

Cameron Park

Draft Sign Standards



Section 010 - Purpose and Applicability

A. Purpose.

The Cameron Park community recognizes that signs are an integral part of the built environment and, as such, can enhance or detract from the image and character of the community. In addition to County Code Section 130.36.010 (Content and Applicability), the purpose of the Cameron Park Sign Standards is to:

1. Ensure high standards of design and construction of visually effective and aesthetically pleasing signs are maintained for all signs in Cameron Park;
2. Protect and preserve the visual beauty, scenic views and ambiance of the Cameron Park community through the control of the number, size and types of signs; and
3. Promote signage that enhances the architecture of a building and its environment.

The standards that follow address these issues and others, and are intended to provide quality signs that add to and support the character of the Cameron Park community. These sign standards and guidelines establish sign placement, sign type, and other design-related restrictions with the intent to establish consistency and compatibility of signs in the area.

B. Applicability.

This Article shall apply to all property and land within the Cameron Park Community Region as delineated in the General Plan Land Use Map. Signs will be reviewed for their consistency with these standards.. No person, firm, corporation or other entity, that owns, occupies, or controls property in the Community of Cameron Park shall construct, maintain, display, alter or cause to be constructed, maintained, displayed or altered, a sign within the Community except in conformance with these standards. The Cameron Park Sign Standards have been established to supersede certain standards within the County's existing Code Chapter 130.36 (Signs) where the Community wishes to require stricter sign requirements than currently exist in County Code. However, where these standards are silent, the County's Code Chapter 130.36 (Signs) will take precedence. Where a conflict exists between these standards and other officially adopted policies, ordinances, and regulations, the more restrictive shall apply.

Section 020 - General Sign Requirements

See County Code Section 130.36.020 (General Sign Requirements).

See County Code Section 130.36.030 (Exemptions).

Section 040 - Permanent Signs

See County Code Section 130.36.040(Permanent Signs).

Section 050 - Temporary Signs [County Code Section 130.36.050 (Temporary Signs)]

With the exception that "feather" banners and sign twirlers are prohibited as per Cameron Park Sign Standards Section 090 (Prohibited Signs), County Code Section 130.36.050 (Temporary Signs) applies. More restrictive standards for maximum sign area and location apply to the following sign type.

[County Code Section 130.36.050.A.3 – (A-Frame Signs)]

- A. Sandwich Board A-Frame Signs: A-Frame signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in sign area per sign and must be located within five (5) feet of an entrance to a building.

Section 060 - Community Sign Programs

See County Code Section 130.36.060 (Community Sign Programs).

Section 070 - Sign Development and Design Standards [County Code Section 130.36.070 (Sign Development and Design Standards)]

A. Sign Illumination

In order to reduce visual glare, the following applies:

1. All internally illuminated signs, including monument signs, walls signs and projecting signs shall use non-reflective materials and finishes for sign surfaces
2. See Section 090.H for prohibition on internally illuminated “can” signs.
3. See County Code Section 130.36.070.A.2 for additional requirements on sign illumination.

B. Sign Area Measurement

See County Code Section 130.36.070.B (Sign Area Measurement Procedures).

C. Sign Height Measurement

See County Code Section 130.36.070.C (Sign Height Measurement).

D. Construction requirements.

See County Code Section 130.36.070.D (Construction Requirements).

E. Sign Placement

See County Code Section 130.36.070.E (Sign Placement).

F. Design Standards for Specific Sign Types [County Code Section 130.36.070.H (Design Standards for Specific Sign Types)]

Design Compatibility: Signs shall be architecturally compatible with the primary structure(s) on the site where the sign is located pursuant to the requirements of Section 130.36.070 A.1 of County Code (Design Compatibility with Structure). In addition, no sign shall use tintless white as part of its color palette. Signs using the white color palette shall use softer or warm white colors, such as ivory or light ecru. Further, all addresses shall be posted on the building façade that has a public entrance. This section serves to provide additional design standards beyond what is outlined in Article 3, Chapter 130.36 – Signs.

1. Wall Signs [County Code Section 130.36.070.H.6 (Wall Signs)]



a. Wall Sign Standards [County Code Section 130.36.070.H.6.a and b]

Wall signs include most types of signage that are attached to the face of a building wall. Wall signs shall be oriented in the approximate center of the building façade and be located a minimum of two feet above the public entrance or the top of any windows (if a building entrance is not provided on the wall containing the sign)..

b. Location and Number

At least one (1) wall sign shall be located on a building façade that has a public entrance (no more than one (1) wall sign per tenant per street frontage).

c. Area

See County Code Section 130.36.070 (Sign Development and Design Standards) for maximum sign area by Zone District for building-attached signs.

