Sign Permit Application

Updated **AUGUST 2026**

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS

Please provide one copy of the application form and two sets of sign design plans with measurements. A sign permit fee is $150.00 plus $0.75 per Square Foot and will include a plan review of $150.00. If you have any questions please refer to the attached sign ordinance or call Bloomingdale City Hall. Inspections are to be called in at **(912) 748-0970**.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Permit Number: _____

Date Approved: _____ Permit Fee: _____

Inspector: _____ PIN #: _____

Applicant Information

Site Address

Description of Sign | Size and Height of Sign

Number of Signs | Estimated Cost

Sign Contractor | BUSINESS LICENSE #: **PROVIDE COPY OF BUSINESS LICENSE**

Sign Contractor Email | Sign Contractor Phone

Sign Contractor Mailing Address

Owner of Property

Owner of Property Mailing Address

Owner Email Address | Owner Phone

Sign Permit Application

Updated **OCT 2025**

Affidavit

I hereby certify that I have answered all of the questions contained herein and know the same to be true and correct. All work performed under this permit must comply with State law and local ordinances. Further, I understand that any permit issued, based upon false information or misrepresentation provided by the applicant, will be null and void and subject to penalty as provided by law and ordinance.

Applicant Name	Applicant Signature	Date

REQUIREMENTS

Two copies of the application form and two sets of site plan and sign design plans providing the following information shall be submitted:

a. A vicinity map showing the subject parcel's location

b. Dimensioned site plan showing property lines, the size of the parcel in square feet, sidewalks, building locations, parking spaces, driveways and location of any projecting or free-standing sign, the sign height and the clearance of the sign above the ground surface below the sign.

c. Dimensioned building facade elevations showing exact location of proposed wall or fascia sign and its relationship to any other signs.

d. Dimensioned sign elevations showing designated area of message and message configuration.

e. The aggregate area of all existing signs on the parcel.

f. Dimensioned structural members or fasteners and how they are attached to the facade of a building.

g. If illuminated, provide documentation of UL listed apparatus. If no UL listed, provide name of licensed electrician installing the wiring.

h. For all free standing or projection signs, structural calculations shall be provided showing that the sign structure will withstand the applicable wind pressures referenced in Section 911 of the Bloomingdale Code. This certification shall be provided by a Georgia Registered Architect or Engineer.

i. Signature of owner of property authorizing use of the property for proposed sign placement and maintenance.

j. Such other information as the City shall require showing full compliance with the laws and ordinances of the City.

FEES, PROHIBITED SIGNS AND TIME CONSIDERATIONS:

(A sign permit fee of $150.00 plus seventy-five (75) cents per square foot of sign face and will include a plan review fee of $150. The fee is not refundable if for any reason the application is denied or withdrawn. Section 903 lists the types of signs that are prohibited throughout the city. Section 902 requires the city to process all sign permit applications within 30 days of receipt of a completed application form and the required sign permit fee. Section 902(d)(2) requires an appeal for a denied permit to be made by the applicant within 10 days of the written notice of a denial. Section 902(d)(e) stipulates that a sign permit shall be null and void if the sign for which the permit was issued has not been completed and installed within six (6) months of the date of issuance.)

Property Owner Authorization (Building)

Updated **NOV 2024**

Authorization

Completion of this form is required for all of the following applications:

☐ Building Permit – Commercial ☐ Building Permit – Misc. ☐ Fire Prevention Permit ☐ Sign Permit - Permanent

I authorize the person named below to act as Applicant in pursuit of the use(s) checked above.

Applicant/Agent Name | Email | Phone

Applicant/Agent Address

I swear that I am the owner of the property, which is the subject matter of the attached application, as shown in the records of Chatham County, Georgia, and that the information contained in this authorization is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Property Address

Owner Name | Owner Signature | Date

Notary Public

Subscribed and Sworn This Day Of

Notary Name | Notary Signature | Commission Expiration

Seal

***MUST BE NOTARIZED**

A sign permit shall become null and void if the sign for which the permit was issued has not been completed and installed within three months after the date of issuance. No refunds will be made of permit fees for permits that expire due to failure to erect a permitted sign; provided that where an applicant can demonstrate that a commercial entity was timely engaged to construct the permitted sign but the fabrication has not yet been completed, one 90-day extension may be granted by the Zoning Administrator on the duration of the permit. Where a permit has expired for failure to erect the sign, if an individual later desires to erect a sign at the same location, a new application must be processed and another fee paid in accordance with the fee schedule in effect at the time of resubmission.

