

Bylaw No. XXXX-2023

Pursuant to Section 526 of the Local Government Act and Sections 8(4) and 65 of the Community Charter, the COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABBOTSFORD, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**Part 1
Administration****1.1 Citation**

This bylaw may be cited as the “Abbotsford Sign Bylaw.”

1.2 Intent

The intent of this bylaw is to:

- (a) support local commercial activity through the identification of businesses and wayfinding;
- (b) ensure new signs are aligned with the Official Community Plan;
- (c) encourage signs that incorporate high standards of design and minimize light pollution;
- (d) regulate signs to ensure and maintain public safety; and
- (e) prevent sign proliferation and visual clutter to ensure the effectiveness of signs and enhance the public realm.

1.3 Definitions

In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

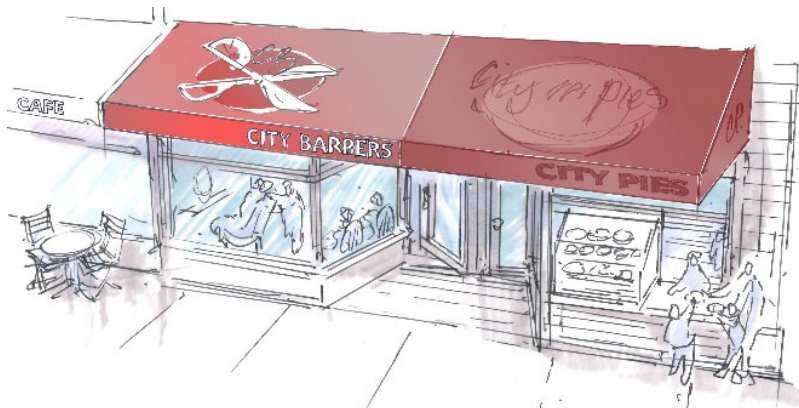
Agricultural Local Product Sign means a sign that advertises agricultural products for sale, that are produced by a farm operation operating on the lot where the sign is located.

Agricultural Market Sign means a sign that advertises a business or activity where agricultural products are the primary commodity for sale.

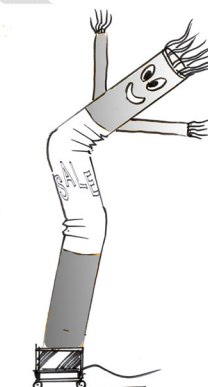
Awning means a fixed or retractable structure, projecting from a building face, consisting of fabric, sheet metal, or other flexible material on a frame.

Awning Sign

means a sign applied, attached, or painted to the surface of an awning, that does not project from the surface of the awning.

***Balloon Sign***

means a sign or other advertising device inflated by air.



Banner Sign

means a sign made of nylon, canvas, vinyl, or similar flexible material, that is not adhered to a rigid backing.

***Building***

means any structure constructed, used, or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

Building Code

means the current edition of the *British Columbia Building Code*, as amended.

Building Face

means all individual wall areas of a building that face the same direction.

Building Frontage Zone

means a space within the front or exterior side setback of a building, that does not interfere with pedestrian or vehicular movement.

Building Official

has the same meaning as in the [Building Bylaw](#).

Bylaw Enforcement Officer Canopy

has the same meaning as in the [Bylaw Enforcement Bylaw](#).

means a rigid, roofed structure, projecting from a building face, that is attached to and entirely supported by the building.

Canopy Sign

means a sign that is applied, attached, or constructed on a canopy.

Changeable Copy means copy that can be changed using detachable letters, characters, numbers, or graphics.

City means the City of Abbotsford.

Clearance means the vertical distance between the lowest point of a sign and grade.

Community Activity Sign means a temporary sign that advertises a public event, including a cultural, institutional, or recreational event, farmers' market, or charitable campaign.

Construction Project Sign means a temporary sign displayed on a construction or development site, that advertises the construction or development project taking place, and may identify the major participants in the project.



