



**Cooper City Commission Meeting  
Agenda Item Request Form**

Date: 5/12/15  
Requesting Commissioner/Department: Commissioner Green  
Commission Regular Meeting Date: 5/26/15  
Commission Workshop Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
BID/RFP # \_\_\_\_\_ New  Renewal   
Contract name/description: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENDA**

Presentation  Consent  Regular  Discussion

**BACKGROUND & RECOMMENDATION** (attach backup material to Item Request Form)

Discussion regarding "Open" window signs.

**GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNT NUMBER(S) AND AMOUNT(S):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVALS:**

Finance Director \_\_\_\_\_ City Manager \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Print

## Cooper City, FL Code of Ordinances

### Sec. 25-26. Window signs.

#### (a) *Generally*

(1) Window signs shall be allowed on nonresidential property in accordance with the requirements of this section. All window signs shall be limited to two (2) colors per location on a clear background, provided, however, that registered, copyrighted trademarks and/or corporate logos are not subject to the color limitations provided herein and may be permitted in their standard color(s). Additionally, standard "Credit Cards Accepted" signs, with images of the various credit cards shall not be limited to the color restrictions of this section.

(2) Window signs, whether permanent or temporary, shall not constitute in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the window area, provided, however, that no single permanent window sign shall exceed sixty (60) square feet in sign area and no single temporary window sign shall exceed thirty two (32) square feet in sign area.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the term "window area" shall mean the total area of glass on the front and/or side of a business, exclusive of glass doors.

(4) Window decorations for the holiday season (October 15 through January 5), attached to any window shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

(5) Window signs shall be exempt from the annual inspection requirements set forth in section 25-30 of this chapter.

#### (6) *Measurement.*

a. For window signs enclosed within a border or encased within a background other than the clear glass, the measurements shall be taken from top to bottom and outside edge to outside edge of the border or background.

b. For signs which are comprised of individual letters and/or graphics affixed directly to the window glass with no border or background, measurements shall be accomplished by measuring each line of type or graphic from top to bottom and from outside edge to outside edge of the farthest most letters, including all spacing between letters and/or words and including the clear spaces within the letters themselves.

c. For signs comprised of individual letters which are affixed directly to the window glass with no border or background and which have anomalous spacing between the letters, the area of each individual letter shall be measured as described in subsection b, above.

#### (b) *Temporary Signs.*

(1) Signs announcing sales or other temporary events shall be permitted for not more than thirty (30) consecutive days, per each calendar year quarter.



(2) All temporary signs shall be lettered in a professional manner and maintained in good condition.

(3) Any owner or person entitled to possession of any vacant store is hereby prohibited from displaying upon the windows of the vacant store any sign, lettering or printed matter except one (1) sign, consisting of a maximum of six (6) square feet, advertising the availability of the premises.

(4) To the extent that a temporary window sign with commercial content is allowed by this subsection, an identical temporary window sign with noncommercial content is also allowed, provided that such sign otherwise conforms with the requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 12-1-1, § 3, 1-10-12)

(5) A grand-opening sign not constituting in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the window area to a maximum of sixty (60) square feet, including background, may be posted on the window surface for a period of time not to exceed fourteen (14) days within ninety (90) days after the date of the issuance of the initial occupational license.

(6) A going-out-of-business sign not constituting in excess of ten percent (10%) of the window area, including background, may be posted in the window surface for a period of time not exceeding fourteen (14) days. This sign may be permitted only once at any one location for any one use by any one proprietor.

(c) *Permanent signs.*

(1) Any person wishing to install, alter, cause to be installed or altered, or has previously been installed without the benefit of a permit, within the municipal limits of the city any permanent window sign, must first obtain a permit from the building department of the city. Provided, however, that lettering for purposes of identification as may be required by this code of Florida law, shall be exempt from permitting requirements. The application fee for a permit for a permanent window sign shall be Twenty Dollars (\$20.00).

(2) Permanent window signs shall be comprised of two (2) colors on a clear background per location and shall be painted or affixed directly onto the window surface. The total area of such sign shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the total window area, or sixty (60) square feet, whichever is less.

(3) Information permitted to be included in such permanent window signs shall be the business name, business address, hours of operation, business telephone number and a description of the nature of the business and/or the services offered by the business, and a registered, copyrighted trademark or corporate logo.

(4) Permanent window signs which have been installed prior to the effective date of this section, (January 14, 2003), shall be brought into compliance with the provisions of this section within one (1) year of such effective date.

(d) *Lighting*

(1) Continuous electric lighting (incandescent, fluorescent or neon) shall be permitted mounted within and attached to the window casements as a border, provided it is absent any logo, graphic or signage.

(2) Such lighting must be of a single color per location.

(3) Only low-intensity lighting, not exceeding 2 foot-candle power as measured from a distance of twenty-five (25) feet from the window wall, shall be utilized.

(4) Continuous and/or intermittent, multi-colored electric lighting shall be permitted during the holiday season (October 15 through January 5). Strobe lighting is not permitted at any time.

(5) Lighting fixtures or chandeliers within the interior of the business, whether or not they contain lettering, graphics, logos, or symbols, are not considered window signs or lighting. (Ord. No. 2003-1-1; § 2, 1-14-2003)

(6) One lit "open" window sign shall be permitted per business establishment, subject to the following:

a. Lettering shall be limited to the word "open" and the sign shall be absent of any other lettering or graphics of any kind except that a continuous single border shall be allowed.

b. Lighting shall be continuous and shall be absent of any flashing or any animation.

c. Lettering shall be limited to a single color of either red, white, or blue. If a continuous single border is used, such border shall be limited to a single color of either red, white, or blue although such single color is not required to be the same single color as the lettering.

d. The background, support and any visible structural component of the sign shall be limited to be clear (colorless), black, or bronze, or a combination thereof.

e. The sign shall be limited to no greater than three (3) square feet in area.

f. The sign shall be turned off and non-illuminated when the location is closed.

g. A building permit shall be required, subject to the provisions for window signage provided in this section, including regulation of window signage area. The color of the lit open window sign shall not be considered in review of the color of other window signage at the location. Any and all requirements of the Florida Building Code, including, but not limited to electrical regulations, shall be satisfied prior to issuance of a building permit. (Ord. 09-11-1; §2, 11-3-09)