk to transit stop areas, disabled parking spaces, or building exits including fire escapes.
- Not be placed in a median, traffic island, or other area within the roadway.
- Not be placed in parking spaces or bicycle paths.
- Not be placed on any driveway, with the exception of the driveway that serves property owned by the person placing the sign.
- Not be placed in any portion of the ROW abutting real property owned or controlled by the City or another public agency.

## If my sign is collected by the City, how can I retrieve it?

Contact the Code Enforcement Specialist for information on retrieval and fees.

Planning Division, City Hall  
380 A Avenue, Lake Oswego  
503-699-7473

Hours: 8 am to 12 pm, Monday through Friday

## Interactive Zoning Map

The Interactive Zoning Map can provide clues as to the general location of the public rights-of-way near your home by showing a view of surrounding property boundaries overlaid on an aerial map. Please note that this is not a substitution for a survey of a property and is intended for use only when detailed information is not required.

Visit the Interactive Zoning Map Online at:

[www.lakeoswego.city/LOMAP](http://www.lakeoswego.city/LOMAP)

## Temporary Signs on Private Property

For information on temporary signs located on private property please contact a Planner at 503-635-0290 or [planning@lakeoswego.city](mailto:planning@lakeoswego.city).

**Note:** This brochure summarizes portions of the Lake Oswego Sign Code and is intended to be used solely as an informal discussion document. As such, it should not be relied on as a guarantee that a particular sign placement is permitted or prohibited. Please refer to Chapter 47 (Sign Code) of the Lake Oswego Code for the original code sections and contact the Planning and Building Services Department of the City of Lake Oswego for more information.