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**CITY OF FIRCREST  
ORDINANCE NO. 1674**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FIRCREST, WASHINGTON,  
AMENDING SECTION 25 OF ORDINANCE 1598 AND  
FIRCREST MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 22.26.025  
EXEMPTIONS TO THE SIGN CODE.**

**WHEREAS**, Land Use Goal 12 of the Fircrest Comprehensive Plan and its related policies state the City should continue to refine its permit process and periodically review and revise its development regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to exempt city-owned signs that serve a community purpose from the sign code standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the City submitted a Notice of Intent to Adopt to the Washington State Department of Commerce on April 15, 2021, which was issued to state agencies for a 60-day comment period as required pursuant to RCW 36A.70 RCW, and no comments were received; and

**WHEREAS**, the City issued a *Determination of Nonsignificance/Incorporation by Reference of Environmental Documents, Adoption of Existing Environmental Documents* on April 15, 2021 with a 14-day comment period and no comments were received; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on May 4, 2021 to accept public testimony and comment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has considered the criteria listed in Section 22.78.004 FMC:

- a. The proposed amendments are consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the comprehensive plan.
- b. The proposed amendments will promote, rather than detract from, the public health, safety, morals, and general welfare.

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held a public hearing on June 8, 2021 to accept public testimony; Now, Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIRCREST:**

**Section 1.** The City Council of the City of Fircrest hereby adopts the “whereas” section of this ordinance as findings.

**Section 2.** Ordinance 1598, Section 25, and FMC 22.26.025 are hereby amended to read as follows:

**22.26.025 Exemptions.**

The following are exempt from the permit requirements of this chapter:

- (a) Painting, repainting, cleaning, repairing and other normal maintenance, unless structural or electrical changes are made;

- 1 (b) Temporary signs on private property or public property, meeting the requirements  
2 in FMC 22.26.021;
- 3 (c) Governmental Signs. Signs installed by the city, county, or a federal or state  
4 governmental agency for the protection of the public health, safety and general  
5 welfare, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - 6 (1) Emergency and warning signs necessary for public safety or civil defense;
  - 7 (2) Traffic and/or wayfinding signs erected and maintained by an authorized public  
8 agency;
  - 9 (3) Signs required to be displayed by law;
  - 10 (4) Signs showing the location of public facilities;
  - 11 (5) Entrance signs, readerboard signs, or other community-oriented signs installed  
12 and maintained by the city; and
  - 13 (6) Any sign, posting, notice, or similar sign placed by or required by a governmental  
14 agency in carrying out its responsibility to protect the public health, safety and  
15 general welfare;
- 16 (d) Temporary Signs in Windows. Any temporary sign taped or otherwise affixed to  
17 the inside of a window, in such a manner as to be easily removed; provided, that the  
18 total area of such sign in any one window does not exceed the square footage  
19 limitations in FMC 22.26.021 (Temporary signs) and 22.26.024 (Window signs);
- 20 (e) Interior Signs. Signs or displays located entirely inside of a building and located  
21 at least three feet away from transparent doors and windows;
- 22 (f) Vehicle Signs. Any sign on a vehicle, unless such vehicle is parked or stationed  
23 near an activity for the primary purpose of attracting public attention to such activity,  
24 unless such vehicle or mobile unit is regularly parked in any prominently visible  
25 location for the primary purpose of attracting public attention to the sign;
- 26 (g) Changes to the face or copy of changeable copy signs and digital signs, provided  
27 such changes do not change the material or appearance of the sign as originally  
28 permitted by the city;
- 29 (h) Sculptures, fountains, mosaics, and design features that do not incorporate  
30 advertising or identification;
- 31 (i) Any flags, provided that they conform to all provisions of this chapter for signs;
- (j) Building identification numbers as required pursuant to Chapter 12.26 FMC or  
any other city or state regulation;
- (k) Certain Historic and Architectural Features. Stone or cement plaques and  
cornerstones with engraved or cast text or symbols and permanently embedded in the  
building's foundation or masonry siding materials; provided, that none of these  
exceed four square feet in area;

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(l) Signs not intended to be viewed by the public from the street right-of-way that are not visible from adjacent property. Examples include signs located within an enclosed or partially enclosed lobby or courtyard of any building or group of buildings that are designed and located to be viewed exclusively by patrons of such use or uses, and kiosks and other related informational signs that are placed along internal walkways that are designed specifically to be viewed by pedestrians and not intended to function as advertising to motorists on nearby public streets.

**Section 3. Severability:** If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance should be held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this sentence.

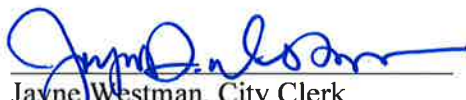
**Section 4. Publication and Effective Date:** A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the city. This ordinance shall be effective five (5) days after such publication.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIRCREST, WASHINGTON,** at a regular meeting thereof this 22nd day of June 2021.


**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hunter T. George, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jayne Westman, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael B. Smith, City Attorney