52-1208. - DISPLAY OF PERMIT.

The owner of the sign shall be responsible for maintaining the permit for every sign constructed, erected or maintained for which a permit is required by this article. Such permit shall be kept on the premises served by the sign and shall be exhibited promptly upon request of city officers and employees.

52-1209. - COMPLIANCE WITH TECHNICAL CODES; ZONING.

All signs hereafter erected, replaced, reconstructed, altered, relocated or modified within the city shall conform to all applicable requirements of the statewide minimum construction codes and any permissive building codes adopted by the city. Where the provisions of the Code of Bloomingdale, Georgia, other articles of the Unified Development Code of Bloomingdale, Georgia (including zoning), and this article conflict or overlap, the requirements of this article shall prevail and be controlling.

52-1210. - REGULATION OF SIGNS BY LAND USE: DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

52-1210 A.

This section governs any developed residential property other than residential property developed for multi-family.

52-1210 B.

Owners of property governed by this section may post only such signs as are authorized by this section and shall comply with the following requirements:

1. *Standard informational sign.* Such property may contain one standard informational sign, located entirely on private property and no closer than five feet from the back of the right-of-way. Signs shall not project over property lines.
2. *Temporary signs.* Developed residential properties may have an unlimited number of temporary signs, without obtaining a permit or payment of any fees, provided however, the total square footage of all temporary signs shall not exceed 30 square feet. Temporary signs should be removed when they become weathered or the function or event advertised has ended. Temporary signs placed on public right-of-way shall be subject to confiscation.

3. *Home-based businesses*. All signs for home-based businesses larger than one square foot are prohibited in residential districts .

52-1210 C.

Permanent subdivision signs. In addition to any other signs authorized by this section, if such property is located at the entrance to any residential subdivision, then said subdivision may contain no more than two monument signs per entrance; such signs shall conform to the specifications in *** Section 1211 D.

52-1211. - REGULATION OF SIGNS BY LAND USE: OTHER DEVELOPED PROPERTY.

This section governs properties which are developed for multi-family residential, and other properties which are developed for commercial, office or industrial use. All such properties may post only such signs as are authorized by this section. All signs not expressly authorized by this section are prohibited on such properties. Authorized signs shall comply with the following requirements:

52-1211 A. - Freestanding signs.

Such property may contain one or more freestanding signs in accordance with the following:

1. No freestanding signs shall be constructed, erected or maintained closer than five feet from back of the right-of-way and shall be installed completely on private property. No free standing sign shall be erected within ten feet of the nearest point of the public right-of-way at the intersection of two or more streets.
2. Where signs are erected at the same elevation as electrical power lines, the minimal horizontal distance from such power lines to the sign shall be ten feet.
3. Only one freestanding sign per platted lot shall be allowed along the right-of-way, provided that for business premises fronting on more than one street, one freestanding sign shall be allowed along no more than two right-of-way frontages.
4. All freestanding signs shall be surrounded by protective concrete curbing if in a paved area or shall be placed in a landscaped area. No freestanding sign shall be permitted to encroach in a parking area to such extent that the remaining parking spaces fail to meet the minimum standards of the zoning article for off-street parking.
5. Freestanding signs shall be erected to a height of no more than 20 feet, provided that planned centers (including both shopping centers and business parks) covering ten acres or more may erect one freestanding sign to a height of 30 feet. All sign heights shall be measured from the grade level of the nearest adjacent street from which the sign is visible. The level of the ground shall not be altered in any way so as to provide additional sign height. All freestanding signs shall have an unobstructed visual clearance exclusive of supports of not less than eight feet.
6. The maximum sign area of any sign, inclusive of any border and trim but excluding the base, apron, supports and other structural members shall be:
    a. Parcels exceeding three acres shall be allowed a maximum aggregate sign area for the entire parcel of 300 square feet.
    b. Parcels less than three acres but greater than 30,000 square feet shall be allowed a maximum aggregate sign area for the entire parcel of 180 square feet.

