

NOV 03 2008

ORDINANCE NO. 2690

*Deily J. Hoffman*  
City Clerk

AN ORDINANCE GOVERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STREET GRAPHICS PROGRAM FOR MAIN STREET IN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS AND RESTRICTING THE USE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FROM THE MAIN STREET FAÇADE PROGRAM FOR SIGNAGE

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia, Illinois, (the "CITY"), strives to enhance the consistent historic character of Columbia's principal business district while supporting business growth;

WHEREAS, the appearance of the façade of buildings located along Main Street in the city has a significant impact upon the image of the city's principal business district and on the community as a whole;

WHEREAS, many facades on the City's Main Street are in disrepair and detract from the image and appearance of that business district;

WHEREAS, the City's Civic Progress Committee has developed and does administer a Main Street Façade program that offers financial assistance grants which presently can be used for signage, but the types of signage eligible are not defined;

WHEREAS, a the City's City Council agrees that grants for façade renovations in the city should build a more consistent look, enhance the buildings' historic character, and still support and enhance business traffic and development on Main Street in the city;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. The recitals contained above in the preamble of this Ordinance are hereby incorporated herein by reference, the same as if set forth in this Section of this Ordinance verbatim, as findings of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois.

Section 2. The CITY hereby amends the Main Street Façade Program to withdraw signage from financial assistance grant eligibility through the Main Street Façade Program, except for where the signage is part of an awning.

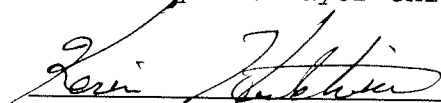
Section 3. The City Council adopts, by the enactment of this ordinance, a policy of strict enforcement of and adherence to the City's existing Sign Code (Chapter 15.44 of the City's Municipal Code) including physical characteristics of street graphics in the city (e.g., height, width, mounting technique).

Section 4. The CITY hereby affirms its intent to develop a new sign ordinance to be applicable strictly to Main Street in the city, with the advice and assistance of the City's Civic Progress Committee and the City's Heritage & Preservation Commission.

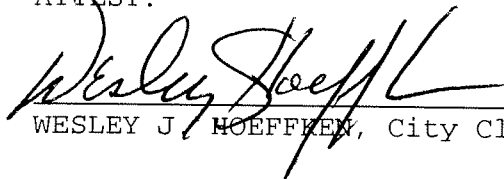
Section 5. The CITY hereby affirms its intent to make signage designed under the to-be-enacted Main Street Sign Ordinance eligible for financial assistance grants through a separate sign process.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 3rd day of November, 2008.

  
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KEVIN B. HUTCHINSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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WESLEY J. HOEFFER, City Clerk

(SEAL)