Granicus Item #17-0435

Report to the Manitowoc Plan Commission

Meeting Date: April 26, 2017

Report Print Date: April 21, 2017; 9:47 AM

Request: PC 10-2017 Kwik Trip Animated Sign 21st St. & Washington St.; request for a Special Permit for the placement of an Animated Sign in a B-3 General Business District.

Reason for Request: Kwik Trip would like to erect an animated sign on the site and in the B-3 General Business District. Pursuant to section 15.450(18)b(1.)B. the Plan Commission shall be authorized to issue a Special Permit for the placement of an animated sign.

Existing Land Use for Subject Property: A Kwik Trip has been operating at the location.

Existing Zoning for Subject Property: B-3 General Business

Surrounding Property Land Uses and Zoning

Direction	Existing Land Use	Existing Zoning	
North	Residential	R-4 Single and Two Family	
East	State Farm Insurance, Shipbuilders Credit Union, Other Washington Street businesses		
West	Tony's Pizza, mixed residential	B-1 Office-Residential	
South	Boelter's Jewelers, residential further	B-3 General Business	
	south	R-4 Single and Two Family	

Comprehensive Plan: Future Land Use Map indicates the property as General Business.

Consistency Analysis

Although § 66.1001, Wis. Stats. does not specifically require Special Use Permits to meet the "Consistency Requirement," it is sound planning practice to consider the policies and recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan when reviewing such requests. Although the policies and recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan does not specifically address signage, the current use and animated sign are consistent with the other uses along the Washington Avenue corridor.

Report: Kwik Trip has been moving to electronic message centers rather than manual readerboards to eliminate them from going outside in all weather conditions and the need for ladders to change the messages.

<u>Case History</u>: In March of 2017, the La Crosse Sign Company submitted an application on behalf of Kwik Trip #611 (2102 Washington St.) to request for a Special Use Permit to allow for an animated sign. Said animated sign would be placed on the current complying 30' pylon sign directly below the non-animated price sign and comply with ordinance regulations concerning

square footage and height. Kwik Trip would only operate the sign during store hours from 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.

This is not the first time Kwik Trip has requested permission to erect an animated sign at the location. In 2008, La Crosse Sign Co. submitted a similar application for construction of an animated sign and was unanimously denied by the Plan Commission on staff recommendation because it would "further contribute to the visual clutter and safety concerns at this intersection." (PC 19-2008)

<u>Site Assessment</u>: The site is a .33 acre corner lot and is home to Kwik Trip #611. Washington Street is to the south and S. 21st Street is to the east. As previously mentioned there is currently a 30' pylon non-animated sign at the location displaying gas prices and advertising products available on site.

The intersection of 21st and Washington St. has stop lights and sees a very high traffic count on a daily basis. The proximity of the proposed animated sign to the traffic lights and the intersection produces an imminent concern for driver safety.

Staff consulted with the City's Building Inspector as well as the Director of Public Infrastructure on the location of the animated sign as it relates to traffic at the nearest intersection, both of whom would not sign off on the project due to the traffic safety concerns and noncompliance with the intersection separation distance requirement.

<u>Compliance Analysis:</u> The site is located in the correct zoning district to allow for an animated sign to be utilized. The following is a list of requirements for an animated sign that must be complied with or otherwise waived by the Plan Commission.

A.	15.450(12)(j)	• Maximum of one (1) on-premise ground sign per business or activity. Only one animated sign is proposed.
В.	15.450(14)(f)3.	• "B-3" district allows for ground sign and animated signs pursuant to 15.450(18). Maximum total combined sf is 500sf. The proposed sign complies with this restriction.
C.	15.450(18)(f)7.	 Animated sign permitted only as ground sign in "B-3". The proposed sign is a ground sign and is permitted.
D.	15.450(18)(c)8.	• Landscape requirement is applicable for this project. Two times the sign area. The approved site plan shows a landscape area that meets this requirement.
F.	15.450(18)(h)2.	 Animated sign shall comprise no more than the lesser of 30% of sign's total allowed sign face, or 30 sf/sign face. Currently the proposed animated sign is 17.44 sf and the static sign is 80.2 sf,

therefore the animated sign is 22% the size of the static sign.

G. 15.450(18)(g)9.
 Animated signs should not be within 100' of an existing signaled intersection. The nearest signal is 10' +/- south at the Washington Avenue and 21st Street intersection; this does not comply with the code and would require a waiver from the Plan Commission.

