

DRAFT 2/18/20 -AJ

Commissioner Perryman asked if a tattoo parlor is allowed at this location.

Allan Torstenson, PED staff, said that the site is zoned residential, so these are nonconforming uses. The question before the commission is whether the proposed permanent makeup shop is similar to the previous nonconforming use. There was a lot of information in the application about the number of chairs, the amount of traffic, and customers coming by appointment only.

MOTION: Commissioner Edgerton moved the Zoning Committee's recommendation to approve the change in nonconforming use. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#19-103-405 Outfront Media LLC – Nonconforming use permit and variance to change the angle of the east billboard face. 2516 Wabash Ave. west of Hwy 280. (Anton Jerve, 651/266-6567)

Commissioner Underwood asked when other billboards will be required to be removed for this one to be converted to dynamic display.

Anton Jerve, PED staff said that would be done as part of the sign permit, and the signs to be removed would be verified. The Zoning Code lays out the requirements for this. They can get credit for signs that they have taken down one year prior to the sign permit application and two months following the issuance of the permit.

Commissioner Rangel Morales said that many of the billboards to be removed in this case are smaller billboards scattered throughout neighborhoods. The removal requirement is based square footage, not the number of signs. Dynamic displays may change no more than once every twelve seconds. Based on the information received, this has not been shown to be a traffic safety issue. It would be interesting to compare accident rates at this intersection it in a few years.

Chair Reveal said that they all agreed that this intersection needs to be addressed, but the sign appears to be a small issue.

Commissioner Edgerton reported from his notes that the sign in question is 14 feet by 48 feet. They estimate that 28 smaller signs and 3 larger signs would be removed.

Commissioner Ochs said he is generally opposed to billboards (especially ones with dynamic display) because they're a blight on our neighborhoods, but this is a solid exchange and removing billboards in neighborhoods might be worth it.

Commissioner Lindeke said he agrees with Commissioner Ochs. While billboards are no longer permitted in St. Paul, you still see them all over the city. This is a case where there is a tradeoff, swapping out a lot of things not liked for one thing not liked.

MOTION: Commissioner Edgerton moved the Zoning Committee's recommendation to approve the nonconforming use permit and variance subject to additional conditions. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#19-103-464 337 W 7th/366-372 Smith Rezoning – Rezone from T2 to T3 traditional neighborhood. 337 W. 7th and 366-372 Smith Avenue, Block bounded by Smith Avenue, 7th Street, Leech Street, and Grand Avenue. (Anton Jerve, 651/266-6567)