

The following signs are prohibited in all locations in the City of Independence:

- Animated and wind-blown signs
- Portable signs
- Sound or smoke emitting signs
- Balloons and other inflatable signs



For more information contact:  
Community Development  
Current Planning Division  
111 East Maple  
Independence, MO 64050  
(816) 325-7193, Option 5  
[www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org)

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# Signs in Public Spaces

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## City of Independence Rules and Regulations

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## Are signs allowed in public spaces such as parks, public buildings and along public streets?

No. Signs are prohibited from being placed in the right-of-way and on telephone poles, utility poles, street signs and traffic control signs.

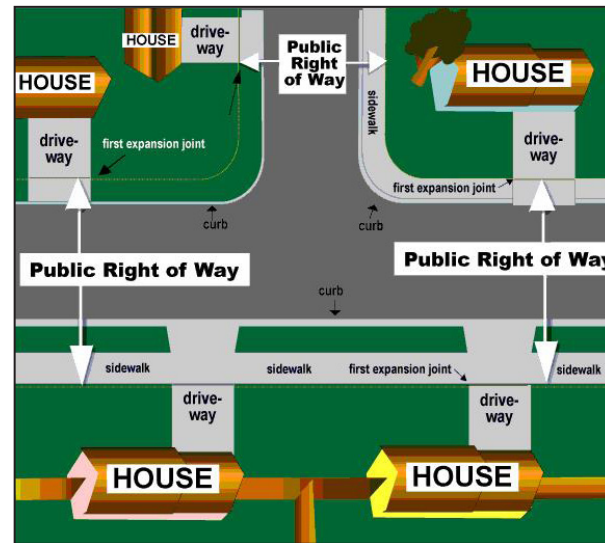
However, certain real estate signs and temporary garage sale signs are allowed on private property.



## Where are public spaces?

Public spaces, often referred to as the right-of-way, includes the common area between the street and the sidewalk and street medians. For city streets, this area can vary but it typically extends 11 feet inward from the curb or edge of pavement, if there are no curbs. This area varies along highways and includes the street pavement, drainage structures and traffic control signs.

Any signs placed lawfully on private property will not be picked up by City workers.



## What is the City doing to address signs in public spaces?

The City has a Sign Removal Program that utilizes City staff and volunteers to remove signs. Signs found in violation of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) are removed and discarded.



## What happens to the signs found in public spaces?

The signs are discarded in the trash and the business and/or individual is then sent a warning letter explaining the violation.

If a business or individual is found violating the UDO again, the business or individual is sent a citation for Municipal Court, which can fine up to \$500 per violation plus court cost.

## Why prohibit signs in public spaces?

- It is a City Council priority to keep Independence a safe and attractive community.
- The design or location of signs in public spaces can be distracting to drivers or block sight lines at intersections, thus reducing traffic safety.
- Signs haphazardly placed in public spaces such as parks or in front of public buildings can easily undermine an otherwise attractive area and make it appear cluttered and unkempt.
- Signs placed on utility poles could cause damage to the poles.