Recommendation: The Community Development Department recommends denial of the request for a Special Use Permit for an animated sign and a waiver of 15.450(18)(g)9 "Animated signs should not be within 100' of an existing signaled intersection". Staff finds that an animated sign at the requested location would cause excessive visual clutter and will be a hazard for drivers at the intersection of 21st and Washington Streets due to the proximity to the traffic signal.

Should the Plan Commission find that these issues can be resolved and choose to approve the petitioner's request for a Special Use Permit and waiver of the requirement for a sign to be located 100' away from an intersection, staff recommends doing so under the following conditions:

1. Compliance with the terms and conditions of the Special Use Permit shall be reviewed by the Plan Commission and Common Council in January, 2018.

2. The animated sign shall only operate the shorter period of time between store hours or from 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.

3. The animated sign be limited to static images or text only at all hours or operation.

4. All messages on the animated sign are to be held for a minimum of three seconds, double the amount of time required in the sign ordinance under section 15.450(18)(h)15 "For an animated sign, individual letters or messages must hold or be illuminated for a minimum of one and one-half seconds."

MAKE A STATEMENT P.O. Box 187 · 1450 Oak Forest Drive · Onalaska, WI 54650 · P 608-781-1450 · F 608-781-1451 · www.lacrossesign.com

February 6, 2017 Revised: March 21, 2017

City of Manitowoc Building Inspections 900 Quay Street Manitowoc, WI 54220

LA CROSSE SIGN CO.

Re: Fixed Animated Sign Permit Application for Kwik Trip #611 at 2102 Washington Avenue:

Kwik Trip is requesting consideration for the installation of an electronic message unit at their 2102 Washington Avenue location. The unit would be installed within the pylon price sign which complies with ordinance regulations concerning square footage and height. The electronic message unit will be programmed and updated by the Kwik Trip Marketing Department in La Crosse, WI to display messages per the city requirement before moving to the next message. They would have no issues with conditions placed on the sign operation such as no flashing, no scrolling, and static messages only; held for as many seconds as they city would prefer. Kwik Trip would propose to operate the sign only during store hours from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. It is not Kwik Trip's intention to use the sign in any way to distract the public or interfere with traffic. It will be used to promote products available on site.

The Daktronics message center comes equipped with automatic light sensors that automatically adjust the sign intensity. For example, during a bright sunny afternoon, the display may be running at maximum output level. However, as the sun sets or during rainy/cloudy weather, the light sensor detects the reduction of ambient light and adjusts the display accordingly. Please see the attached letter from the Daktronics manufacturer.

Kwik Trip has moved to electronic message centers rather than manual reader-boards at all allowed locations with the safety of their co-workers in mind as they eliminate them from going outside in all weather conditions and the need for ladders to change the messages.

We appreciate your time and consideration; please feel free to contact me at 608-781-1450.

Encl: \$125 fee

If you have questions or concerns please call Cindy Bluske (see contact information below).

Thank you, Cindy Bluske La Crosse Sign Co. 1450 Oak Forest Drive Onalaska, WI 54650 Ph: 608-781-1450 Fax: 608-781-1451 cindyb@lacrossesign.com

WI. BUILDING CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION #1104371



SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION • 15.450 (REVISED 05-May-2011) BUILDING INSPECTION • CITY HALL • 900 QUAY STREET • MANITOWOC, WI 54220 (920) 686-6940 Phone • (920) 686-6949 Fax • <u>www.manitowoc.org</u>