2. Window Signs [County Code Section 130.36.030.B.1 (Exempt Signs With Limitations)]



a. Window Sign Standards

Window signs shall be scaled to the pedestrian and oriented to window shoppers on the sidewalk, as opposed to vehicles passing by. Window signs shall be limited to small graphics and text that serve to frame a window or to provide information. No more than 25 percent of total window area shall be

obscured by signs The window sign area shall be counted toward the total building-attached sign area permitted for an establishment.

b. Location

There is no specific location requirement or limit to the number of window signs allowed. A window sign (considered a building-attached sign) is a sign that is painted on or affixed to a window or located within 18 inches of the face of a window. Window signs do not include business hours of operation or open/closed signs. Window displays, including merchandise displays, graphics and text, that are located more than 18 inches from the face of a window are not considered signs for the purposes of these standards.

3. Awning Signs [County Code Section 130.36.070.H.2 (Awning and Canopy Signs)]



a. Awning Sign Standards

Signage shall be incorporated as part of the awning and limited to the skirt of the awning. The area of a sign located on an awning shall be counted toward the total building-attached sign area permitted for an establishment.

b. Location

See County code Section 130.36.070.H.2.c .

c. Area

Lettering shall not exceed 25 percent of the awning skirt area. Awning sign area shall be counted toward total building-attached wall sign (building-attached) maximum area (see Section 070.F.1.Wall Signs).

4. Projecting Signs [County Code Section 130.36.070.H.5 (Projecting Signs)]



a. Projecting Sign Standards

Projecting signs, as defined by County Code Section 130.36.070.H.5. (Sign Development and Design Standards), are attached to a building face and project out perpendicular to the building wall or 45 degrees if located at the building corner. The projecting sign area shall be counted toward the total building-attached sign area permitted for an establishment. Projecting signs are very effective when oriented to pedestrians on the sidewalk level and are encouraged.

b. Location [County Code Section 130.36.070.H.5.a]

See County Code Section 130.36.070.H.5 for standards relating to location, height, projection, suspension, and multiple projecting signs.

c. Area

One (1) projecting sign per tenant not to exceed eight (8) square feet in area.

d. Architecture

Sign materials shall be architecturally compatible with the building to which the sign is affixed. Where no architectural theme is present, the projecting sign shall incorporate natural materials in its design (such as metal, concrete, natural stone, brick, wood, and/or glass).



5. Monument Signs [County Code Section 130.36.040.A.2 (Freestanding Signs)]



a. Monument Sign Standards

Monument signs shall have a solid base that the sign face is installed upon or above. Monument signs are typically oriented perpendicular to the adjacent street and sidewalk and have a maximum of two sign faces.

b. Location and Number

No more than one (1) monument sign per street frontage. Monument signs may be located within front setbacks, provided that the signs are not located within a public right-of-way, required cross visibility area as defined in the County Design Improvement Standards Manual, utility or private road easement.

c. Area

The largest single sign face is used to calculate the area of monument signs, regardless of whether it is single- or double-faced. Monument signs are not to exceed 24 square feet in sign area.

d. Landscaping

Accent landscaping shall be incorporated around the bases of all monument signs, extending beyond the sign a minimum of two (2) feet in all directions.

e. Height

Monument signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.

f. Architecture

The style of the sign and its base shall use similar materials consistent with the exterior materials of the buildings on the site. Where no architectural theme is present, the monument sign base shall incorporate natural materials in its design (such as metal, concrete, natural stone, brick, wood, and/or glass).

6. Flags [County Code Section 130.36.030.B.3 (Exempt Signs With Limitations)]



a. Flag Sign Standards

Flags are defined per County Code Section 130.36.120 (Definitions). This section serves to provide additional design standards beyond what is outlined in Article 3, Chapter 130.36 – Signs.

b. Location and Number

Flagpoles shall be located outside of the public right-of-way. One (1) flagpole is permitted per 50 feet of building façade. Where a building façade is less than 50 feet, one (1) flagpole is permitted.

c. Area and Height

The maximum size area of the flag is as follows:

Ground Set Poles	
Pole Height	Flag Maximum Size Area
15'-20'	15 sf
21'- 25'	24 sf
26'-30'	30 sf

With the exception of poles located in residential zones, roof-mounted poles are prohibited in the Cameron Park Community Region. One (1) flagpole is allowed per residence. Flagpole height shall not exceed the base Zone District height limits set forth in the County's Zoning Ordinance.

