

Compliance

Compliance is the responsibility of the property owner, business owner, business manager or other employee or representative of the owner/ operator who erects or displays any signage within the Historic District.

Zoning Ordinance

Since the historic district overlay and the Certificate of Appropriateness process are included in the zoning ordinance, enforcement procedures are outlined in that ordinance. If the violation continues, the applicant is subject to a citation and civil penalty as outlined in the zoning ordinance.

Other city codes contain requirements that apply to properties in the historic district. These include the sidewalk code, which regulates the use of the sidewalk, and the nuisance code, which includes safety and appearance requirements for all properties.

For More Information

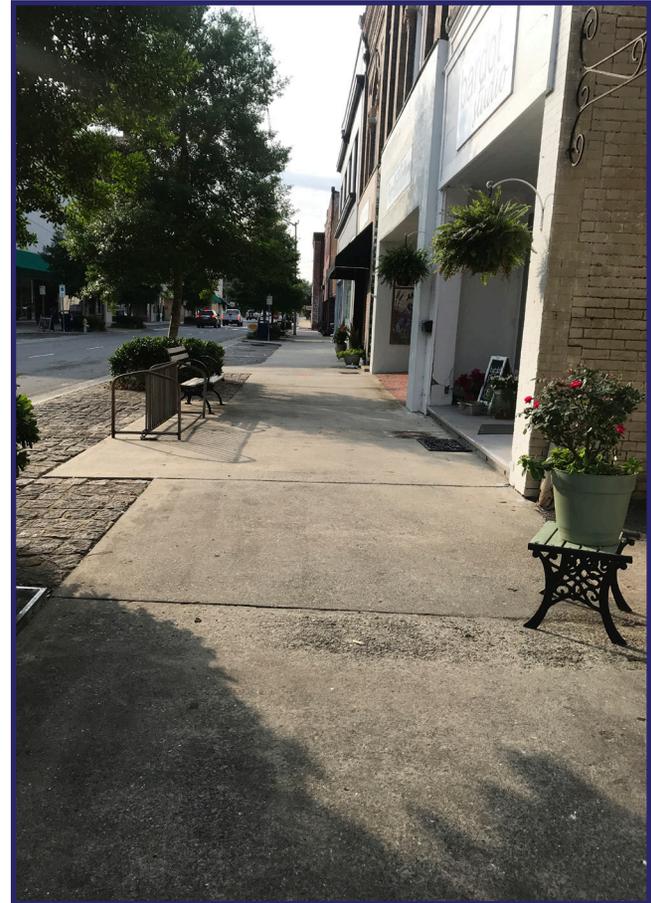
A complete copy of Washington's Sign Regulations and Historic Preservation Design Guidelines are available on the internet at www.washington-nc.com or from the Planning Office at 102 East 2nd Street. Please call (252) 975-9383 before taking action toward the production or installation of any sign.

Contact Us

Department of Planning & Development
PO Box 1988 Washington, NC 27889
Phone: (252) 975-9383



Historic District Design Guidelines Pertaining to Sidewalks



Purpose: To allow adequate and proportionate advertisement displays which promote and protect economic vitality, and to minimize clutter and maintain the aesthetic appeal of Downtown Washington while maintaining ADA compliancy.

Historic District Design Guidelines Pertaining to Sidewalks

Signs

Sandwich board type signs are permitted if they are placed no greater than 2 feet from the building wall and allow at least 5 feet of travel space between the sign and the edge of the sidewalk. These signs shall not exceed more than 8 square feet in area. **Neon, back-lit, and portable signs and banners, (excluding sandwich board signs), are prohibited in the District.**

Outdoor Display of Merchandise

Outdoor display of merchandise is permitted with an approved permit from the City of Washington. Displays are allowed as follows:

- o It is directly in front of the business with which it is associated.
- o It does not extend more than 4 feet past the front building wall.
- o There is 5 feet of space for the clear passage of pedestrians between the edge of the sidewalk and display
- o It does not block ingress or egress into any building
- o Merchandise on display is related to and is also for sale inside the principal use.



Correct placement of sandwich board signs

Sidewalk Dining

Sidewalk dining is permitted within the downtown commercial district provided that the business owner has obtained a permit from the City of Washington stating that it meets all codes related to sidewalks, and:

- o The placement of tables, chairs and other furnishings must be done in such a manner that at least 5 feet of unobstructed space (as measured from the street- side edge of the sidewalk) remains on the sidewalk or pedestrian way for the passage of pedestrians.
- o No fire exits or lanes may be blocked.
- o The sidewalk dining area is associated with and located directly in front its associated use.
- o The placement of street furnishings does not extend past the side property lines of the associated building.
- o It meets all other codes related to sidewalk dining.

Sidewalk Furniture

Any sidewalk furniture being placed by a private property owner must be approved by the Historic Preservation Commission. Sidewalk furniture should enhance the streetscape and the site on which they are located. Appropriate materials include wood and metal. Plastic, vinyl, or contemporary styled elements detract from the historic quality of the streetscape and should not be used. Avoid any highly ornate design that would misrepresent the history of the area. Benches and garbage receptacles must meet all city requirements and be similar in design to existing furniture.



5 feet of clearance does not include the bulb-outs