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Owner's Name: Kwik Trip Inc	Address:1626 Oak St / PO Box 2107 La Crosse WI 54602		Telephone: 608-793-5913					
Tenant's Name:	Address:		Telephone					
Contractor's Name: La Crosse Sign Co.	Address: 1450 Oak Forest Dr. Onalaska, WI 54650		Telephone: 608-781-1450 or cindyb@lacrossesign.com					
Project Location 2102 Washington St. (Kw		Sign Cost (\$)15,000	Zoning District B-3					
1) DIMENSIONS OF SIGN Width x Height = Area SF								
2) ELEVATION 3) FACES								
North South East West 2 No. of Faces								
4) ILLUMINATION 4-A) ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR – wi state master & Manitowoc city license								
_x_InternalExternal Name: Phone:								
5) TYPE OF SIGN - existing sign - face of _xGround SignWall Sign	hanges Window Si	gn Awning	/ Canopy Face Change					
Projecting Sign / Awning / Canopy Temporary _x_ Animated (Fixed) Animated (Moveable)								
5-A) ANIMATED SIGNS - ATTACHED	TO NON-ANIMAT	ED 5-B) ANIM	ATED SIGNS - STAND ALONE					
		97)						
Non-Animated W_96.5"_x H_119.75"		⁷⁶⁾ Animated	Wx H=SF					
Animated W_31"x H_81"_=_17.44	SF (%)							
NOTE: Animated signs are limited to the lesser of 30% of the signs total allowed sign face or 30 square feet maximum.								
5-C) GROUND SIGNS								
_10' 2 1/3"_Clearance between bottom of the sign and the ground24' Overall sign height								
_existing sign, apprx 12-13' from curbSet	back from street Righ	t of Way	Setback from edge of nearest driveway					
5-D) PROJECTING SIGNS								
Distance between bottom of th	e sign and the grade a	t the Right of Way	Projection from building					
6) EXISTING SIGNAGE - List the size an	d type of ALL signs o	urrently on the narcel.						
_101.875_Width x _30"_Height = _21.2 ea.								
			HTH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT.					
ANIMATED SIGNS. Fixed animated signs special permit by the Plan Commission. More			icate of Appropriateness issued by the					
signs shall require a special administrative review permit by the Dir, of Building Inspection & Dir, of Engineering. See attached.								
		BRO IECTING (%)	NS / CANODIDO / ADDIDUCE DL-11					
BILLBOARDS. Shall require Plan Commission approval. See PROJECTING SIGNS / CANOPIES / AWNINGS. Shall 15.45(14)(f)(3), (14)(g)(3)(F), (14)(h)(3) or contact the require an annual permit fee if projecting into the City ROW Planning Dept. (920) 686-6930. require an annual permit fee if projecting into the City ROW								
 ATTACHMENTS Site Plan. Dimensioned and indicating sign location and setbacks of the proposed sign or device. 								
Graphic rendering or drawing of the proposed sign or device indicating sign elevation (North, South, East, West).								
Certificate of Liability Insurance (sign contractor, unless current copy is on file).								
Approved Certificate of Appropriateness (signs located in B-4 & Eighth Street Historical District).								
Animated signs (please refer to attached handout for required attachments).								
ANIMATED (FIXED SIGN)	ANIMATED (M(OVEABLE SIGN)	ALL OTHER SIGNS					
Special Permit \$125 #BBAP	Admin. Rev. \$70.00		ALL OTHER STORS					
			No permit Required					
Plan Commission # PC	Dir Inspection Approved Denied		□ Annual fee required for projection					
Approved Denied	Dir Engineering 🗆 Approved 🗆 Denied		into City Right of Way					
Conditions and/or waivers attached Permit # Permit #								
Permit #			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					

Fixed Animated Signs – City of Manitowoc Fees for Fixed and Movable Animated Signs. Fees required for both fixed and movable animated signs shall be established by resolution of the Common Council. All animated signs shall require the issuance, by the Director of Building Inspection, of a separate sign and electrical permit, even if the animated sign is attached to another sign or sign structure.

Please visit <u>www.manitowoc.org</u> to view Municipal Sign Ordinance Chapter 15.450 in its entirety. This handout is intended to provide a simplified view of code provisions for animated signs.

Min. fee \$35.00 / .35 SF \$____

Fixed Animated Sign. A one (1) time fee shall be delivered to the Building Inspection Department upon the filing of a request for a special permit pursuant to Section 15.450(18)(e). Issuance of sign and electrical permits by the Director of Building Inspection for a fixed animated sign, shall first require the approval and issuance of a special permit by the City Plan Commission pursuant to Section 15.450(18)(e).

Special Permit Application and Approval Process for a Fixed Animated Sign.

Annual Fee \$ 195.00

Min. \$35.00 / .35 SF

s

A fixed animated sign shall not be installed or made operational in the City until so authorized pursuant to the



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terms and condition of a special permit by the City Plan Commission.

An application for a special permit shall be filed either with the City Planning or Building Inspection Departments, which shall include the following attachments:

□ Scaled site plan identifying the location of the proposed sign and sign structure at a property in addition to the location of the following within a radius not less than 100 feet from the proposed sign: property lines, Right-of-way lines, traffic signal lights, driveway entrances and exits, distance to existing signage on the site, and distance from residential land uses;

□ Scaled drawing of the sign structure;

□ Model and serial numbers of the sign structure;

- □ Lamp wattage and luminance levels in Nits, footcandles or equivalent measurement acceptable to the Director of Building Inspection;
- □ Specifications regarding construction, height, placement, color technology, light source/illumination and changeable copy (text and graphics) systems; and

Total signage calculation for the property including the proposed animated sign.

