

# City of Apache Junction



Development Services Department

# PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 12, 2017

CASE NUMBER: CUP-7-17

REQUEST: A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a

temporary portable electronic sign for

Centerstage Church.

**LOCATION:** The subject site is located at 550 S.

Ironwood Drive, north of the northwest corner of S. Ironwood Drive and W. Broadway Avenue. Assessor parcel #101-09-

111.

APPLICANT: Michael Bryce of Centerstage Church

**PROPERTY OWNER:** School District No. 43 of Pinal County AJ

GENERAL PLAN/

**ZONING DESIGNATION:** Designated "Public Institutional";

presently zoned B-1 (General Commercial).

SURROUNDING USES:

NORTH: Parking lots, zoned B-1;

**SOUTH:** Parking lots, zoned B-1;

**EAST:** Vacant Land, zoned B-1;

**WEST:** Former Superstition Mountain Elementary

School (SMES) building currently used by Centerstage Church and other businesses,

zoned PI (Public Institutional).

## BACKGROUND

Centerstage Church is currently leasing a portion of the former Superstition Mountain Elementary School (SMES) building. The current monument sign for the school is not allowed to be moved or re-used at this time. The applicant is requesting to install

a temporary sign while the church is using the facility. It is unknown at this time if or when the school district will be selling the property.

## PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

This is a request by School District No. 43 of Pinal County AJ, represented by Michael Bryce of Centerstage Church, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a temporary portable electronic sign at 550 S. Ironwood Drive, north of the northwest corner of S. Ironwood Drive and W. Broadway Avenue. The subject site for the sign is a parking lot parcel zoned General Commercial (B-1) that is used for the former SMES building currently being used by Centerstage Church and other businesses, the zoning of the school parcel is Public Institutional (PI).

The proposed sign will be placed on a trailer near the entrance of the parking lot, behind the current existing fence and will be perpendicular to the street. This request includes:

- Brick and vegetation surrounding the bottom of the trailer, to shield the trailer.
- An electronic sign engineered to be attached to the trailer.
- Sign total height of 10' 7".
- Trailer size of 16' in length by 7' in width.
- Maximum size signage will be 8' X 4.5' for a total of 36 square feet.
- 0' setback from the property line abutting Ironwood Drive.
- Electronic sign.
- Electrical work done underground to provide electricity to the sign.
- The portion of the existing fence in front of the sign will be covered with paneling.
- Existing Centerstage Church banner will be removed.

## PLANNING STAFF ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Electronic changeable message signs are permitted in the city's sign code regulations subject to monument sign requirements. The height limit is 12-feet and the maximum size limit of the sign is 75 square feet. The request for a temporary portable

electronic sign requires a CUP as it is a modification to the to be placed is technically off-site of the building used by the church. The parking lots are separate parcels from the SMES building, the proposed sign is considered an off-site sign.

The request is a unique situation, the school district currently owns the school building and parking lot. It is unknown whether the school district is actively listing the property for sale. The current monument sign for the school is not allowed to be removed and only one monument sign is permitted per street frontage. An advisory ballot measure was approved in November of 2016 which allows the school district to sell the property. The school district is currently leasing the property to multiple business tenants.

The request is also proposing a 0-foot setback to the property line along Ironwood Drive. This will allow the sign/trailer to be placed up against the fence that is currently at the right-of-way line along Ironwood Drive and keep the sign/trailer from interfering with the existing sidewalk in the parking lot. This will still allow enough space to install brick and vegetation to shield the trailer.

The city's zoning ordinance, Section 1-16-12(D)(3) (attached), the section that lists the criteria or findings for conditional use permits in general. The CUP criteria which the commission should consider in evaluating any CUP request and staff's commentary on said criteria relative to this request, for the commission's discussion and consideration. The proposal will not affect roadways or parking. The proposal will not contribute to negative impacts, the dark sky lighting ordinance has been discussed with applicant. The General Plan designates the area as Public Institutional (PI) with Community Commercial on the northwest corner of S. Ironwood Drive and W. Broadway The property is in conformance with the General Plan and city policies upon approval of a CUP. The bottom portion of the sign will be screened from the right-of-way with paneling installed on the existing fence.

