



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2020

Wheeling Sign Ordinance to Take Effect July 1

Wheeling, W. VA. – Starting Wednesday, July 1, a city ordinance will take effect that prohibits the use of signs and outdoor advertising structures in the public right-of-way. Wheeling City Council passed this ordinance on April 21, but the implementation day was postponed until July 1 due to the primary election.

Council voted to pass this ordinance in order to align with the 2015 Supreme Court ruling pertaining to content-based sign regulations. Tom Connelly, assistant director of economic and community development, explained that, according to the ruling, sign regulations cannot be based on content.

“The decision ultimately came down to whether the city allowed all signs or no signs in the right-of-way, and having no signs best met the intent and purpose of the sign code,” Connelly said.

The only exception to the ordinance will be for businesses using one sidewalk sign placed directly outside of their establishment. This ordinance will not impact non-commercial signs placed on private property.

Any signs found in the public right-of-way after July 1 will be removed and held at the City of Wheeling Operations Center at 10 Hunter Avenue. Anyone wishing to claim their removed sign has one week before disposal.

###