

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Resolution  
No 2010-006

A resolution recommending an environmental determination and an amendment to Title 17, Zoning, to add provisions and standards for Political Signs

---

WHEREAS, the Mariposa County Code is adopted by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Title 17, Section 17.108.190 establishes specific standards for the location, installation, construction or modification of signs throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Section 17.108.190 is to reduce the proliferation of signs to maintain the scenic quality of the county's transportation corridors and to generally preserve the rural appearance of the county; and

WHEREAS, Section 17.108.190 states that these standards shall apply in all instances except as modified by specific sign standards contained in this total or other standards adopted pursuant thereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 17.108.190 does not contain standards which apply to political signs which are temporary signs; and

WHEREAS, Title 17, Section 17.65.010.E.4.d includes standards for temporary political signs in the Scenic Highway Overlay Zone; and

WHEREAS, the standards for temporary political signs in Section 17.65.010.E.4.d for the Scenic Highway Overlay Zone are different than the standards established by State Law for political signs along state highway corridors; and

WHEREAS, without specific standards which apply to temporary political signs county-wide, there is confusion about the applicability of the standards which are established by this section of County Code for permanent signs as well as the standards which are established by State Law for temporary political signs; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2010 the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa adopted Resolution 10-114 to initiate an amendment to Title 17 of Mariposa County Code to establish specific standards for political signs throughout Mariposa County; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendments to Section 17.108.190 and Section 17.65.010 of County Code for political signs is proposed to be generally consistent with the regulations established by the State of California for political signs to be posted along state highways. It is important that state law and county code regarding political signs are generally consistent so that there is no confusion about regulations for political signs within Mariposa County; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment to Title 17 is proposed to apply to all political signs throughout the county, including in planning areas, unless there are specific standards established in the adopted area plan for a planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, a duly noticed Planning Commission public hearing was scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Department prepared environmental documents in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and local administrative procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission did hold a public hearing on the noticed date and considered all of the information in the public record, including the Staff Report and testimony presented by the public concerning the application.

**NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** the Planning Commission hereby recommends an amendment to Section 17.108.190 of the Mariposa County Code, as follows (new text shown in *italicized underlined type*):

**17.108.190 Signs.**

The intent of these regulations is to reduce the proliferation of signs to maintain the scenic quality of the County's transportation corridors and to generally preserve the rural appearance of the county;

The purpose of this section is to establish specific standards for the location, installation, construction or modification of signs. These standards shall apply in all instances except as modified by specific sign standards contained in this title or other standards adopted pursuant thereto.

..

G. Political signs, as defined by this title, shall comply with all of the following conditions:

1. No political sign shall be placed within the right-of-way of any state highway.

2. No political sign shall be placed within the easement or right-of-way or on or over any portion of a county maintained road.

3. No political sign shall impair traffic safety, site distance, or traffic flow on any county maintained road, privately maintained county easement, or state highway.

4. No political sign shall be placed on county property.

5. No political sign shall be placed sooner than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled election.

6. All political signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election.

7. No individual political sign shall be larger than thirty-two (32) square feet.

8. Political signs shall contain no outline tubing, flashing lights, or moving parts.

9. These standards shall apply to all political signs throughout Mariposa County, including in planning areas, unless there are specific standards established for political sign in the adopted area plan for a planning area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission recommends an amendment to Section 17.148.010 of the Mariposa County Code to include the following new definition (new text shown in *italicized underlined type*):

Chapter 17.148

DEFINITIONS

Sections:

17.148.010 Definitions of terms and phrases.

17.148.010 Definitions of terms and phrases.

The following terms and phrases shall be used in this title and are listed alphabetically:

Sign, political:

A sign which is intended to encourage a particular vote in a scheduled election. Also known as a "temporary political sign" pursuant to Section 5405.3 of the State Outdoor Advertising Act (Business & Professions Code).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Planning Commission recommends Section 17.065.010.E.4.d of the Mariposa County Code be repealed. (Current text shown below in ~~strikethrough font~~):

...  
d. Temporary political, election, or campaign signs ~~shall have a maximum area of sixteen (16) square feet and shall be removed within two (2) weeks following the election.~~ are discussed in Section 17.108.190.G.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Planning Commission recommends all other text in Sections 17.65.010, 17.108.190, and 17.148.010 of County Code remain unchanged.

**NOW BE IT THEREFORE FINALLY RESOLVED THAT** the Planning Commission of the County of Mariposa does hereby recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution directing staff to file a Notice of Exemption for the project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Title 14, California Code of Regulations and approving Zoning Amendment No. 2010-025; and waive the first reading and introduce an ordinance for the recommended amendments to County Code.

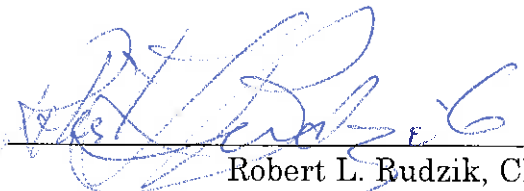
ON MOTION BY Commissioner Francisco, seconded by Commissioner Marsden, this resolution duly passed and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2010 by the following vote:

AYES: Ross, Tucker, Francisco, Rudzik, Marsden

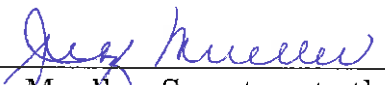
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert L. Rudzik, Chairman  
Mariposa County Planning Commission

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Mueller, Secretary to the  
Planning Commission