

ORDINANCE NO. _____

1 AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 27.69 of the Lincoln Municipal Code by
2 amending Section 27.69.300 to allow the Planning Director to approve amendments to a
3 nonresidential special sign district provided the request for amendment proposes a minor increase
4 in the number, size, height, location, or other standards for signs authorized in the special sign
5 district; and repealing Section 27.69.300 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

6 BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska:

7 Section 1. That Section 27.69.300 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended to
8 read as follows:

9 **27.69.300 Other Permitted Signs; Nonresidential; Special Sign District.**

10 (a) In any nonresidential district, occupants of sixty percent or more of the street frontage
11 of any block face may petition the City Council for the formation of a special sign district for the
12 purpose of defining an area of particular historical, ethnic, cultural, or entertainment atmosphere;
13 or for defining an area with a special or unique theme; or for defining an area in which the City has
14 undertaken a program for the redevelopment of blighted and substandard areas pursuant to an
15 approved Redevelopment Plan. Said merchants shall present proposed sign criteria to the City
16 Council according to the procedure established for a zoning amendment. Such petition shall include
17 specific sign regulations for the special sign district which may be more or less restrictive than the
18 underlying district.

1 (b) In any nonresidential district designated by the City Council as a landmark district
2 in accordance with Section 27.57.120, the Planning Director may petition the City Council to create
3 a special sign district. Such petition shall include specific sign regulations for the district which may
4 be more or less restrictive than the underlying zoning district. A special sign district shall not be
5 designated if written protests are made by the record owners of over fifty percent of the included
6 properties, excluding public right-of-way, at or prior to the public hearing by the City Council on
7 the designation.

8 Before designating an area within a nonresidential landmark district as a special sign district
9 and adopting specific sign regulations for such district, the City Council shall refer the petition to
10 the Historic Preservation Commission. The Historic Preservation Commission shall hold a public
11 hearing on such petition, and thereafter shall make its recommendation regarding approval, dis-
12 approval, or modification of the petition, and the proposed sign regulations. The petition shall then
13 be transmitted to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall consider the petition
14 at a public hearing and thereafter shall make a report to the City Council recommending approval,
15 disapproval, or modification of the petition and the proposed sign regulations.

16 After receiving the recommendation and report of the Historic Preservation Commission and
17 the Planning Commission, the City Council shall proceed to give final consideration to the petition
18 and the proposed sign regulations.

19 (c) After the City Council has approved a nonresidential special sign district, the
20 Planning Director is authorized to approve amendments provided that:

1 (1) A request for amendment is filed with the Planning Director and, if
2 appropriate, accompanied by a plot plan and signs drawn to an accurate scale and showing all
3 pertinent information;

4 (2) The request for amendment proposes a minor increase in the number, size,
5 height, location, or other special sign district regulation for signs which are more restrictive than the
6 underlying zoning district and such increase does not cause a significant adverse impact on existing
7 development within the district and adjoining properties;

8 (3) The request for amendment is in conformance with the sign regulations for
9 the underlying zoning district.

10 Section 2. That Section 27.69.300 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing
11 be and the same is hereby repealed.

12 Section 3. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its
13 passage and publication according to law.

Introduced by:

Approved as to Form & Legality:

City Attorney

Approved this ___ day of _____, 2007: _____ Mayor
