



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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MEETING DATE: AUGUST 2, 2016

ITEM NUMBER: **OB-1**

**SUBJECT: SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 16-04 FOR CODE AMENDMENT CO-16-01: AN AMENDMENT TO TITLE 13, CHAPTER VIII, ARTICLES 2, 6 & 6.5, POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS AND PORTABLE SIGNS WITHIN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY AND TABLE 13-115 OF THE COSTA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE**

**DATE: JULY 21, 2016**

**FROM: PLANNING DIVISION/DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**PRESENTATION BY: WILLA BOUWENS-KILLEEN/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: WILLA BOUWENS-KILLEEN, AICP (714) 754-5153  
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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Give second reading to Ordinance 16-04 to adopt Code Amendment CO-16-01 amending Costa Mesa Municipal Code Title 13 Chapter VIII, Signs.

## **BACKGROUND**

On July 5, 2016 the City Council gave first reading to Ordinance No. 16-04 by a 5-0 vote. The proposed ordinance is prepared in response to direction by City Council regarding political campaign signs as well as a recent ruling by the United States Supreme Court regarding content based restriction on speech. As part of the motion, City Council confirmed that they are interested in allowing non-commercial signs in the public right-of-way for six weeks (versus the four weeks originally discussed); approved an increase in the maximum height of non-commercial portable signs on private properties from the recommended 3-foot height to 6 feet; and directed staff to add a provision allowing non-commercial banners to be permitted in residential zones. Since City Council did not provide direction regarding non-commercial banners in residential zones until the first reading of this ordinance, the City Attorney determined that inclusion of the banners will need to be processed independently of this ordinance. Therefore, the non-commercial banners are not included in this ordinance; staff will return with an ordinance addressing the non-commercial banners at a later date.

In further discussion with our attorney, it has become apparent that the same protections for non-commercial signs need to be provided for all zones in the City, not just the residential zones. Consequently, it was suggested that non-commercial portable signs could either be subject to the same standards as proposed for the residential zones (5 sq.ft./6 foot-high affixed to the ground) or the same size/height/location/time period limitations for portable signs on private properties as in the public right-of-way. To that end, two ordinances have been prepared to reflect the two choices.

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WILLA BOUWENS-KILLEEN, AICP  
Zoning Administrator

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GARY ARMSTRONG, AICP  
Economic Development and Development  
Services Director / Deputy CEO

Attachments: [1A & 1B -- Ordinance No. 16-04 – clean copy](#)  
[2A & 2B – Ordinance No. 16-04 – strike through version \(applicable portions  
of ordinance\)](#)