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The P&Z Commission public hearing was advertised in the paper 15 days prior to the meeting and letters were mailed to all property owners within 300 feet of the site. A sign was also posted at the property notifying any interested parties of the

CUP request and the public hearing date. Staff has not received any comments from the public regarding this case.

## PLANNING DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Staff believes that the proposed temporary portable electronic sign request is an improvement to the site. The electronic sign will replace an existing large banner hung on the fence. With the addition of bricks and vegetation, the trailer will be shielded, taking away the appearance that the sign is a temporary sign. The sign will be used temporarily while the church leases the property from the school. If the church buys the property they will be required to construct a permanent sign. If the school district sells to another entity the portable sign must be removed. Staff recommends approval of the proposal subject to the conditions listed under the Recommended Motion.

## RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Planning and Zoning Commission (APPROVE/DENY) case CUP-7-17, a request by School District No. 43 of Pinal County AJ, represented by Michael Bryce of Centerstage Church, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a temporary portable electronic sign at 550 S. Ironwood Drive, north of the northwest corner of S. Ironwood Drive and W. Broadway Avenue, zoned General Commercial (B-1), subject to the following conditions of approval:

- 1. The applicant shall construct the portable electronic sign in accordance with the submitted drawings within 12 months of the granting of the CUP, or else the CUP shall become void and the operation of the electronic sign shall comply with the city sign regulations regarding electronic signs.
- 2. The brick surrounding the trailer shall be painted in complementary colors to match the building.
- 3. All proper permits shall be obtained prior to any construction, including electrical permits.
- 4. The sign, trailer, brick and vegetation shall not interfere with the existing sidewalk in the parking lot.

- 5. The applicant shall install the trailer, sign, brick and vegetation in accordance with the approved plans submitted.
- 6. The applicant shall screen the trailer from view of Ironwood Drive with the approved fence material submitted.
- 7. When the portable sign is removed the original ground cover shall be replaced.
- 8. The temporary portable electronic sign CUP must be renewed every three years. A complete CUP application must be submitted to planning staff within 3 years from the effective date of the CUP.
- 9. If at such time Centerstage Church purchases the property from the school district, the church shall have one year to remove the school district monument sign and replace with a permanent monument sign pursuant to the current sign code. The temporary portable electronic sign must be removed at that time.
- 10. If the property is used by the school district or is sold to another party, the portable sign shall be removed within 30 days of lease termination.

Prepared by Stephanie Bubenheim

Assistant Planner

## Attachments:

Exhibit #1 - CUP-7-17 Application

Exhibit #2 - CUP-7-17 Aerial Map

Exhibit #3 - CUP-7-17 Zoning Map

Exhibit #4 - Parcel Map #101-09

Exhibit #5 - Site Plan

Exhibit #6 - Electrical Plan

Exhibit #7 - Trailer and Sign Information

Exhibit #8 - Elevation Examples

Exhibit #9 - Apache Junction City Code Section 1-11-9 Exhibit #10 - Apache Junction City Code Section 1-16-12



# City of Apache Junction Development Services Department





#### **Planning and Zoning Application Form EXHIBIT A:**

SITE INFORMATION				
		ASSESSORS PARCEL NO 101-09-111-0		
GROSS AREA:	NET AREA	EXISTING ZONING 18-1		
		Tax Bill Notices or Warranty Deed)		
	(X			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE P	ROPOSED PROJECT/USE	E FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST:		
portable sign	for church	1 740050 tace of sign will be violed		
O' Setback to	m lot line:	Paneling the front fortion of fence		
81 X 4.54 S9FF	. Sign.			
APPLICANT INFORMATION				
Property Owner(s)	90			
Address 1575 W.	Southera,	HT 85120		
Phone Number 480/982-111	Fax Number	MJ 85120Email		
,				
Applicant Contact Person/Proi	ect Manager Mir.	hael Bryce		
Address 550 5.	(ronwood	Snael Bryce Dr. A5 SITTE  Email Whry CO Sh		
Phone Number 150246- 93	Fax Number	Fmail weby co as		
		moryce@centerstagechurchiorg		
Architect/Engineer		mbryce@centerstagechurchiorge		
Address				
Phone Number	For Number	Email		
Prione Number	Fax Number	Email		
For Dept Use only	Case Number	JP-7-17		
PLN Number PLN2017 - C		Date Submitted: 8/10/17		
Approved By:		Date Approved:		
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ckurch
theutre
 boll fields,
IERS SIGNATURE: Kriste 1. Anderso DATE: 8/1/17