c. Parcels less than 30,000 square feet in size and 100 feet or more in width at the front property line shall be allowed a maximum aggregate sign area for the entire parcel of 100 square feet.

d. Parcels less than 30,000 square feet and less than 100 feet at the front property line shall be allowed a maximum aggregate sign area for the entire parcel of 60 square feet,

e. These limits shall not include the area of any principal use wall signs or billboard signs located on the parcel.

f. These limits shall include the area of all freestanding signs on the parcel.

g. Sign requirements are summarized in the table below.

Sign Type	3 acres or more	Less than 3 acres to 30,000 sq. ft.	Less than 30,000 sq. ft. and more than 100 feet at the property line	Less than 30,000 sq. ft. and less than 100 feet at the property line
Aggregate Sign Area	300 sq. ft.	180 sq. ft.	100 sq. ft.	60 sq. ft.
Freestanding Sign (Total Area)	200 sq. ft.	120 sq. ft.	60 sq. ft.	40 sq. ft.
Directory Sign	200 sq. ft.	120 sq. ft.	60 sq. ft.	40 sq. ft.

Billboard	14 ft.	48 ft.	672 sq. ft.	
Wall Sign			300 sq. ft. or 10% of wall face, whichever is greater	Attached at a height not less than 10 ft.

7. Exceptions. Exceptions to the size restrictions for shared signs may be made by the City Administrator upon petition by the property owner where it is determined that the number of tenants to be served by the sign are such that individual sign panels would measure less than four and one-half square feet each. Exception to the size limits shall be limited to the maximum relief necessary to allow such individual sign panels at a size of four and one-half square feet.
8. Drive thru menu boards. In addition to any other freestanding signs authorized by this section, if such property contains a business premises where materials are delivered at a drive thru delivery point other than on the front side of the building, then one additional freestanding sign per delivery point shall be allowed to be located on the property in the side or rear yard; no such sign shall exceed 32 square feet in sign area nor eight feet in height at the highest point.

52-1211 B. - Building signs.

Fifteen percent of the square footage of the business premises façade (including signage on glass windows and doors) may have building signs affixed thereto, provided that any business premises may erect one building sign of at least six square feet. Business premises may use a combination of signs as building signs. No individual building sign or combination of building signs shall exceed 220 square feet per business premises. Projecting signs attached to a building may extend over pedestrian portions of a public right-of-way not more than 18 inches from the surface of the building; provided that such signs shall not extend over paved portions of the roadway.

52-1211 C. - Changeable copy signs.

Changeable copy signs are permitted as an integral part of freestanding and wall signs on properties used for commercial, office-institutional, and industrial purposes, subject to the following:

1. The changeable copy portion of the sign shall not exceed 30 percent of the overall area of the sign of which it is an integral part. Total sign area shall be governed by the maximum size

limitations of this article. It is not the intent of the city to regulate the content of signs, but only to regulate by reasonable limitations as to size, height, location and placement.

2. Manual or mechanically-changeable signs may apply for a variance from the Mayor and City Council to increase the total sign area by no more than 30 percent, for a total of 130 percent of the maximum size and height limitations established by this article. There is no distance requirement imposed on freestanding or wall signs with manual or mechanically-changeable copy portions.

3. No electronic multiple message sign may be placed or located closer than 100 feet from an existing electronic multiple message sign on same side of the street or highway; provided, however, such sign may be located within 100 feet of another electronic multiple message sign when the signs are separated by buildings or other obstructions so that only one sign is visible from the street or highway at any one time. The message displayed on each multiple message sign shall remain fixed for at least ten seconds, with a transition between messages not to exceed two seconds. All electronic multiple message signs shall be equipped with a fully operational light sensor that automatically adjusts the intensity of the sign so that it does not operate at an intensity level of more than 0.3 foot-candles over ambient light as measured at a distance of 150 feet from the sign face. All electronic multiple message signs shall be programmed with a default that will freeze the display in one static position, display a full black screen, or turn off the display, if a malfunction occurs.

