

Planning & Inspections Department

Mayor  
Oscar Leeser

City Council

*District 1*  
Ann Morgan Lilly

*District 2*  
Larry Romero

*District 3*  
Emma Acosta

*District 4*  
Carl L. Robinson

*District 5*  
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

*District 6*  
Claudia Ordaz

*District 7*  
Lily Limón

*District 8*  
Cortney C. Niland

City Manager  
Tommy Gonzalez

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

**AGENDA DATE:** INTRODUCTION: MARCH 31, 2015  
PUBLIC HEARING: APRIL 7, 2015

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** VICTOR  
MORRISON-VEGA, (915) 212-1554

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** ALL

**SUBJECT:**

An ordinance amending Title 18.18 (Outdoor Lighting Code) of the City Code by amending Chapter 18.19.310 (Nonconformance) to add an exception for Upward Directed Sign Lighting for Off Premise Signs and by amending Chapter 18.18.120 (Externally Illuminated Sign Standards) to provide for an exception for Upward Directed Sign Lighting.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

Current code requires that all billboard lighting be directed in a downward position and is to be accomplished by May 7, 2015. This revision allows billboards to remain lit from an upright position provided that those so situated are retrofitted with LED Lights to be accomplished by May 7, 2016.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

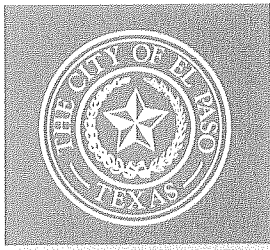
**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

N/A



Planning & Inspections Department  
City 3 | 801 Texas Avenue | El Paso, Texas 79901 | (915) 212-0083

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City Development Department

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

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**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** \_\_\_\_\_

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

*Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager*



City Development Department

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Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 18, CHAPTER 18.18 (OUTDOOR LIGHTING CODE) OF THE CITY CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 18.19.310 (NONCONFORMANCE) TO ADD AN EXCEPTION FOR UPWARD DIRECTED SIGN LIGHTING FOR OFF PREMISE SIGNS AND BY AMENDING CHAPTER 18.18.120 (EXTERNALLY ILLUMINATED SIGN STANDARDS) TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXCEPTION FOR UPWARD DIRECTED SIGN LIGHTING, THE PENALTY BEING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18.02.111 (VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES) OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE.

WHEREAS. The City Council desires to amend Chapter 18.18.310 (nonconformance) of the City Code:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

Section 1. That Chapter 18.18.310 and Chapter 18.18.120 of the El Paso City Code is amended as follows:

18.18.310 - Nonconformance.

A. Bottom-mounted or unshielded on-premise or off-premise sign lighting shall be brought into compliance with the shielding standards of Section 18.18.070 no later than May 7, 2015. An existing off-premise sign may remain as upward directed sign lighting if LED type luminaires are utilized and installed no later than May 7, 2016. No exceptions to this section will be permitted after May 7, 2016.

B. Post top antique or acorn style luminaires that cannot achieve full cutoff may be used if they achieve cutoff.

C. There shall be no changes in type, size or wattage of either lamp or ballast or any alterations to structural members, including but not limited to poles and bases, without conforming to all applicable requirements of this Code.

D. All existing outdoor lighting fixtures shall be brought into compliance with the shielding standards of Section 18.18.070 not later than May 7, 2015. Compliance with lumens cap is not mandatory but is encouraged.

18.18.120 - Externally illuminated sign standards.

External illumination for signs shall conform to all provisions of this Code. In particular, such lighting shall be treated as class 1 lighting and shall conform to the lamp source, shielding

restrictions and lumen caps of Section 18.18.080. Upward-directed sign lighting is prohibited, unless as allowed by Section 18,18.310 A.

Section 2. That accept as expressly hereby amended herein Chapter 18.18.310 (nonconformance) and Chapter 18.18.120 (externally illuminated sign standards) shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

CITY OF EL PASO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John R. Batoon  
Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mathew S. McElroy, Director  
Planning & Inspections Department