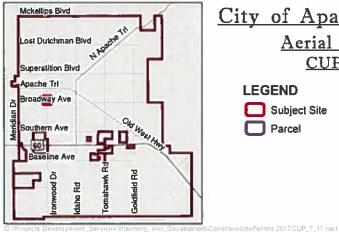
# I/We certify that:

I/We are the owner(s) of the property described in this application for a Conditional Use Permit and have submitted copies of deeds or title reports as proof of ownership.

I/We have read the application instructions and have truthfully completed this application. I/We understand that this Permit is conditional upon time requirements, that the filing and investigation fee is non-refundable, and that the City has the option of either approval or denial of this request following conduct of a Public Hearing.

	operty in this application, have appointed
him/her to do whatever is necessary to h	as my/our representative agent. I/We have authorized have this request considered favorably by the City of Apache
	ce relation to this matter should be delivered to him/her.
PLEASE PRINT	Lusta Anderso
Property Owner Name 175 Kuifiza Schools	Signature
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	Telephone
Property Owner Name	Signature
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	Telephone
Agent Name	Signature
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	Telephone
STATE OF ARIZONA ) ) SS COUNTY OF PINAL )	The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 20 day of
EDNA GOFF Notary Public - Arizona	Notary Public My Commission Expires:





# City of Apache Junction Aerial Exhibit CUP-7-17

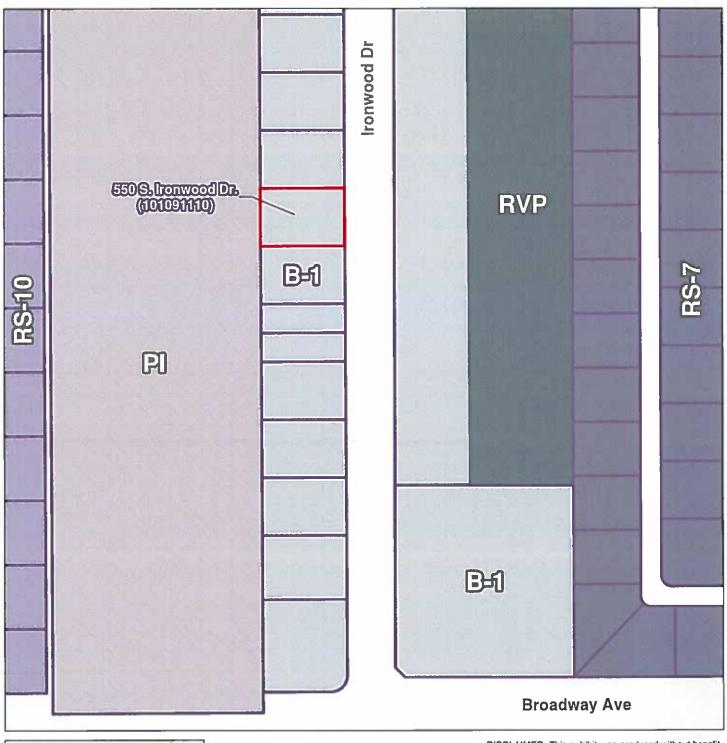
## **LEGEND**

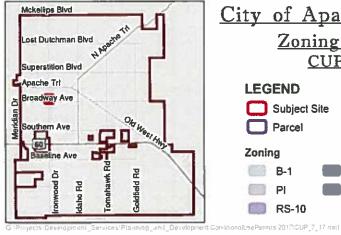
Subject Site

Parcel

DISCLAIMER: This exhibit was produced without benefit of a field survey and is not intended to represent a survey document of any kind. Distances shown hereon are approximate. Parcel lines shown hereon are approximate and may not reflect the exact position or alignment of parcel lines, roadway center lines, or easement lines.







