

ORDINANCE NO. 24-1749

**AN ORDINANCE OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK
APPROVING ZONE CHANGE NO. 2024-01 ESTABLISHING SPECIAL
SIGN DISTRICT NO. 1 OVERLAY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Constitution Article XI, Section 7, the City of Norwalk (the “City”) has the authority to enact local planning and land use regulations to protect the public health, safety and welfare of their residents through its police power; and

WHEREAS, the City police powers provides the right to adopt and enforce zoning and other regulations; and

WHEREAS, concurrently filed herewith, the City’s Planning Division staff initiated Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) No. 2024-02 Title 17 (Zoning), Chapter 17.02 (Approval Procedures), Article I (Procedure, Hearing, Notices) and Article V (Discretionary Approval and Permits) of the Norwalk Municipal Code (NMC) to establish a review process to allow the creation of a Special Sign District overlay for parcels that may be reasonably grouped together; and

WHEREAS, ZTA No. 2024-02 provides City Council, the Planning Commission or the City’s Community Development Director, the authority to initiate consideration of a proposed ordinance to approve a Special Sign District overlay as set forth in Section 17.02.290 (Zoning Changes); and

WHEREAS, Section 17.02.290.C of the NMC requires that the Planning Commission hold a public hearing upon the initiation of a zone code amendment; and

WHEREAS, Section 17.02.290.D of the NMC requires that the Planning Commission provide the City Council with a written recommendation including the findings constituting the bases for the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the City Community Development Director, by and through Planning Division Development staff, initiated Zone Change No. 2024-01 to create Special Sign District Overlay No. 01 (SD 1) overly and Zone Text Amendment No. 2024-03, amending Title 17 (Zoning), Chapter 17.01 (Administration), Article II (Establishment of Zones, and Limiting the Uses of Land Therein) and Title 17 (Zoning), Chapter 17.03 (Development Standards), Article III (Signs) of the NMC to establish development standards for SD 1; and

WHEREAS, SD 1 includes to the following parcels listed in no particular order by assessor parcel numbers: 8047-006-910, 8047-006-922, 8047-006-924, 8047-006-925, 8047-006-926, 8047-006-927, 8047-007-136, 8047-007-188, 8047-007-189, 8047-007-190 and 8047-007-191; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2024, the City Planning Commission approved Resolution No. 24-03 recommending City Council adopt ZTA No. 2024-02 to establish the review process to allow the creation of a Special Sign District overlay; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2024, the Planning Commission approved Resolution 2024-04 recommending City Council adopt ZC No. 2024-01 to create SD 1 and Resolution 2024-05 recommending City Council adopt ZTA No. 2024-03 to establish SD 1 development standards; and

WHEREAS, public hearing notices were placed in a local newspaper in accordance with the NMC, and all interested persons were given full opportunity to be heard and present evidence; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2024, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 24-1748 approving ZTA No. 2024-02 to amend Title 17 (Zoning), Chapter 17.02, Article I (Procedure, Hearing, Notices) and Article V (Discretionary Approvals) of the NMC to establish the review process to allow the creation of a Special Sign District overlay; and

WHEREAS, evidence, both written and oral, was duly presented to and considered by the City Council at a duly noticed public hearing on September 17, 2024 to consider the proposed SD 1 overlay.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The City Council finds and declares that the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and incorporates said recitals fully into this Ordinance as substantive findings.

Section 2. Findings. The proposed Special Sign District is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Norwalk General Plan, as the district will enhance the City's economic base and promote a positive image of the City of Norwalk.

Section 3. Findings. The proposed Special Sign District will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or injurious to the City.

Section 4. Findings. The City Council has determined that the formation of SD 1 to establish a new sign district will assist in the economic development and vitality of the City.

Section 5. Approval. The City Council hereby approves Zone Change No. 2024-01. The SD 1 boundaries are incorporated as Exhibit "A" and the amended Zoning Map is incorporated in Exhibit "B".

Section 6. Environmental. The City Council hereby determines this Ordinance is exempt by the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Code of Regulations, also known as the "Common Sense Exemption" and Section 15311 (Class 11 – Accessory Structures) of

the California Code of Regulations, for the construction or replacement of minor accessory structures including on-premise signs. It should be noted that an application for any future development pursuant to SD 1, shall undergo individual environmental review.

Section 7. Severability. If any section, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, or otherwise invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 8. Certification. ZTA No. 2024-02 shall be approved and effective prior to or concurrent to the effective date of the ZC No. 2024-01. The City Clerk is directed to certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted as required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2024.

**MARGARITA L. RIOS
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**THERESA DEVOY, CMC
CITY CLERK**

Exhibit "A"
Ordinance No. 24-1749
Special Sign District No. 01 Boundary Map



Exhibit "B" Ordinance No. 24-1749 Amended Zoning Map

