

605 TEMPORARY SIGNS ON PUBLIC SPACE

605.1 It shall be unlawful to affix a temporary sign to any fixture on public space, or to display a sign on public space, except as provided in this section.

605.2 No temporary sign that relates to the sale of goods or services shall be affixed to a fixture on public space or displayed in any manner on public space.

605.3 A temporary sign that is not prohibited by § 605.2 may be affixed to a fixture on public space or displayed on public space for no more than one hundred eighty (180) days. Signs allowed under this section shall not be displayed in a public parking by anyone other than an owner or occupant of the adjacent building.

605.4 A temporary sign that is related to a specific event shall be removed no later than thirty (30) days following the event to which it is related. This does not extend the time limit designated in § 605.3.

605.5 Temporary signs authorized by § 605.3 shall:

- (a) Be no larger than ~~six square feet (6 sq. ft.)~~ *This seems excessive for a light pole. An 11 X 17 poster is 1.3 sq ft – **Recommend one square foot (1 sq. ft.)** (definitely no larger than 1 ½ sq. ft.)*
- (b) Be affixed or displayed securely to avoid being torn or disengaged by normal weather conditions;
- (c) Not be affixed by adhesives or by any other method that is likely, either in the installation or removal, to damage the fixture; and
- (d) Not block or actively interfere with any portion of the pedestrian or vehicular public right of way.

605.6 No more than three (3) versions or copies of a temporary sign shall be displayed on one (1) side of a street within one (1) block. Temporary signs in a public parking that are displayed by an owner or occupant of the adjacent building are not subject to this restriction.

605.7 Temporary signs authorized by § 605.3 do not require a permit. Each of these signs shall contain the date upon which it was initially affixed to a fixture on public space or displayed on public space.

605.8 Temporary construction signs may be displayed, under permit, on public space on temporary barricades, covered walkways, construction offices, and public space between the building line and such structures.

605.9 The total area of temporary construction signs shall be a maximum of two square feet (2 sq. ft.) for each foot of street frontage of the lot, with a maximum area of forty square feet (40 sq. ft.) for residentially zoned property and two hundred square feet (200 sq. ft.) for commercially zoned property. An additional five square feet (5 sq. ft.) of sign area shall be permitted on barricades to identify each adjoining premises or business.

606 FREESTANDING SIGNS ON PUBLIC SPACE

606.1 It shall be unlawful to place a freestanding sidewalk sign on public space without a permit or authorization under the valet space regulations set out at 18 DCMR § 2409.

606.2 Permits may be issued only for valet parking signs and signs authorized under §§ 606.3 and 606.6.

606.3 The owner or occupant of a business premise may, during the time the establishment is open for business, use the space in front of the building, **up to three feet (3 ft.) from the building wall**, for the display of one (1) freestanding sidewalk sign (A-frame, sandwich board, or other portable unlit sign). The sign shall:

(a) Be secured from blowing over in inclement weather either by attachment to the building, by weight at the bottom, or by another method; ~~and~~

(b) Not be attached by post, pole, chain, or any other method to the sidewalk or any fixture on public space; and

(c) **Only be located in one of the following locations:**

(i) **Up to three feet (3 ft.) from the building wall; or**

(ii) **On a paved sidewalk area up to two feet from the front face of the roadway curb and at least five feet (5 ft.) from any marked cross walk, curb ramp, alley or driveway.** *(Note: The curbside location is needed for businesses that are set back from the sidewalk due to landscaped public parking. This location is within the furnishing zone and is usually outside the pedestrian pathway.)*

606.4 Signs displayed under § 606.3 shall:

(a) **Be no taller than four feet (4 ft.),** including the height of any post or stand used to display or secure the sign; **This is higher than what would normally be allowed in public space. I also researched commercially available signs and most are no more than 36 inches tall. Recommend limiting height to forty four inches (42 in.)**

(b) Be no wider than ~~thirty inches (30 in.)~~; Again, this seems excessive. Most signs researched are no more than 24 inches wide. **Recommend limiting width to twenty six inches (26 in.)** *(Note: these dimensional recommendations still allow for at least 6 square feet of advertising)*

- (c) Advertise only those goods, wares, merchandise, or services provided within the establishment; and
- (d) Display the permit number of the permit authorizing the sign in public space. The lettering for the permit number shall not be less than one inch (1 in.) in height.

606.5 Signs placed on public space under § 606.3 shall not reduce the clear pedestrian path to less than ten feet (10 ft.) in the Central Business District as defined in 18 DCMR § 9901 nor to less than six feet (6 ft.) in all other areas of the District. The clear pedestrian path shall be a continuous section of sidewalk running parallel to the curb.

606.6 Freestanding sidewalk signs not more than six square feet (6 sq. ft.) in area indicating the location of parking facilities for patrons of a business are allowed on public space under permit, subject to the restrictions of this section.

606.7 Freestanding sidewalk signs indicating the location of a public market are allowed to be displayed on public space without a permit, during the time of the operation of the public market, subject to the restrictions of this section.