

The absence of a proper sticker shall be prima facie evidence that the sign has been, or is being, erected or operated in violation of the provisions of this article. Stickers may be color-coded.

(b) The zoning director or his designee shall inspect all existing signs and advertising devices in the city to determine if such signs or devices conform to the provisions of this article. Identification stickers shall be provided for all signs in order to identify existing conforming and nonconforming signs.

### **Section 22.7 Nonconforming Signs**

(a) A nonconforming sign shall not be replaced by another nonconforming sign, except that the substitution or interchange of poster panels, painted boards or dismountable material on nonconforming signs shall be permitted. All nonconforming signs shall be maintained in good repair.

(b) Minor repairs and maintenance of nonconforming signs shall be permitted. However, no structural repairs or changes in the size or shape of this sign shall be permitted except to make the sign comply with the requirements of this article. To the extent that this section conflicts with O.C.G.A. § 32-6-83 or Ga. Const. Art. 3, § 6, Par. 4(a), this section shall be deemed to provide effected parties the minimum protections provided by O.C.G.A. § 32-6-83 and Ga. Const. Art. 3, § 6, Par. 4(a), as amended from time to time.

(c) Nonconforming signs which met all requirements of this exhibit when erected may stay in place until one (1) of the following conditions occurs:

- (1) The business advertised ceases at that location;
- (2) The deterioration of the sign or damage to the sign makes it a hazard; or
- (3) The sign has been damaged to such extent that more than minor repairs are required to restore the sign. No structural repairs, change in shape, or size shall be permitted except to make the sign comply with all requirements of this article. To the extent that this section conflicts with O.C.G.A. § 32-6-83 or Ga. Const. Art. 3, § 6, Par. 4(a), this section shall be deemed to provide effected parties the minimum protections provided by O.C.G.A. § 32-6-83 and Ga. Const. Art. 3, § 6, Par. 4(a), as amended from time to time.

### **Section 22.8 Noncommercial Speech**

Noncommercial speech shall be regulated by this article only as to the size and style of signage containing such speech. Noncommercial speech signs shall not be greater in sign area or height than the allowance for commercial signs in the zoning district in which the