# City of Apache Junction Zoning Exhibit CUP-7-17

# **LEGEND**

Subject Site

Parcel

## Zoning

B-1

RS-7 RVP

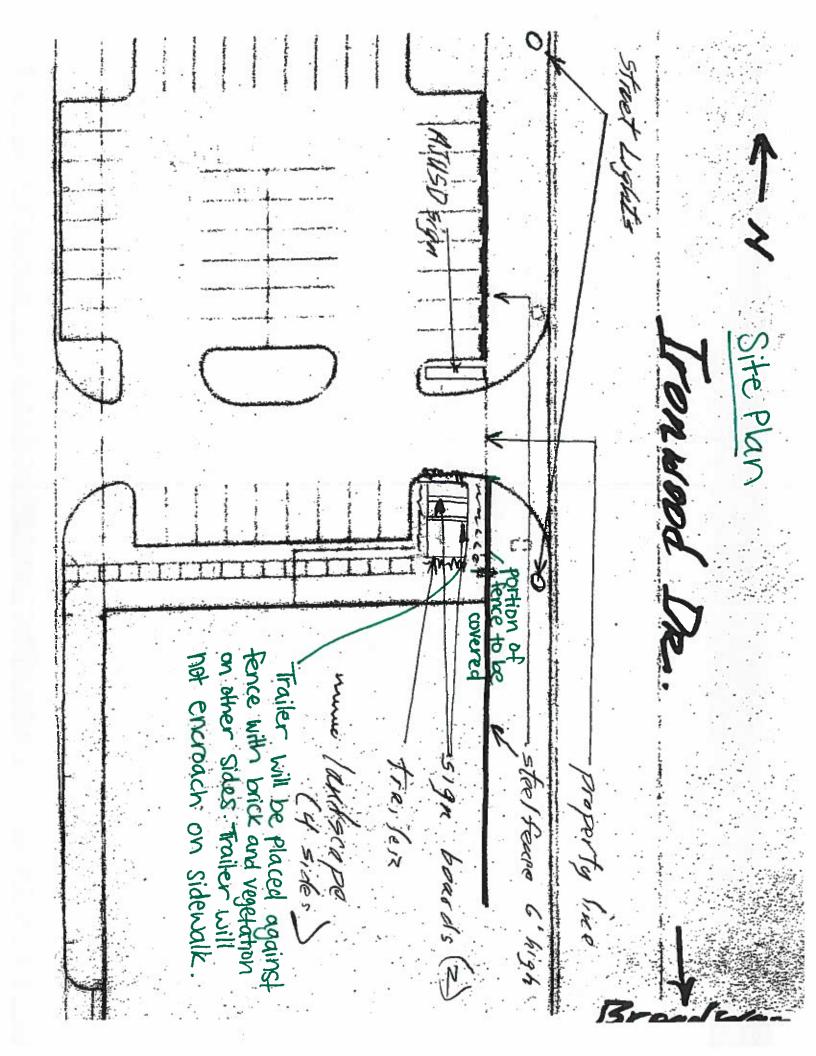
Ы RS-10 DISCLAIMER: This exhibit was produced without benefit of a field survey and is not intended to represent a survey document of any kind. Distances shown hereon are approximate. Parcel lines shown hereon are approximate and may not reflect the exact position or alignment of parcel lines, roadway center lines, or easement lines.