4. If the Zoning Administrator finds an electronic sign or any display, or any effect thereon, causes excessive glare or impairs the vision of the drivers of any motor vehicles, or otherwise serves to distract or interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicles, then, upon the Zoning Administrator's written notification of his or her finding, the owner of the sign shall promptly and within not more than 48 hours of receipt of such notice produce evidence acceptable to the Zoning Administrator that the sign is operating in accordance with this section and best industry practices for digital signs.

52-1211 D. - Monument signs.

Monument signs may be erected in lieu of freestanding signs at the option of the property owner. Such monument signs shall conform to all setback requirements for freestanding signs. The maximum sign area of any monument sign, inclusive of any border and trim but excluding the base, apron, supports and other structural members shall be:

1. Shared monument signs as part of a planned center (including both shopping centers and business parks) on parcels ten acres or more in size, 125 square feet in sign area, 15 feet in height.

2. Shared monument signs on parcels three acres or more but less than ten acres, 100 square feet in sign area, 12 feet in height.

3. Shared monument signs on parcels less than three acres, 90 square feet in sign area, and ten feet in height.

4. Monument signs for single business premises on parcels of three acres or more, 80 square feet in sign area, and ten feet in height.

5. Monument signs for single business premises on parcels of less than three acres in size, 60 square feet in sign area, and eight feet in height.

6. Monument sign structures shall not exceed one and one-half times the sign area for all monument signs.

52-1211 E. - Standard informational signs.

In addition to any other sign authorized by this section, such property may contain no more than two standard informational signs, without a permit or fee, located so that the sign is located completely on private property and the support is no closer than five feet from the back of right-of-way.

52-1211 F. - Permanent development signs.

In addition to any other signs authorized by this section, at the entrance to any development, such as a shopping center, business park, or mixed-use subdivision, that parcel may contain no more than two permanent development signs at each entrance.

52-1211 G. - Billboards.

In lieu of any freestanding signs authorized by this Code, such property may contain one billboard which complies with the following:

1. Billboards are allowed on parcels fronting federal or state highways on properties on which industrial or commercial activities are conducted, as defined herein. Such billboards are limited to 504 square feet in sign area aggregate with dimensions not exceeding 12 feet in height or 42 feet in width aggregate.
2. Billboards are allowed on parcels fronting municipal streets other than federal or state highways, on which industrial or commercial activities are conducted, as defined herein. Such billboards are limited to 300 square feet in sign area aggregate, with dimensions not exceeding 12 feet in height and 25 feet in width aggregate.
3. Billboards shall be erected to a height of no more than 50 feet when located adjacent to state and federal highways and no more than 30 feet when located adjacent to other streets.
4. All portions of a sign face and support members of any billboard shall be setback from all buildings, structures and property lines at least 75 feet.
5. Illumination. All illuminated billboards shall use base mounted fluorescent or mercury vapor lights and shall be activated by photoelectric cells. Additional lighting, including but not limited to, neon, animation and running lights, is prohibited.
6. Extrusions prohibited. Extrusions beyond the face of any billboard, excluding aprons, are prohibited.
7. Location and number of signs. Only one billboard shall be allowed per platted lot. Billboards shall be no less than 1,500 feet apart on the same side of a street or road, measuring from the two closest existing billboards. Only two sign faces shall be allowed to face the same direction per location; back to back or "V" formation signs are allowed, but no more than two sign faces or less side by side or over and under, facing the same direction are allowed.
8. A digital billboard shall meet all criteria for an electronic multiple message sign under *** Section 1211 C.

52-1212. - REGULATION OF SIGNS BY LAND USE: VACANT AND UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY

Any property which is vacant and not developed with improvements, even if in common ownership with and attached to developed property, may contain only those signs authorized by this section:

52-1212 A. - Standard informational signs.