Contractor Identification Sign means a temporary sign displayed on a construction or development site, that identifies a contractor involved in the construction or development project, including architects, builders, developers, engineers, or financiers.

Copy means the letters, characters, symbols, numbers, or graphics that make up the message on a sign.

Copy Area means the smallest area, measured in square metres, that encompasses all of the copy on a sign.

Directional Sign means a sign indicating the name and direction to a business, place, service, or event.

Drive Through Menu Board Sign

means a sign that displays information about the food items and beverages sold at a drive through restaurant, and may contain electronic copy.

Electronic Copy

means copy that is generated, displayed, or changed using electronic screens, computer video monitors, liquid crystal displays (LCD), light emitting diode (LED) displays, or any other electronic, computer generated, or digital technology.

***Electronic Message Board Sign***

means a sign that contains electronic copy, excluding a drive through menu board sign.

Facade Sign

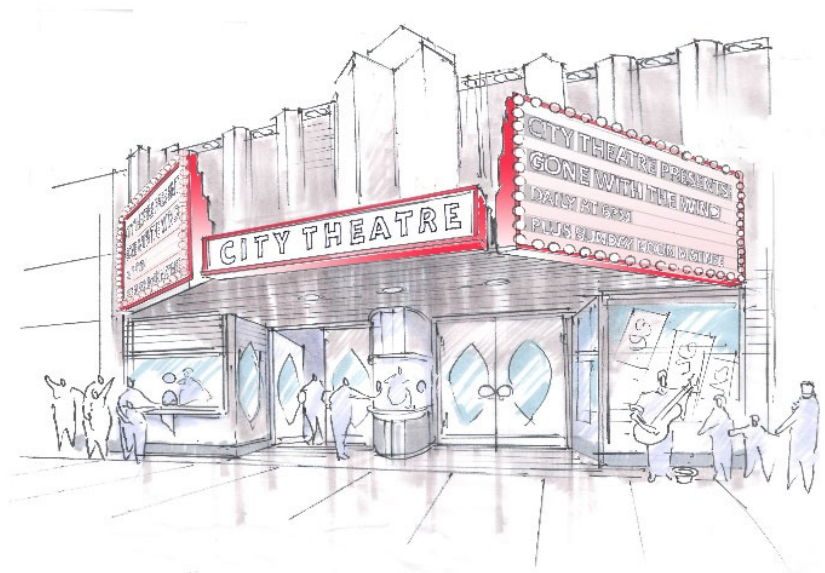
means a sign that is applied, attached, inscribed, or mounted to a building face, that is on a plane parallel to the building face.



<i>Face</i>	means one side of a sign where copy may be placed.
<i>Freestanding Sign</i>	means a sign that is self-supporting, separate and independent from a building, and permanently anchored to the ground.
<i>Frontage</i>	means the length of a building, lot, or premises, that abuts or faces a highway, excluding a lane.
<i>Furnishing Zone</i>	means the area between a road and the pedestrian movement zone, where street furniture including benches, bicycle racks, garbage containers, and trees may be located.
<i>Grade</i>	means the average elevation of the finished ground surface directly below a sign.
<i>Handheld Advertising Sign</i>	means a sign supported or manipulated by a person, that advertises an event, business, or promotion.
<i>Height</i>	means the vertical distance from grade to the uppermost point of a sign.
<i>Highway</i>	means any public road allowance, including a lane, but does not include a private right-of-way on private property.
<i>Home Occupation Sign</i>	means a sign advertising a permitted Home Occupation – Level 2, Home Occupation – Level 3, or Home Occupation – Level 4, in accordance with the Zoning Bylaw .
<i>Identification Sign</i>	means a sign that indicates only the name, address, and number of a building, organization, or person, or a business, service, or activity conducted in the building.
<i>Illuminated</i>	means the intentional lighting of a sign by artificial lighting, located on, external to, or internal to the sign.
<i>Lot</i>	means land designated as a separate and distinct parcel on a legally recorded subdivision plan or description filed in the Land Title Office.
<i>Marquee</i>	means a canopy-like structure erected over the entry to a theatre, cinema, or similar use, primarily for the purpose of displaying a sign with event details.