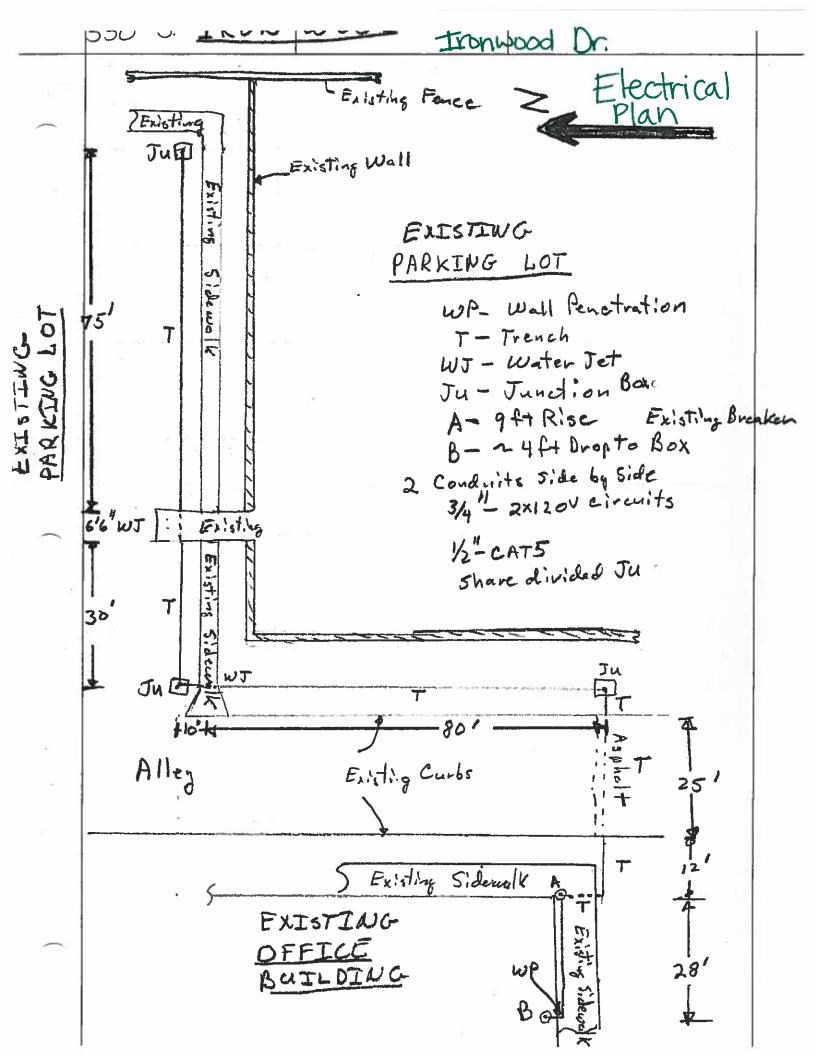


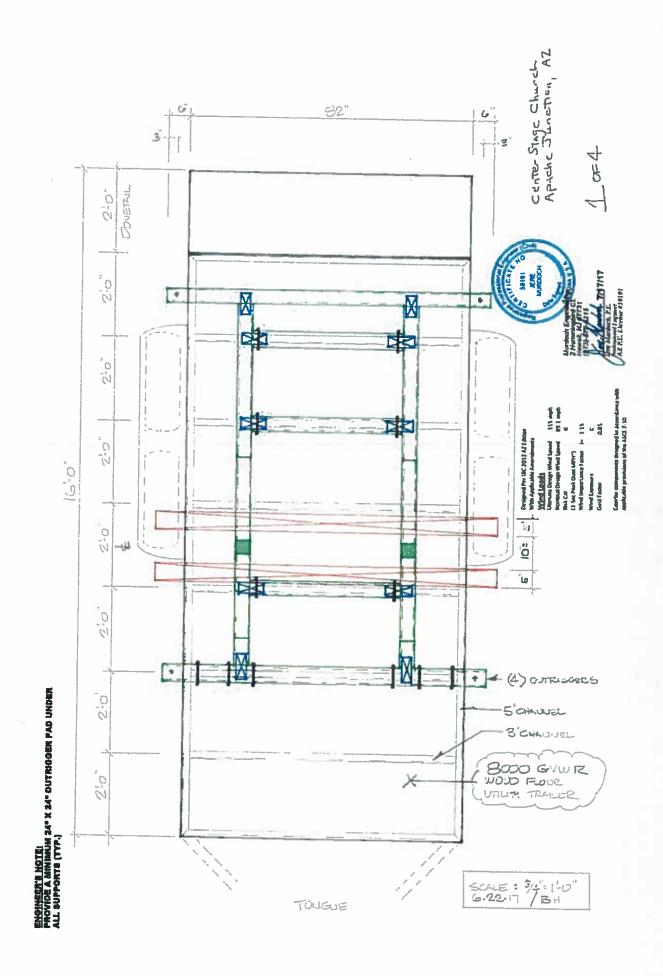
August 31, 2017 30 60 90 120 150











COLE: 34:11:0' 294 CARTAIL KEFRE TO 40F 4 FOR MESSAGE CUSTEC ATTACHOUST 2.0. 4.0 14,0 enchmerte note, Provide a Kinimum 24° x 24° cutrigger pad under All supporte (TVP.) a4701 .0171

# 8,000 GVWR Wood Floor Utility Trailer STANDARD or DELUXE

available in 16ft.-20ft.