Such property may contain one standard informational sign, without a permit or fee, located so that the signs are erected entirely on private property and are not closer than five feet from the back of right-of-way.

52-1212 B. - Billboards.

Such property may contain one billboard which complies with the following:

1. Billboards are allowed on parcels fronting federal or state highways on properties on which industrial or commercial activities are conducted, as defined herein. Such billboards are limited to 504 square feet in sign area aggregate with dimensions not exceeding 12 feet in height or 42 feet in width aggregate.
2. Billboards are allowed on parcels fronting municipal streets other than federal or state highways, on which industrial or commercial activities are conducted, as defined herein. Such billboards are limited to 300 square feet in sign area aggregate, with dimensions not exceeding 12 feet in height and 25 feet in width aggregate.
3. Billboards shall be erected to a height of no more than 50 feet when located adjacent to state and federal highways and no more than 30 feet when located adjacent to other streets.
4. All portions of a sign face and support members of any billboard shall be setback from all buildings, structures and property lines at least 75 feet.
5. Illumination. All illuminated billboards shall use base mounted fluorescent or mercury vapor lights and shall be activated by photoelectric cells. Additional lighting, including but not limited to, neon, animation and running lights, is prohibited.
6. Extrusions prohibited. Extrusions beyond the face of any billboard, excluding aprons, are prohibited.
7. Location and number of signs. Only one billboard shall be allowed per platted lot. Billboards shall be no less than 1,500 feet apart on the same side of a street or road, measuring from the two closest existing billboards. Only two sign faces shall be allowed to face the same direction per location; back to back or "V" formation signs are allowed, but only two sign faces or less side by side or over and under, facing the same direction are allowed.
8. A digital billboard shall meet all criteria for an electronic multiple message sign under *** Section 1211 C.

52-1213. - SPECIAL EVENT SIGNS.

All special event signage, including portable signs (as defined by this article) and spectacular signs and devices shall be displayed only by permit under the following conditions and requirements:

52-1213 A.

Prior to display of a special event sign, an application for a permit shall be filed with the City of Bloomingdale. One permit shall be issued to cover all signs and devices during the period of permit coverage. Handling of permit requests shall conform to *** section 1206. All signs and devices to be covered by the permit shall be specifically described as to their construction and/or composition and location on the business premises.

52-1213 B.

The maximum size allowed for the total of all window signs to be displayed under the permit shall be 150 square feet. The maximum size allowed for the total of all banners to be displayed under the permit shall be 70 square feet. The maximum size allowed for the total of all spectacular signs and devices shall be 300 square feet.

52-1213 C.

Spectacular signs may be attached to the exterior wall or walls of the building or securely attached to the roof, but shall not be placed on or located so as to obstruct the public right-of-way. Portable signs may be located within parking areas of the business premises (but not upon the right-of-way), provided the minimum number of spaces for all off-street parking are maintained.

52-1213 D.

The maximum number of special event sign permits to be issued to a single premises shall be four per year for a period of time not to exceed 30 days for each permit issued. No more than one special event permit shall be issued per calendar quarter per business premises.

52-1213 E.

Except as modified by this section all special event signs or devices must comply with all other applicable regulations and conditions set forth in this article governing their usage.

52-1214. - ERECTING SIGNS WITHOUT PROPER CONSENT.

52-1214 A.

No person shall place, print, nail, tack or otherwise fasten any sign, card, banner, hand built sign, poster, advertisement or notice of any kind, or cause the same to be done, on public right-of-way, or on any private property without first obtaining the written consent of the owner of such property or its lawfully

designated agent. Any person found to have intentionally violated this section shall be subject to punishment in accordance with *** Section 1-12 of the Code of Bloomingdale, Georgia.

52-1214 B.

No person shall willfully or intentionally construct, erect, operate, use or maintain any sign within the city in violation of this article. A violation of this section, upon conviction before the Municipal Court, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed $500.00.

52-1215. - OTHER EXCEPTIONS TO PERMIT PROVISIONS.

The permit requirements of this article shall not apply to the following, provided that the signs or devices erected or placed are located on property of the person who erects such signs or on property whose owner has given written permission for such placement.