Marquee Sign

means a sign mounted on a marquee.

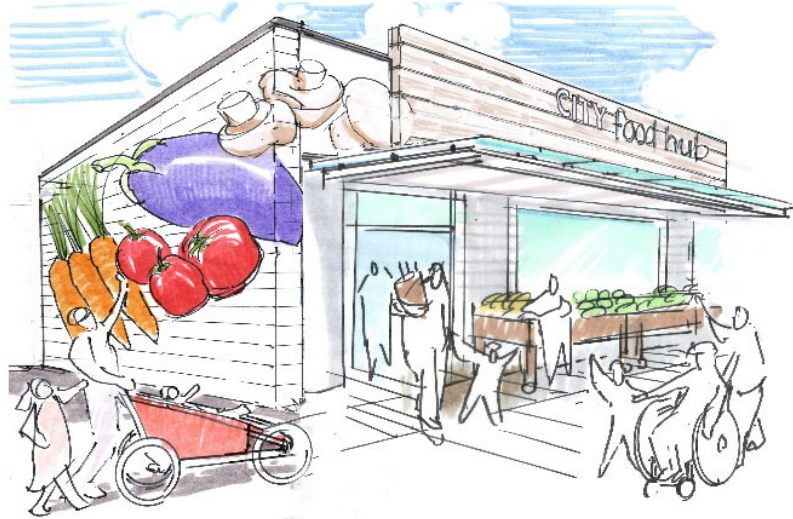
***Monument Sign***

means a freestanding sign, attached to a permanent foundation or mounted on a solid base greater in length and width than the sign, that is not dependent on any pole, post, or similar support.



Mural Sign

means a sign created on the exterior of a building as part of a painted mural, intended to advertise a business, project, activity, or service.

***Official Community Plan***

means the current [Official Community Plan](#) of the City, as amended.

Owner

includes the owner or tenant who occupies a lot or premises where a sign is located, the person named as the permit holder on a permit, and the owner, manufacturer, or installer of a sign.

Pedestrian Movement Zone

means the area of a highway intended for pedestrian movement, including a sidewalk, where pedestrians travel and access destinations along the highway.

Permit

means an authorization, issued on a prescribed form by a Building Official, to erect, place, display, alter, or move a sign.

Pole Sign

means a freestanding sign, supported by one or more poles.

***Portable Sign***

means a sign not permanently attached to a building, structure, or the ground, that can be readily moved from place to place, excluding a sandwich board sign.

Poster

means a sign made of paper or paper-like materials.

Premises

means a lot, building, or portion thereof, that is occupied by a single owner or tenant.

Projecting Sign

means a sign that is attached to, projects from, and entirely supported by a building face.



<i>Promotional Sign</i>	means a temporary sign that promotes the buying or selling of products and services or announces the opening of a new business.
<i>Provincial Electrical Permit</i>	means an authorization from the Province of British Columbia to carry out electrical work.
<i>Real Estate Directional Sign</i>	means a temporary sign providing directions to an open house event being held for a real estate listing.
<i>Real Estate Sign</i>	means a temporary sign indicating that the premises on which the sign is located is for sale, lease, or rent.
<i>Roof</i>	means the top enclosure of a building.
<i>Roofline</i>	means the line where the wall of a building intersects with the roof of the building.
<i>Roof-Mounted Sign</i>	means a sign mounted on the roof of a building.