Our wood deck single car utility trailers are constructed with a 5" channel frame, and 4" channel full length wraparound tongue. This model upgrades to 4K axles with larger 225/15 LRD bias tires. Standard features include a fixed 2 5/16" Aframe coupler, swing up jack, tear drop fenders, stake pockets, and pressure treated wood flooring. A standard dovetail with slide in loading ramps makes loading your car or garden equipment a breeze on this utility trailer.

Our deluxe 8,000 GVWR wood floor utility trailer trailers are constructed with a 5" channel frame, and 4" channel full length wraparound tongue with channel cross members. The running gear upgrades to 4K axles, with four-wheel brakes, and 225/75 R15 LRD RADIA L tires. Standard features include a fixed 2 5/16" Aframe coupler, swing up jack, tear drop fenders, and dovetail with slide-in loading ramps. A sealed modular wiring harness with lifetime LED rubber mounted lights plus rub rail on the stake pockets give added value to this deluxe utility trailer.

Specifications are subject to change without notice as we seek to constantly improve our product.

# 8,000 GVWR Wood Floor Utility Trailer

# **STANDARD**

or

# **DELUXE**

5 in channel frame, with 3 in. channel crossmembers 24"o.c.



5 in channel frame, with 3 in. channel crossmembers 24"o.c.



# BOTH HAVE

4 in. Channel wrap around Tongue







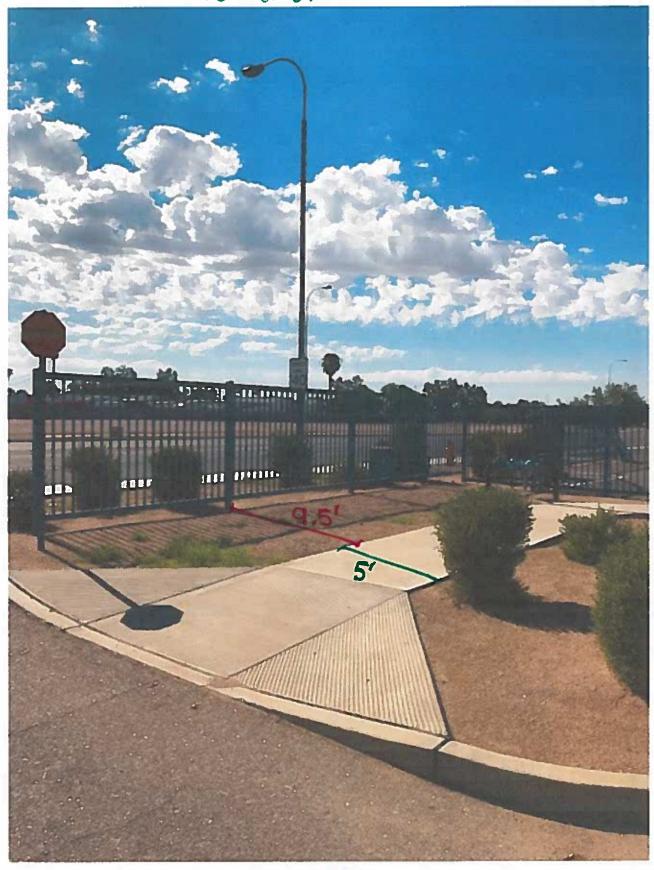
Specifications are subject to change without notice as we seek to constantly improve our product.