52-1215 A.

Flags of a size not exceeding four feet by six feet attached to a pole mounted directly onto a residence, business or commercial structure, not to exceed three per premises, or three flags not exceeding 48 square feet mounted on an independent flagpole installed directly into the ground.

52-1215 B.

Any sign erected or permitted by or at the direction of any government entity on public property that it owns, controls or maintains.

52-1215 C.

Seasonal, religious, political, ideological, or holiday decorations erected on either public or private property.

52-1215 D.

Identification plates for doors not exceeding four inches by 18 inches in size.

52-1215 E.

Building numerals designating property numbering of a building or premises, as required by Code of Bloomingdale, Georgia, *** Section 22-113; provided, such numerals not to exceed a height of six inches on residential property or a height not exceeding 12 inches on commercial, office or industrial property.

52-1216. - NON-CONFORMING SIGNS.

Signs that were approved and legally erected under previous sign restrictions, and that became or has become non-conforming with respect to the requirements of this article, may continue in existence subject to the remaining provisions of this section.

52-1216 A.

No increase in size of the non-conforming sign shall be permitted.

52-1216 B.

Existing signs which were legally erected but which have become non-conforming and which do not meet the setback requirements of this article due to road widening should be moved to meet the setback requirement of this article but shall not be increased in size, shape or changed in any manner except as to become conforming.

52-1216 C.

On all properties, signs shall be removed which:

1. Were illegally erected or maintained with respect to this article or other Code provisions;
2. Are made of paper, cloth or non-durable materials (except standard informational signs); or
3. Are located in the public right-of-way, except as permitted by this article.

   It shall be the duty of the property owner to remove any signs illegally erected upon or improperly maintained upon its property in violation of this article. Continued maintenance of an illegal or improperly maintained sign shall constitute a nuisance and be subject to abatement in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Bloomingdale, Georgia. Upon failure to comply with any requirement of an order entered by the Municipal Court, the City Administrator or their authorized agent may cause the removal of such sign at the expense of the owner.

4. A non-conforming sign shall not be replaced by another non-conforming sign, except that the substitution or interchange of poster panels, painted boards or de-mountable material on non-conforming signs shall be permitted.
5. Minor repairs and maintenance of non-conforming signs such as electrical repairs or lettering repair shall be allowed. However, no structural repairs or changes in the size or shape of the sign shall be permitted except to make the sign comply with the requirements of this article. However, signs damaged by fire or act of God must comply with the city's current signage article at the time of rebuilding unless compliance would prevent the sign from being rebuilt, in which case the sign may be restored to its original condition.
6. Each non-conforming sign shall be registered within 90 days of the enactment of this article by the sign owner, and if it is determined that such non-conforming sign was legally erected under a prior article, then a sign permit shall be issued to the sign owner without charge and the sign shall be marked with a permit decal. Should the owner of a non-conforming sign fail to register such sign within 90 days from the enactment of this article, such failure to register shall be deemed a violation of this article, and such person shall be subject to citation in Municipal Court.

7. Existing signs on the property of newly annexed territory that were legally erected under the county article which would become non-conforming under this article upon annexation by the city shall be allowed to remain, provided such sign shall be registered with the city within 90 days of annexation.

52-1217. - INSPECTIONS.

The City of Bloomingdale shall periodically inspect each permanent and temporary conforming and non-conforming sign in an attempt to ascertain whether the same is secure or insecure, and whether it is in compliance with the requirements of this article or in need of repair. Responsibility for the safety of signs and security of their attachment or erection remains at all times with the sign owner.

52-1219. - SIGNS REQUIRING REMOVAL.

52-1219 A. - Traffic hazards.

Any sign constituting a traffic hazard or a menace to the motoring public or pedestrians, as determined by the City of Bloomingdale, shall be removed as provided in *** Section 1220.

52-1219 B. - General maintenance.

