



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2629, **Agenda Item #:** 92.

8/31/2023

Posting Language

Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending City Code Title 25 Section 25-10-133 to remove the prohibition of illuminated signs in the University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO). (Suggested date: September 21, 2023, at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas).

Lead Department

Planning Department.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

On November 14, 2019, City Council approved Ordinance No. 20191114-067 that amended allowable uses, building heights, parking requirements, and sign regulations in the UNO.

For More Information:

Mark Walters, Planning Department, Mark.Walters@austintexas.gov, (512) 974-7695, (Case Manager).

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

Code and Ordinances Joint Committee - July 19, 2023 Recommended approval.

Planning Commission - to be reviewed August 22, 2023.

Additional Backup Information:

On November 14, 2019, the City Council passed an ordinance making significant changes to University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO) regarding building heights, permitted uses, parking, and sign regulations. This ordinance affected several UNO sign regulations. In the original UNO ordinance (Ordinance No. 040902-58), no signs should be illuminated and those signs above the second story must be engraved or embossed. The embossed and engraved standard did not adhere to industry standards and resulted in numerous Board of Adjustment cases. Council removed the engraved or embossed requirement in 2019. Although the prohibition on illuminated signs was intended to be removed, the existing language regarding illuminated signs remained in the 2019 ordinance. This has caused issues not only in UNO, but also in the Transit Oriented Developments which reference the UNO sign regulations. At the request of staff, at their May 26, 2020 meeting, the Planning Commission initiated an amendment to remove the provision regarding illuminated signs.