



City of Prineville
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CITY HALL
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January 7, 2016

To: Prineville City Council

From: Phil Stenbeck, CFM, Planning Director

Re: LED sign discussion.

As you may recall, at the last City Council meeting on December 8, 2015, there was a presentation by the Crook County Fairgrounds Manager Casey Daly about a conceptual design idea for a County Fairgrounds sign in the vicinity of Pioneer Park and the Police Station.

Also at the meeting was Paul Gratton who asked the City Council to ban LED signs in Prineville. The City Council considered both requests, and chose to send the discussion about the Fairgrounds sign and the request to ban LED signs to the Planning Commission for further discussion and a recommendation to the City Council on how to proceed.

The Planning Commission reviewed both requests and asked City staff to share the following recommendations with the City Council.

1) Fairgrounds sign request in the vicinity of Pioneer Park:

The Planning Commission deliberated first over the Fair Board sign. The Planning Commission asked questions to gain a more thorough understanding of the type of sign. The Planning Commission as a community asset and concluded that the code currently allows these types of signs and it would not be appropriate to deny it.

Commissioner Engstrom made a motion to recommend the Fair Board sign be approved, Commissioner Harper seconded the motion with an amendment that the sign reduce or eliminate the use of flashing, intermittent, revolving, rotating or moving lights and limit colors and brightness specifically at night. The amendment was accepted and the motion to recommend approval to the City Council as amended was passed unanimously.

(LED sign discussion)

2) The request from Paul Gratton to ban LED signs:

Paul Gratton, a citizen of Prineville presented his opposition to LED signs in general and not specifically to the Fair Board's proposal. He gave some history of why he moved here and passed out additional information. His primary concerns with these types of signs are that they are hazardous to drivers and reduce the aesthetics of the City. He cited proliferation of these types of signs as a cause for reduced property values and character of the City.

The Planning Commission makes a recommendation to the City Council to move the discussion about an LED sign ban to the City's Downtown Strategic Planning (DSP) Committee for further review and recommendation. In follow up to the Planning Commission recommendation, City staff will place an LED sign ban discussion on the DSP Committee agenda for the regularly scheduled DSP Committee meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2016.