Every sign, including those signs for which permits are required and those for which no permits or permit fees are required shall be maintained in a safe, presentable and good structural condition at all times. The sign owner shall be responsible for repair or replacement of defective parts, painting, repainting, cleaning and other acts required for the maintenance of the sign. If the sign is not made to comply with adequate safety and maintenance standards, the Zoning Administrator shall require its removal in accordance with *** Section 1220.

52-1219 C. - Abandoned signs.

Except as otherwise provided in this article, any sign that is located on property that becomes vacant and unoccupied for a period of twelve months or longer, or any sign which pertains to a time, event or purpose which no longer applies, shall be deemed to have been abandoned. Permanent signs applicable to a business temporarily suspended because of a change of ownership or management of such business shall not be deemed abandoned unless the property remains vacant for a period of twelve months or more. Sign panels from abandoned signs shall be removed by the owner of the premises on which the sign is located within the time frame specified in this subsection. The supporting structure of an abandoned sign shall be subject to the non-conforming use provisions of *** Section 1216.

52-1219 D. - Dangerous or defective signs.

No person shall maintain or permit to be maintained on any premises owned or controlled by that person any sign that is in a dangerous or defective condition. Any such sign shall be removed or repaired by the owner of the premises or owner of the sign. Upon failure of the owner to remove or repair a dangerous or defective sign, the Zoning Administrator shall proceed as described in *** Section 1220.

52-1219 E. - Unlawful signs.

No person shall erect or permit to be erected any sign that does not comply with the provisions of this article.

52-1220. - REMOVAL PROCEDURE.

52-1220 A.

The Zoning Administrator shall cause to be removed any sign that he determines endangers the public safety, such as an abandoned, dangerous, or electrically or structurally defective sign or a sign for which no permit has been issued or which is otherwise in violation of this article. The Zoning Administrator shall prepare a written notice that shall describe the sign and specify the violation involved. The notice shall state that if the sign is not removed or the violation is not corrected within 30 calendar days, the sign shall be removed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

52-1220 B.

All notices by the Zoning Administrator shall be personally served or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. Any time periods provided in this section shall be deemed to commence on the date of service as contemplated by O.C.G.A. § 9-11-4.

52-1220 C.

The notice shall be mailed to the owner of the property on which the sign is located, the owner of the sign, if known, and the occupant of the property, if any. If any such person is unknown or cannot be found, notice shall be mailed to such person's last known address, if any, and posted on the sign or on the premises.

52-1220 D.

Any person having a financial interest in the sign or the property may appeal the determination of the Zoning Administrator ordering removal or compliance by filing a written notice of appeal with the Mayor and City Council within 20 calendar days after receipt of the notice. Appeals will be handled as provided in *** Section 1206.

52-1220 E.

If the person to whom notice is directed pursuant to subsection (b) above fails to take corrective action within the time period prescribed, or if on appeal the Mayor and City Council affirms the decision of the Zoning Administrator and the person fails to take corrective action or remove the offending sign within the time period prescribed, then the Zoning Administrator shall proceed to have the sign removed or corrected to bring such sign into compliance with this article or to remove any unsafe condition.

52-1220 F.

When it is determined by the Zoning Administrator that the sign would cause imminent danger to the public safety and contact cannot be made with the sign owner or building owner, no written notice shall

have to be served prior to removal. In such emergency situation, the Zoning Administrator shall document the unsafe condition and may correct the danger, with all costs being charged to the sign owner or the property owner.

52-1220 G.

If it shall be necessary for the Zoning Administrator to remove the sign pursuant to the provisions of this section, and it should be practicable to sell or salvage any material derived in the removal, the Zoning Administrator may sell or salvage any material derived in the removal. He may sell the same at public or private sale at the best price obtainable and keep an account of the proceeds thereof. Such proceeds, if any, shall be used to offset the cost of removal to be charged to the sign owner or property owner. Any proceeds in excess of the cost of removal shall be returned to the sign owner, if known, or if unknown, shall be deposited in the city treasury and maintained for benefit of the owner for a period of three years. At the end of three years, all unclaimed proceeds shall become the property of the city. Where the proceeds derived from such sale are less than the costs of removal, such deficiency shall constitute a lien against the property on which the sign is located. Such lien shall be collectable in the same manner as city property taxes.

