



DESIGN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20241209-004

Date: December 9, 2024

Subject: Billboard Relocation Prohibition

Motioned By: Commissioner Wittstruck Seconded By: Chair Salinas

Recommendation

The Design Commission recommends to City Council that the City remove the right to replace a billboard sign once it is removed

Rationale:

City of Austin code § 25-10-152(B)(5) allows for an owner of an off-premise sign to relocate the sign to another tract under certain provisions. Most Texas cities do not provide an allowance for a billboard to be relocated to another site. This code provision allows for the continued presence of billboards within City limits. The Design Commission, in an April 7, 2008 letter to then-Mayor Will Wynn and Members of Council opposed the concept of relocation and the 2004 Council decision allowing it, further recommended that relocation be eliminated entirely.

The impending expansion of I-35 makes it likely that owners of existing billboards on properties acquired by the Texas Department of Transportation along the I-35 corridor will seek to relocate billboards on new properties fronting the expanded I-35.

Vote 6-0-1

For: Chair Salinas, Vice Chair Meiners, Commissioner Howard, Commissioner Luckens, Commissioner McKinney, Commissioner Wittstruck

Against:

Abstain: Commissioner Wallace

Absent: Commissioner Carroll, Commissioner Gelles, Commissioner Ladner

Vacancy: District 6

Attest:

Jon Salinas AIA
Design Commission, Chair
