



## Legislation Details (With Text)

<b>File #:</b>	20-0623	<b>Version:</b>	0	<b>Name:</b>	Zoning - Signs - Conversion of Existing Non-Digital Billboards
<b>Type:</b>	Ordinance	<b>Status:</b>		<b>Failed - End of Term</b>	
<b>File created:</b>	9/21/2020	<b>In control:</b>		<b>Land Use Committee</b>	
<b>On agenda:</b>		<b>Final action:</b>		<b>12/7/2020</b>	
<b>Enactment date:</b>		<b>Enactment #:</b>			
<b>Title:</b>	Zoning - Signs - Conversion of Existing Non-Digital Billboards For the purpose of amending the provisions concerning the conversion of non-digital billboards.				
<b>Sponsors:</b>	Edward Reisinger, Sharon Green Middleton				
<b>Indexes:</b>	Billboards, Conversion, Signs, Zoning				
<b>Code sections:</b>					
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. 20-0623~1st Reader, 2. Newspaper Affidavits 20-0623, 3. Planning 20-0623, 4. BMZA 20-0623, 5. HCD 20-0623, 6. Law 20-0623, 7. DOT 20-0623, 8. Public Testimony - 20-0623				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/7/2020	0	City Council	Failed - End of Term	
10/6/2020	0	Land Use Committee	Advertising	
10/5/2020	0	Land Use Committee	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
9/24/2020	0	The City Council	Refer to Dept. of Transportation	
9/24/2020	0	The City Council	Refer to Dept. of Housing and Community Development	
9/24/2020	0	The City Council	Refer to Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals	
9/24/2020	0	The City Council	Refer to Planning Commission	
9/24/2020	0	The City Council	Refer to City Solicitor	
9/21/2020	0	City Council	Introduced	
9/21/2020	0	City Council	Assigned	

**Explanation:** Capitals indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

\* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.  
The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

### Introductory\*

## City of Baltimore Council Bill

Introduced by: Councilmember Reisinger

### A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning  
**Zoning - Signs - Conversion of Existing Non-Digital Billboards**  
For the purpose of amending the provisions concerning the conversion of non-digital billboards.

By repealing and reordaining, with amendments

Article 32 - Zoning  
Section(s) 17-406(d) and (e)  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

**Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,** That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 32. Zoning**

**Title 17. Signs**

**§ 17-406. Billboards.**

(d) *Conversion of existing non-digital billboards.*

[(1) *In general.*]

An existing non-digital billboard may be converted to a digital billboard only if:

- [(i) it is accompanied by documentation that at least 3 existing billboard faces in the City have been removed for each new digital billboard face to be placed or erected;]
- (1) [(ii)] each message or image displayed on the digital billboard must be static or follow standards for electronic signs;
- (2) [(iii)] digital animation, streaming video, or images that move or give the appearance of movement are prohibited;
- (3) [(iv)] the digital billboard has ambient light monitors that automatically adjust the brightness level of the billboard based on ambient light conditions;
- (4) [(v)] the billboard does not have audio speakers or any audio component;
- [(vi) the new digital billboard is not relocated by more than 15 feet in any direction from its original location;]
- [(vii) each billboard being removed is a minimum of 100 square feet;] and
- (5) [(viii)] the applicant submits proof of current billboard tax payment at the time of application for conversion.

[(2) *Printed billboard removal credit.*]

- [(i) The Zoning Administrator shall maintain an account of removals of existing printed billboards and shall credit the account of the owner of a printed billboard for each printed billboard that is removed.]
- [(ii) In order to document the removal of a printed billboard, the owner shall submit to the Zoning Administrator a copy of the conversion permit for the removal of the billboard and

photographs documenting the removal.]

[(iii) A printed billboard removal credit may be reserved and used by the original owner of the credit within 5 years after the removal of the printed billboard.]

(e) *Exclusions.*

An existing billboard may not be converted to a digital billboard if[:

(1) it is attached to a building that is 35 feet or less in height;]

[(2) it is a pole mounted billboard that is 35 feet or less in height; or

(3)] it is located in or within 250 feet of a residential district.

**Section 2. And be it further ordained,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

**Section 3. And be it further ordained,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date it is enacted.