□ Landscaping plan for the fixed animated sign base as required by 15.450(14)(h)(3)(F)(ix)-(xi).

If an animated sign is to be replaced, enlarged or relocated at the same property, it shall require the review and approval by the Director of Building Inspection and City Engineer.

The City Plan Commission may attach conditions to a special permit granted hereunder in order to assure that the requested use will remain in conformity with the purposes of this Section, as well as to assure compliance with regulations of the particular zoning district within which the animated sign would be located. Compliance conditions may include, but shall not be limited to matters of assignability, restrictions upon hours of operation, authorization for the Director of Building Inspection and City Engineer to check sign settings when deemed necessary, revocation and termination, and other conditions deemed applicable by the City Plan Commission.

To secure information upon which to base its determination, the City Plan Commission may require the applicant to furnish information other than that which is specified herein to determine if the proposed use is consistent with the purpose of this ordinance.

Where a special permit is approved, an appropriate record shall be made by the Director of Building Inspection and City Engineer of the land use and structures permitted. A copy of each special permit shall be mailed to the parties in interest.

All special permits issued under this section shall be reviewed by the Plan Commission in June of each calendar year. Non-compliance with the terms of the special permit may result in the modification of the terms and conditions of the special permit, issuance of citations and financial penalties, or immediate revocation of the special permit.

Fixed Animated Signs (Continued)

If the circumstances warrant, when the conditions of a special permit under this section are not complied with and a public safety issue is created as a result thereof, the permit may be revoked by the Director of Building Inspection at any time. The City Plan Commission shall first hold a public informational hearing on the proposed revocation, subject to notice procedures under Section 15.370(27)(b). The City Plan Commission, after holding a public informational hearing, shall provide its written recommendation to the Common Council with its determination regarding whether or not the permit holder has, or has not, complied with the provisions of this chapter. The Common Council may, at its sole discretion, hold a public hearing regarding the proposed revocation, after which the Common Council may affirm the action of the City Plan Commission, or take whatever action it deems appropriate. All publication and costs associated with this appeals shall be borne exclusively by the petitioner.

Movable Animated Signs - City of Manitowoc

A one (1) time fee shall be delivered to the Director of Building Inspection upon the filing of a request for an administrative review and permit of a movable animated sign pursuant to Section 15.450(18)(f).

An annual sign permit, payable in January of each calendar year, shall be required for each movable animated sign, and shall be paid by the owner of the sign in full prior to issuance of an annual sign permit.

Lessees of a movable animated sign or their representatives shall not be required to pay the annual sign permit fee under (B) to the Director of Building Inspection for a administrative permit authorizing an animated movable sign on lessee's property.

Administrative Permit for a Movable Animated Sign.

A movable animated sign must meet all applicable requirements under Section 15.450, and shall only be permitted when in compliance with all of the following standards:

The Director of Building Inspection and the City Engineer shall review, approve or deny the site location of a movable animated sign, based upon the sign owner or lessee's submittal of information deemed necessary and acceptable by the City representatives identified herein, including, but not limited to the following:

Scaled site plan identifying the location of the proposed sign and sign structure at a property in addition to the location of the following within a radius not less than 100 feet from the proposed sign: property lines, right-of-way lines, traffic signal lights, driveway entrances and exits, distance to existing signage on the site, and distance from residential land uses;

□ Scaled drawing of the sign structure;

□ Model and serial numbers of the sign structure;

Lamp wattage and luminance levels in Nits, footcandles or equivalent measurement;



□ Specifications regarding construction, height, placement, color technology, light source/illumination and changeable copy (text and graphics) systems;

□ Identification of sign owner (lessor) and renter (lessee);

□ Total signage calculation for property including the proposed animated sign; and

Beginning and ending dates for which sign will be used and on-site at the property.

If the circumstances warrant, when the conditions of a permit for a movable animated sign under this section are not complied with and a public safety issue is created as a result thereof, the permit may be revoked by the Director of Building Inspection at any time. The City Plan Commission shall first hold a public informational hearing on the proposed revocation, subject to notice procedures under Section 15.370(27)(b). The City Plan Commission, after holding a public informational hearing, shall provide its written recommendation to the Common Council with its determination regarding whether or not the permit holder has, or has not, complied with the provisions of this chapter. The Common Council may, at its sole discretion, hold a public hearing regarding the proposed revocation, after which the Common Council may affirm the action of the City Plan Commission, or take whatever action it deems appropriate. All publication and costs associated with this appeals shall be borne exclusively by the petitioner.







