

**ORDINANCE NO. 1195**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING INTERIM ZONING CODE AMENDMENT RELATING TO SIGNS; ALLOWING 300 SQUARE FEET OF TEMPORARY GRAND OPENING WALL SIGNS PER BUSINESS AND UNLIMITED TEMPORARY GRAND OPENING BANNERS ON PRIVATE LIGHT POLES FOR BUSINESSES IN THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-1) WHICH ARE ALSO LOCATED IN SIGN AREA 2; AMENDING SECTION 17.80.110 OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE; ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT; SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 13, 2010, IN ORDER TO TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING THE INTERIM ZONING CODE AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, EXPIRATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gig Harbor is authorized to impose moratoria and interim land use controls pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harbor History Museum is scheduled for its grand opening on September 18, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing allowance for temporary signage is not adequate or appropriate for cultural and heritage purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not unusual for cultural and heritage exhibit banners to be larger than the current code allowance for temporary signs of 20 square feet; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no scheduled City Council meetings in the month of August 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the city is currently working on a permanent ordinance to address adequate signage for cultural and heritage purposes; however, due to the Council's meeting schedule, cannot adopt such ordinance until after the grand opening of the Harbor History Museum; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gig Harbor City Council has determined that by adopting interim regulations for temporary business signs in the C-1 district which are also in Sign Area 2 adequate and appropriate cultural signage can be provided for the grand opening of the Harbor History Museum while the City develops permanent regulations for cultural and heritage signage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gig Harbor SEPA Responsible Official issued a Determination of Nonsignificance for this interim ordinance on July 23, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gig Harbor City Council considered this ordinance at first and only reading on July 26, 2010;

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1. Findings.** The City Council hereby adopts as findings in support of this ordinance the recitals expressed above. The City Council, at its discretion, may adopt additional findings after the public hearing referenced in Section 3 below.

**Section 2. Interim Amendment to GHMC Subsection 17.80.110(A), Temporary Exterior Business Signs.** Subsection 17.80.110(A) of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby amended, to read as follows:

### **17.80.110 Temporary signs.**

Except for business signs described under subsection (A) of this section and balloon signs described under subsection (F) of this section, no permit is required for temporary signs. Temporary signs are not allowed to continually advertise goods, services, political messages or events on a site; permanent signs shall be used for that purpose. Temporary signs located within public right-of-way shall be subject to the requirements of Chapter 12.02 GHMC.

A. Exterior Business Signs. Such signs include grand opening signs, sale signs, promotional signs, quitting business signs, and other nonpermanent exterior signs used by businesses. Exterior business signs shall be limited to 20 square feet in size. No more than one exterior business sign may be displayed at any one time for any one business or tenant. Exterior business signs may be displayed for no more than 60 cumulative days per calendar year. A permit is required for each exterior business sign.

For uses in the C-1 zoning district which are also in Sign Area 2, temporary exterior wall-mounted, signs displayed during a grand opening shall be allowed with a combined total of 300 square feet with no one single sign exceeding 120 square feet. In addition, one banner not exceeding seven (7) square feet per side may be located on each light pole on private property which advertises the use during grand openings. A temporary banner permit is required for such signs. Such temporary signs shall not be displayed more than 15 days prior to the grand opening and shall not be displayed more than 120 days after the grand opening.

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**Section 3. Public Hearing.** Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220, the City Council hereby sets a public hearing for September 13, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in order to take public testimony on the amendment adopted by this ordinance. The City Council may, in its discretion, adopt additional findings justifying the interim amendments after the close of the hearing.

**Section 4. Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

**Section 5. Copy to Commerce Department.** Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106(3), the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this ordinance to the State Department of Commerce for its files within ten (10) days after adoption of this ordinance.

**Section 6. Effective Period for Amendments.** The interim Zoning Code amendments adopted by this ordinance shall remain in effect until January 1, 2011 and shall automatically expire unless the same are extended as provided in RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220 prior to that date, or unless the same are repealed or superseded by permanent amendments prior to that date.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor, this 26th day of July, 2010.

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

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Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Payne

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

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Molly M. Towslee, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Office of the City Attorney

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Angela S. Belbeck

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 07/21/10  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 07/26/10  
PUBLISHED:  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/16/10