52-1220 H.

Any sign removed by the Zoning Administrator pursuant to the provisions of this section shall become the property of the city and may be disposed of in any manner deemed appropriate by the city. The cost of removal of the sign by the city shall constitute a lien against the property and shall be recoverable in the same manner as city property taxes. The cost of removing shall include any and all incidental expenses incurred by the city in connection with the sign removal.

52-1221. - VARIANCES.

52-1221 A.

Variances from the regulations of this article shall be limited to the following hardship situations:

1. Where the proximity of existing signs on adjoining lots causes the subject property to be ineligible, due to spacing requirements, for a sign of the type sought; or
2. Where visibility of a conforming sign from the proposed street and within 50 feet of the proposed sign would be substantially impaired by existing trees, plants, natural features, signs, buildings or structures on a different lot; and
    a. Placement of the sign elsewhere on the lot would not remedy the visual obstruction;
    b. Such visibility obstruction was not created by the owner of the subject property; and
    c. The variance proposed would not create a safety hazard to vehicular traffic or pedestrians.

52-1221 B.

Variances shall be limited to the minimum relief necessary to overcome the hardship. No variances shall be granted to allow a greater number of signs than would be allowed if the hardship did not exist.

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM
CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF BLOOMINGDALE, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, BY CREATING AN ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE PEACE, TRANQUILITY, AND QUIET ENJOYMENT OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS BY RESTRICTING THE HOURS AND DAYS THAT ALL DEMOLITION OF PROPERTY, ALL TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION, ALL TIMBERING AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES CAN BE PERFORMED WITHIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE OF EACH RESIDENTIAL ZONED PARCEL; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Bloomingdale, Georgia is authorized by O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3 to adopt ordinances relating to its property, affairs and local government; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have authority to amend the City's ordinances from time to time and where necessary to maintain adequate regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE, in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The Code of Ordinances of Bloomingdale, Georgia, as amended, are hereby amended for the purpose of creating and establishing an ordinance to protect the peace, tranquility, and quiet enjoyment of residential property owners by restricting the hours and days that all demolition of property, all types of construction, all timbering and associated activities can be performed within a certain distance of each residential zoned parcel as follows:

BLOOMINGDALE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 34-15

The Mayor and Bloomingdale City Council have determined that it has become necessary to create an ordinance to protect its citizens from noise, dust, and light pollution which are generated by demolition of property, all types of construction, all timbering and associated activities near residential zoned parcels.

Therefore, all demolition of property, all types of construction, all timbering and associated activities performed within 1500 feet of a residential parcel, as measured from the closest point between the residential parcel line and the parcel line where the demolition of property, construction or timbering and associated activities is occurring, shall only be performed between the hours of 07:30 a.m. and 08:30 p.m., Eastern standard time, Monday through Saturday.

Any person or legal entity that violates these requirements shall be guilty of violating a City ordinance and shall be punished according to Bloomingdale City Ordinance Section 1-11. The owner of the parcel where the demolition of property, construction, timbering and associated activities is occurring shall be deemed to have committed a violation of this ordinance for allowing the activity to occur in violation of this ordinance on his/her/its property. However, the first violation may be treated as a written warning to insure that the violator(s) has/have notice of the ordinance requirements.

In the event a charge is brought for a second violation, all permits for demolition, construction, and/or timbering shall be temporarily suspended and a stop work order issued until a hearing is held before City Council to determine if the permits and demolition, construction, and/or timbering shall be stopped and/or revoked for violation

of this ordinance. A written warning shall be counted as a first charged violation when determining if a second charged violation has occurred.

Mayor and City Council may issue a waiver of the requirements of this ordinance based upon information that clearly shows that a residential parcel will not be impacted by the above delineated activity restrictions.

SECTION TWO:

If any section, clause, sentence, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way effect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION THREE:

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

SECTION FOUR:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SO ORDAINED this 16 day of February, 2023.

CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE

Dennis Baxter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer Scholl, City Clerk

Read First Time: 2/16/23

Read ~~Second Time~~ and Approved: 2/16/23

Waived