



## **New rules for sandwich board and banner type signs, and for tables, racks, benches and other items on public sidewalks City of Ukiah - May 2008**

New rules go into effect May 16, 2008 for sandwich board type signs and objects placed on sidewalks and other public places in the City of Ukiah. They also affect sandwich board type signs on private property. Many people are not aware that placing signs and objects such as tables, planters, benches, etc. on the public sidewalks has not been legal, and many sandwich board signs placed on private property are also not legal. The City Council has adopted new rules designed to promote pedestrian and business activity in commercial and industrial zones while maintaining an attractive and uncluttered appearance, minimizing obstacles to pedestrians and reducing liability to property owners and the City.

### **Who is affected?**

- Businesses, organizations and others that place **sandwich board type signs** on **private or public property** (sidewalks, in the street, on street medians, or in other public places).

One portable sign per parcel (not more than 6 square feet per side, and 4 feet in height) is allowed in commercial and industrial zones. Allowances are made for more than one business per parcel. The sign must be removed after close of business. At least 5 feet of clear space must be maintained on the sidewalk for pedestrians, and other safety and design rules apply. An encroachment/sign permit (\$70 fee) with location, design and insurance requirements is required for signs located on public property. (Ukiah City Code, Section 3227(A)(5))

- Businesses, organizations and others that place **objects** such as cafe tables, display tables and racks, planters, benches, and other objects on **public property** (sidewalks, in the street, on street medians, or in other public places).

Objects may be placed from 12:00 Noon on Friday to close of business on Sunday. Cafe tables are only allowed in connection with a eating establishment. Approved heavy objects such as planters do not need to be removed. At least 5 feet of clear space must be maintained on the sidewalk for pedestrians, and other safety and design rules apply. An encroachment permit (\$45 fee) with location, design and insurance requirements is required for all objects on public property. (Ukiah City Code, Section 9176)

- Businesses, organizations and others that use **banners, pennants or balloons** (including gas filled figures) for advertising.

These advertising media are allowed for 30 consecutive days for a business opening, and a maximum of 45 days per year for special activities or to promote the business. A sign permit application (\$25 fee) will be reviewed by the Director of Planning and Community Development to ensure it does not pose a movement of traffic or block identification signs on neighboring properties. (Ukiah City Code Section 3225(K))

**What if I cannot meet the requirements?** You may apply to the Planning and Community Development Department for a use permit. The encroachment permit and insurance provisions cannot be waived.