

Unified Development Code – Wind Flags, Bandit Signs, and Banners at Limited Special Events

Request	Hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to City Council on revisions to Chapter 125 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of League City, Article 8, entitled “Signs”, to revise regulations related to wind flags, bandit signs, and banners at limited special events.
Applicant	City of League City
City Council	Public Hearing & First Reading – <i>August 12, 2025</i> ; <i>Second Reading – August 26, 2025</i>
Attachments	1. Redlined Ordinance

Background

June 18, 2025 – Notice of the public hearings was published in the paper.
July 7, 2025 – The Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to City Council.
August 12, 2025 – City Council is scheduled to hold a public hearing and hear the item on first reading.
August 26, 2025 – Subject to approval on first reading, City Council is scheduled to hear the item on second reading.

Councilmember Cones and Mayor Long co-sponsored the proposed amendments to the Unified Development Code. These amendments will be adopted in conjunction with Article 14, which will create regulations for Special Events.

Changes to the Ordinance

The proposed ordinance amendments will allow for wind flags, bandit signs, and banners during special events, with the following limitations:

- Must be at a Special Event as defined in Article 14, or a one-day event such as a farmer’s market, grand opening, or holiday market.
- Must be located on the premises of the event and outside of the right-of-way.
- Limitations on the amount of signage allowed.
- Signs may only be displayed during the event.
- A permit must be obtained for the signs and no more than 1 permit per week can be issued.

For additional information, you may contact Kris Carpenter, Planning Director at 281-554-1098 or at Kris.carpenter@leaguecitytx.gov.

Sec. 8.3 Prohibited Signs

No sign shall be erected, altered or displayed, **unless otherwise permitted in this Article**, which:

- a. Makes sounds, revolves or uses waving, blinking, flashing, vibrating, flickering, mimics a traffic control device, interferes with the safe operation of a motor vehicle or that causes a traffic safety issue.
- b. Constitutes a traffic hazard by reasons of size, location, projection, content, color, or manner of illumination.
- c. Is affixed to utility poles, trees, or other signs.
- d. Obstructs light, air, ingress or egress from required door, window or other opening.
- e. Is structurally unsafe or not kept in good repair or maintenance.
- f. Is a portable sign except for sandwich board (or “A” frame signs) in approved areas.
- g. Is an off-premises sign unless specifically permitted by this Article.
- h. Is a Vehicular Sign.
- i. Is a wind driven sign.
- j. Is an inflatable.

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8.14 Wind Flags, Bandit Signs, and Banners at Limited Special Events

8.14.1 Purpose

The purpose of this section is to provide regulations for the limited and orderly use of wind flags, banners, and bandit signs in a manner that support limited special events while maintaining the aesthetic character and safety of the City.

8.14.2 Permitted Use of Wind Flags, Bandit Signs, and Banners at Limited Special Events

Wind flags, banners, and bandit signs are permitted only for limited special events in the following circumstances:

1. Eligible Events:

- a. A Special Event, as defined in Chapter 14 of the City of League City Code of Ordinances.

- b. A one-day event held no more than once a week at a site (farmer's markets, art or trade fairs, holiday markets, etc.).
 - c. This section is not intended to be utilized for ongoing commercial activity at its usual location or any "sale" events associated with a permanent business.
- 2. **Location Requirements:**
 - a. Wind flags, banners, and bandit signs shall be permitted only on-premise and shall not be placed within public rights-of-way, medians, or adjacent properties.
 - b. Wind flags, banners and bandit signs must be secured and shall not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular visibility and must adhere to AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) site visibility standards.
- 3. **Limitations:**
 - a. Wind Flags:
 - i. A maximum of two (2) wind flags are permitted per event site.
 - b. Bandit Signs:
 - i. A maximum of five (5) bandit signs are permitted per event site.
 - ii. Bandit signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area or three (3) feet in height.
 - c. Banners:
 - i. A maximum of one (1) banner is permitted per event site.
 - ii. Banners are limited to a maximum area of 36 square feet.
- 4. **Duration:**
 - a. Temporary bandit signs, banners, and wind flags shall be displayed only during the business hours of the associated event and must be removed at the conclusion of the event.
- 5. **Permit:**
 - a. A temporary sign permit shall be required for the use of wind flags, banners, and bandit signs.
 - b. The permit must identify the date, duration, and location of the event.
 - c. No more than one permit may be issued per week.

Sec. 8.154 Variance Procedures

Any variance request to this Article shall follow the procedures outlined in Section 2.14 of this Chapter.

Sec. 8.165 Enforcement Authority

The City of League City shall issue a citation and order the repair or removal of any dilapidated, abandoned, illegal, or prohibited signs from property within the corporate city limits of the City of League City. If the property owner fails or refuses to comply with this Article, the city shall give written notice to the property owner. The notice shall be delivered by U.S. Mail or in person to the owner. If delivery in person is not possible or the owner's address is unknown, notice shall be given by publication in the city's official newspaper at least once. The owner has ten (10) working days from the date of this notice to correct the violation. If the owner fails to correct the violation or fails to pay the cost for abatement, a

lien shall be filed against the property to secure all costs and fees incurred by the city as provided by law. In the event that a temporary or portable sign is erected without a permit, the City may remove any sign without notice and the sign shall be destroyed.

Sec. 8.176 Tables

Tables 3-8 show the types of signs allowed by roadways as defined in the Master Thoroughfare Plan. If a space is blank, the sign is not permitted. ROW stands for right-of-way.

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Appendix A – Definitions

Wind Flag: A temporary, vertical fabric sign typically mounted on a flexible pole or staff that flutters in the wind, also known as a feather flag or flutter banner.

Bandit Sign: A small, temporary sign typically staked into the ground and used to advertise a site-specific event or service.