# Elevation



Ironwood Dr. Looking SW

Elevation



Parking lot looking SE

Print

Apache Junction, AZ Land Development Code

## § 1-11-9 SPECIAL SIGN REGULATIONS.

- (A) Manual changeable message signs.
- (1) Maximum size. Fifty percent (50%) of the maximum size allowed for the freestanding/monument sign.
  - (2) Maximum height. In accordance with allowed freestanding/monument signs.
- (3) Maximum quantity. One changeable message sign per property to be incorporated into the permitted freestanding/monument sign.
- (4) Location. Minimum 5 foot front, side and rear setback. The freestanding sign setback shall also comply with the city's intersection visibility requirements in Vol. II, § 1-6-13.
  - (5) Zoning districts where allowed. All non-residential zoning districts.
- (6) Design. The changeable letter sign shall be incorporated into a decorative monument base.
- (7) Commercial message content. The commercial message displayed on the sign shall directly relate to the business or businesses conducted on-site.
  - (8) Illumination. Signs may be illuminated.
  - (9) Permit required. AUP.
  - (B) Electronic changeable message signs.
- (1) Maximum size. Fifty percent (50%) of the maximum size allowed for the freestanding/monument sign.
  - (2) Maximum height. In accordance with allowed freestanding/monument signs.
- (3) Maximum quantity. One changeable electronic message sign per property to be incorporated into the permitted freestanding/monument sign.
- (4) Location. Minimum 5 foot front, side and rear setback. The freestanding sign setback shall also comply with the city's intersection visibility requirements in Vol. II, § 1-6-13.
  - (5) Zoning districts where allowed. All non-residential zoning districts.
- (6) Display. Displays may use full color and animation, however, no flashing, rotating or strobe effects shall be allowed.
  - (7) Design. The digital sign shall be incorporated into a decorative monument base.
- (8) *Minimum display time*. Static images shall last for at least 5 seconds before transitioning to another static message.

- (9) Transition method and duration. Such electronic message sign shall be limited to static displays, messages that appear or disappear from the display through dissolve, fade, travel, scroll or similar transitions and frame effects that have text, animated graphics or images that appear to move or change in size, or be revealed sequentially rather than all at once. The transition duration between messages shall not exceed 1 second.
- (10) Commercial message content. The commercial message displayed on the electronic/digital sign shall directly relate to the business or businesses conducted on-site.
  - (11) Illumination levels.
- (a) All electronic message signs shall come equipped with automatic dimming technology which automatically adjusts the sign's brightness in direct correlation with ambient light conditions.
- (b) No electronic message sign shall exceed a brightness level of 0.3 foot candles above ambient light as measured using a foot candle (Lux) meter at a preset distance depending on sign area. The measurement distance shall be calculated with the following formula: The square root of the product of the sign area and 100. Example using a 12 square foot sign:

Light Meter Measurement Distance = Square Root of (12 sf x 100) = 34.6 feet.

- (12) Permit required. AUP.
- (C) Political and campaign signs.
- (1) Maximum size. Sixteen square feet on residentially zoned property and 32 square feet on non-residentially zoned property and city rights-of-way.
  - (2) Maximum height. Six feet.
  - (3) Maximum quantity. No limit.
- (4) Location. Political signs placed in public rights-of-way shall not be hazardous to public safety, obstruct clear vision in the area or interfere with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as determined by the City Engineer.
- (a) If the City Engineer deems that the placement of a political sign constitutes an emergency, city representatives may immediately relocate the sign. The city shall notify the candidate or campaign committee that placed the sign within 24 hours after the relocation.
- (b) If a sign is placed in violation of this section and the placement is not deemed to constitute an emergency, the city may notify the candidate or campaign committee that installed the sign. If the sign remains in violation at least 24 hours after the city notified the candidate or campaign committee, the city may remove the sign and shall contact the candidate or campaign committee to retrieve the sign within 10 business days. After such time, the signs may be disposed of as the city deems fit.
  - (5) Zoning districts where allowed. All zoning districts.
- (6) Display period. Political signs may be posted any time before a primary election, but must be removed within 15 calendar days after a primary election for candidates who do not advance to the general election. All candidate signs must be removed within 15 days after the general election.