Section 080 - Permit Requirements and Review Procedures [County Code Section 130.36.080 (Permit Requirements and Review Procedures)]

A. Permit Requirements

See County Code section 130.36.080 for the appropriate permit requirements.

B. Review Procedures

Consistent with Article 6, Section 130.60.070 (Design Review Committee) the Cameron Park Design Review Committee (DRC), shall review and provide recommendations for all signs associated with discretionary planning permits submitted to the County under the provisions of Section 130.36.080 including but not limited to Design Review Permits, Development Plan Permits (PD) or Variances. Such recommendation shall include a determination of conformance with the requirements of these standards and the requirements of Chapter 130.36 as applicable. For signs permitted by right (e.g. signs associated with building permit(s) for signs previously reviewed by the DRC and approved by the County for a community sign program) or allowed by County Administrative Permit (e.g. off-site subdivision signs), those signs shall be reviewed by County staff for conformance with applicable provisions of these standards and Chapter 130.36 as applicable, and no additional DRC review shall be required.

Section 090 - Prohibited Signs [County Code Section 130.36.090 (Prohibited Signs)]

The following signs are prohibited in addition to the signs stated in County Code Section 130.36.090 (Prohibited Signs). The Community of Cameron Park has a compelling interest to prohibit the following signs to further the Purpose (Section 010) of these Sign Standards unless as otherwise allowed in the Cameron Park Sign Standards.

- A. Attention Attracting Devices: Pennants, streamers, spinners, sign twirlers, "feather" banners, balloons, inflatable signs, search lights, beacons, flashing lights or messages and other similar attention-attracting devices, unless authorized in conjunction with a temporary use permit or special event permit.
- B. Backlit/Internally Illuminated Translucent Awning Signs: Any sign located on an awning that is translucent or semi-transparent and illuminated from a light source under or within the awning.
- C. Highly Reflective Signs: Signs made wholly or partially of highly reflective material including day-glow painted signs.
- D. Signs that Block Ingress or Egress: Any sign placed or maintained so as to interfere with free ingress to or egress from any door, window or fire escape, or vehicle access.
- E. Simulated Traffic Signs: Any sign which simulates or imitates in size, color, lettering or design any traffic sign or signal, or which makes use of words, symbols or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- F. Vehicle and Trailer Signs: Signs attached or painted on vehicles or trailers and parked in a position and location with the primary purpose of displaying the sign.
- G. Pole Signs. Defined in County Code 130.36.120 (Definitions).
- H. Internally illuminated conventional plastic faced box or can signs: Signs which contain all the text and/or logo symbols within a single enclosed cabinet and whose light is inside the sign itself.

- I. Electronic (Digital)_Message Sign (also referred to as Electronic Message Center): Defined in County Code 130.36.120 (Definitions).

Section 100 - Illegal, Abandoned and Nonconforming Permanent Signs

See County Code Section 130.36.100 (Illegal, Abandoned, and Nonconforming Permanent Signs).

Section 110 - Signs on County Property

See County Code Section 130.36.110 (Signs on County Property)

Section 120 - Definitions [County Code Section 130.36.120 (Definitions)]

As used in this Article, the following terms and phrases are defined as follows:

“Attention attracting device” Any sign with moving parts, flashing lights, and/or neon colors, or signs incorporating pennants, streamers, large helium balloons or any similar visual device used for the purpose of drawing attention.

“Design Review” Refers to the Design Review-Permit as described in Section 130.52.030 (Design Review Permit) in Article 5 of the El Dorado County Zoning Ordinance.

“Design Review Committee” A committee established by resolution of the County Board of Supervisors consistent with Chapter 130.60.070 (Design Review Committee) of the County Zoning Ordinance.

“Nonconforming” A nonconforming sign is a sign which was erected legally, but is not in conformance with prevailing standards, such as these Cameron Park Sign Standards.

“Public entrance” The public entrance is one or more places of entry to an establishment that are accessible to the general public.

“Storefront” A storefront is a distinct architectural feature that is immediately accessible from a public sidewalk and consisting of window displays and entry doors to one or more uses.

“Temporary Sign” A temporary sign is a sign that is temporary in nature and that is displayed for no more than 45 days in a row, or no more than 90 days per establishment per calendar year.