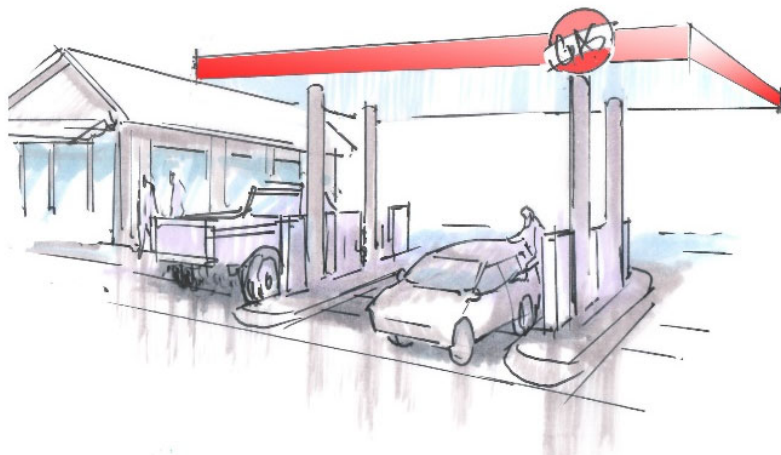


Sandwich Board Sign means a temporary sign, consisting of two flat panels attached or hinged at one end, which is self-supporting, and is not affixed to the ground, a building, or vehicle.



Service Station Canopy means a permanent structure intended to provide lighting and shelter to the pump islands of a service station.

Service Station Canopy Sign means a sign attached, applied, or mounted to the side of a service station canopy.



Sign means any visual medium used to attract attention or convey information of any kind by way of words, numbers, pictures, or graphics, provide direction, information, identification, or advertisement, or promote a product, business, activity, service, or idea.

Sign Area

means the total surface area, measured in square metres, within the outer edge of the frame or border of a sign, except that where the sign has no frame, border, or background, sign area means the total area within the shortest perimeter surrounding the copy.

Stake Sign

means a sign secured to the ground using one or more stakes.

***Suspended Sign***

means a sign that is suspended from and located entirely under an awning, canopy, or similar structure.

***Temporary Sign***

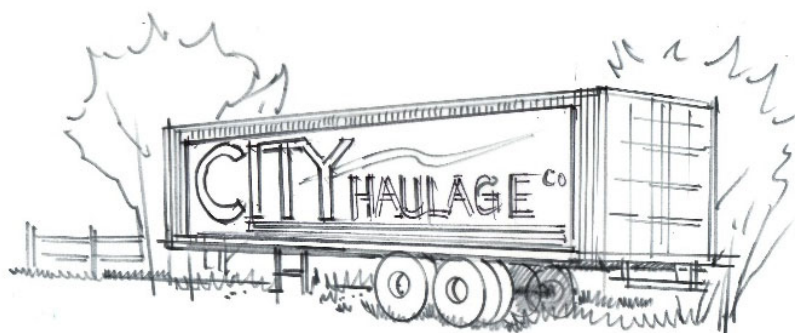
means a sign that is not permanently attached to a structure or building and is erected for a specified period of time.

Third Party Advertising

means copy that advertises or directs attention to anything other than an activity, business, product, or service, that is conducted, produced, or offered on the lot where the sign is located.

***Vehicle-Mounted Sign***

means a sign attached, applied, mounted, or placed on a vehicle or trailer, where the principal purpose of the vehicle or trailer is to serve as a sign or sign support structure.



Window Sign

means a sign that is applied, attached, or displayed in or on a window, but does not include a window display of products available on the premises.

***Zoning Bylaw***

means the City's current [Zoning Bylaw](#), as amended.

1.4 Interpretation

The [Interpretation Bylaw](#) applies to this bylaw.

1.5 Figures

The figures, images, and editorial notes in this bylaw are for illustrative purposes only, and are not regulations or requirements of this bylaw.

1.6 Severability

A decision by a court that any part of this bylaw is illegal, void, or unenforceable severs that part from this bylaw, and is not to affect the balance of this bylaw.

1.7 Repeals

Abbotsford Sign Bylaw No. 1022-2001 is repealed.