

## Form Based Code Advisory Working Group Meeting Summary – 3/14/2012

The following summarizes FBC AWG discussion and includes staff clarifications where they were provided during the meeting.

**Agenda Item: Amendments to the FBC Signage Regulations.** This was the final meeting with the FBC AWG to review proposed amendments to the FBC signage regulations as part of the comprehensive update to the sign regulations in the Zoning Ordinance. The purpose of this meeting was to conclude discussion of standards for signs currently allowed only by special exception approval by the County Board. The working group discussion included the following:

Automatic changeable copy signs.

- Mixed opinions were expressed about allowing changeable copy signs, although members expressed support for allowing changeable copy for certain signs consistent with county-wide standards for such signs.
- Some concerns were expressed about how standards for such signs would be enforced.
- Changeable copy should not be allowed for wall signs, but should be allowed for window signs.

Marquee signs.

- Other than for theatres, marquee signs are not used very often.
- Can staff research existing marquees and propose special provisions for marquee signs within the FBC?

Building identification signs. Members were generally comfortable with codifying standards to allow building identification signs administratively. Staff presented a proposal that would allow larger building identification signs so long as no more than 50% of the sign was not above a specified height on the building. Sizes of signs would be scaled based on building height and width of frontage. Members viewed graphics of multiple size options for each height/width category. Generally members were supportive of the larger signs shown in the graphics in each category.

- One member expressed a desire to allow for building signs as large as the Halstead sign (138 sf). Others suggested that codified standards to allow such signs by administrative approval should be more restrictive, and that the Halstead sign, while a good sign, should not set a precedent for a codified standard.