STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	(	
COUNTY OF LANCASTER	(	ORDINANCE NO. 2019-1609

### AN ORDINANCE

TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2016-1442, THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ("UDO"), CHAPTER 7.4.6 (C) TO REMOVE MESSAGING RESTRICTIONS ON PERMITTED ELECTRICALLY-ACTIVATED CHANGEABLE SIGNS WHEN USED BY SCHOOLS, COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY STATIONS, WORSHIP CENTERS, PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES, AND HOSPITAL USES WITHIN THE NB, RMX, MX, AND INS ZONING DISTRICTS.

Be it ordained by the Council of Lancaster County, South Carolina:

## **Section 1.** Findings and Determinations.

The Council finds and determines that:

- (a) Chapter 7.4.6 (C) of the UDO allows only time and weather to be shown on electronically activated changeable signs in the NB, RMX, MX, and INS districts.
- (b) The restriction on content for electronically activated changeable signs is preventing schools, colleges and universities, public safety stations, worship centers, public recreation facilities, and hospital uses from showing day to day information such as when events will be held at these locations and/or public safety announcements.
- (c) The proposed text amendment will allow schools, colleges and universities, public safety stations, worship centers, public recreation facilities, and hospital uses to provided sign messaging beneficial for public health and safety.

## **Section 2.** Amendment of Ordinance 2016-1442

Ordinance 2016-1442 (Unified Development Ordinance) Chapter 7.4.6(C) Changeable Signs, is amended as follows:

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#### C. CHANGEABLE SIGNS

- 1. Manually-Activated Changeable Signs: Any permitted sign may be a manually-activated changeable sign.
- 2. Electrically-Activated Changeable Signs (On-Premises): Any permitted sign in the GB, RB, LI, and HI districts, or on any property with 500 feet or more of frontage on a street with at least 2 travel lanes in each direction, may be, or include as part thereof, an electrically-activated changeable sign not to exceed 20 square feet in area, provided that the size of the sign may not exceed the area originally allotted.
- 3. Permitted signs in the NB, RMX, MX, and INS Districts may be, or include as part thereof, only time and weather informational signs as electrically-activated changeable signs. Time and weather messaging restrictions shall not apply to schools, colleges and universities, public safety stations, worship centers, public recreation facilities, and hospital uses.
- 4. In multi-tenant commercial developments of 40 or more acres, up to 200 square feet or 50 percent, whichever is less, of any allotted freestanding sign may be an electrically-activated changeable sign.

# **Section 3.** Severability.

If any section, subsection or clause of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections and clauses shall not be affected.

### **Section 4.** Conflicting Provisions.

To the extent this ordinance contains provisions that conflict with provisions contained elsewhere in the Lancaster County Code or other County ordinances, the provisions contained in this ordinance supersede all other provisions and this ordinance is controlling.

## **Section 5.** Effective Date.

This ordinance is effective upon Third Reading.

## AND IT IS SO ORDAINED

Dated this	14+1	_ day of _	October	, 2019.

LANCASTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Steve Harper, Chair, County Council

Larry Honeycutt, Secretary, County Council

ATTEST:

Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council

First Reading:

September 9, 2019

Second Reading:

September 23, 2019

Public Hearing:

September 23, 2019

Third Reading:

October 14, 2019