

**EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 1457**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY EXEMPTING CERTAIN SIGNS FROM THE PERMIT AND FEE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5.D.2. OF THE CITY OF WILLMAR ZONING ORDINANCE**

The City Council of the City of Willmar hereby ordains as follows:

Section 1. STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY. An emergency exists due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in the declaration of a local emergency by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Willmar by adoption of Resolution No. 2020-044 on March 16, 2020, which Resolution is incorporated herein by reference. The COVID-19 pandemic has also resulted in the declaration of a Peacetime Emergency and the issuance of successive Stay-at-Home and other executive orders by Minnesota Governor Walz. The COVID-19 pandemic and the requirements of Governor Walz's executive orders have limited or otherwise affected the operation of many commercial and not-for-profit establishments in the City of Willmar. There is a pressing and emergent need for these establishments to expeditiously notify the public of changes to, and the availability of, their services and operations, so that the public may maintain access to necessary products and services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 2. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SIGNS FROM PERMIT AND FEE REQUIREMENTS. Notwithstanding Section 5.D.2. of the City of Willmar Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 1060, no permit or permit fee shall be required for a commercial or not-for-profit establishment to display a temporary sign outside its premises, subject to the following limitations:

- A. The sign shall have no more than two sides;
- B. The sign shall be no larger than 32 square feet per side;
- C. The sign shall be setback at least 8 feet from the public right-of-way (i.e., the street or roadway); and
- D. If the sign encroaches on a public sidewalk, the sidewalk must not thereby be restricted to a width of less than 4 feet.

Section 3. REPEALER. Emergency Ordinance No. 1453, adopted by the Willmar City Council on June 15, 2020, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This emergency ordinance shall be effective from and after its adoption and publication.

Section 5. EXPIRATION DATE. Pursuant to Section 2.12, subdivision 3 of the City Charter, this emergency ordinance shall expire upon the earlier of (1) the date on which City Council Resolution No. 2020-044, dated March 16, 2020, declaring the local emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is repealed; or (2) the sixty-first day following the date this emergency ordinance was adopted.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Willmar this 7th day of December, 2020.

ATTEST:

s/s Judy Thompson  
Judy Thompson, City Clerk

s/s Marv Calvin  
Marvin Calvin, Mayor

VOTE:              X   ALVARADO     X   ASMUS   X   DAVIS   X   FAGERLIE  
                    X   MUESKE   X   NELSEN   X   PLOWMAN   X   SCHWANTES

This Emergency Ordinance introduced by Council Member:   Mueske  

This Emergency Ordinance adopted on:   December 7, 2020  

This Emergency Ordinance published on:   December 12, 2020