Print

#### Apache Junction, AZ Land Development Code

# § 1-16-12 CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS, ADMINISTRATIVE USE PERMITS AND BUILDING PERMITS.

- (A) Authorization and applicability. It shall be unlawful to erect, construct, reconstruct, alter or change the structure, land and/or use of any property within the city without first obtaining the required building permit, administrative use permit, and/or conditional use permit from the Development Services Department.
- (B) Building permits. The City of Apache Junction Building Official and the city's adopted building codes establish the requirements and procedures for building permits.
- (C) Administrative use permits. An Administrative Use Permit ("AUP") may be approved by the Zoning Administrator following review of the application and a finding that the use and/or structure complies with specific standards specified for such use and/or structure in the Zoning Code. Uses and/or structures requiring approval of an AUP, along with permit approval criteria, are identified in Tables 5-1 and 5-3 (see Vol. II, §§ 1-5-1 and 1-5-3).
- (D) Conditional use permits. Conditional uses are those uses that are generally compatible with the land uses permitted by right in a zoning district, but which require individual Planning and Zoning Commission review and Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") approval of their location, design, operation and configuration along with the imposition of conditions in order to ensure the appropriateness of the use at a particular location. Uses requiring a CUP are identified in Tables 5-1 and 5-3 (see Vol. II, §§ 1-5-1 and 1-5-3). The CUP application and process requirements are as follows:
- (1) *CUP application*. An application for a CUP shall be filed with the Development Services Department in accordance with the "City of Apache Junction Conditional Use Permit Application Checklist" available at the Development Services Department.
- (2) CUP public hearing and notice. The Commission shall hold a public hearing on any proposed CUP or CUP amendment, and provide the following notice. The failure of any person or entity to receive notice shall not constitute grounds for any court to invalidate the actions of the Commission or Council.
- (a) Newspaper publication. Notice of the time, date and place of the hearing, including a general description of the matter to be considered and a general description of the area affected, shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation that is published or circulated in the community. The publication notice shall be at least 15 calendar days before the hearing, and shall be published as required by A.R.S. § 9-462.04, as amended.
- (b) *Property posting*. The notice of public hearing shall be posted by the applicant in accordance with the instructions provided in the application form.
- (c) *Mailing notice*. The city shall notice by first class mail each real property owner, as shown on the last assessment of the property, within 300 feet of the property subject to the CUP proposal.

- (3) Findings. A CUP may be granted upon a finding by the Commission that the use covered by the permit, the manner of its conduct, and any structure involved will not be detrimental to persons residing or working in the area, to adjacent property, to the neighborhood, or to the public welfare in general. The burden of proof for satisfying the aforementioned requirements shall rest with the applicant. In arriving at the above determination, the Commission shall consider but not be limited to the following factors:
- (a) Adequacy of roadways, off-street parking, public facilities and services to accommodate the proposed use;
- (b) Negative impacts arising from the emission of odor, dust, gas, noise, lighting, vibration, smoke, heat or glare;
- (c) Contribution to the deterioration of the neighborhood or the negative impact on neighborhood property values;
  - (d) Compatibility with surrounding uses and structures;
  - (e) Conformance with the General Plan and city policies;
  - (f) Screening and buffering of uses; and
  - (g) Unique nature of the property, use and/or development's physical characteristics.
- (4) CUP modification of dimensional zoning standards. When a proposed development exhibits unique characteristics related to land, topography, architectural style, scale, historical interest or other distinguishing feature that necessitates a measure of regulatory relief, CUP modification of certain dimensional zoning standards may be approved by the Commission in accordance with the findings described above in Vol. II, § 1-16-12(D)(3). The following dimensional zoning standards may be subject to this type of modification:
- (a) Accessory dwelling units. Accessory dwelling unit size and height standards required in Vol. II, § 1-6-19 of this Chapter may be modified.
- (b) Accessory structures. Accessory structure size, height, design and setback standards required in Vol. II, § 1-6-5 may be modified.
- (c) Landscaping. Landscaping size, type, amount and location standards required in Vol. II, Article 1-8 may be modified.
- (d) Signs. Sign size, type, amount and location standards required in Vol. II, Article 1-11 may be modified.
- (5) Expiration. CUPs granted by the Commission shall be void if the use is not commenced within 12 months of the approval date or within the time stipulated by the Commission.
- (6) Revocation. An approved CUP may be revoked by the Commission following public hearing and a finding that there has been material noncompliance with any condition prescribed in the permit and/or the use generates a demonstrated public safety, health or welfare concern.
- (7) Appeal and City Council review. The approval or denial of a CUP by the Commission shall be final unless, within 20 calendar days from the date of the Commission's decision, the applicant or any persons aggrieved by the decision appeals the decision to the Council. The appeal shall be in writing, filed with the Development Services Department, and shall indicate

how the Commission was in error. The appeal shall be accompanied by a fee equal to 50% of the original filing fee. The appeal shall require a Council public hearing and notification provided in the same manner as required for the Planning and Zoning Commission hearing. The Council, at its public hearing, shall uphold, modify or overrule the decision of the Commission. The decision of the Council shall be final.

(Ord. 1402, passed 5-6-2014)