

STATE OF GEORGIA

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

**An Ordinance to Amend Appendix C, of the Official Code of Effingham County Article III**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof, as follows:

**Section 1. Amendment.**

(a) The Official Code of the County of Effingham, GA, Appendix C, be, and the same hereby is, amended to include a new section, designated as **Section 3.38.6 as follows:**

J. Changeable copy signs.

1. General Rule – Signs that move, flash or simulate movement are prohibited. A changeable copy sign is considered a different classification sign under this ordinance; conversion of an existing sign to an automatic changeable copy video sign or to add an automatic changeable copy video element to it is allowed only if the modified sign will conform with all standards in this section and with all other applicable standards related to the location, height, size, location and other characteristics of the sign.
2. Each message displayed on any changing sign display shall remain static for at least ten seconds following the completion of its transition from the previous message. As used in this subsection “static” shall mean a display that is fixed in one position with no portion of the display being in motion or changing in color or light intensity.
3. Changing of image shall be substantially instantaneous, two seconds or less, as seen by the human eye and shall not use fading, rolling, window shading, dissolving or similar effect as part of the change.
4. No display or other effect from any electronically changed sign shall cause a glare or other condition that impairs the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle or which otherwise interferes with the safe operation of a motor vehicle.
5. Video technology in signs shall use automatic level controls to reduce light levels at night and under cloudy or other darkened conditions, in accordance with the following standards. All electronic or digital display unit message boards shall have installed ambient light monitors, and shall at all times allow such monitors to automatically adjust the brightness level of the electronic billboard based on ambient light conditions. Maximum brightness levels for electronic or digital display boards shall not increase by more than 0.3 foot candles over ambient levels.
6. Any sign using video technology which malfunctions, fails, or ceases to operate in its usual or normal manner causing therein motion, movement, flashing or any other similar effects, , shall be repaired or disconnected within 48 hours by the owner or operator of such billboard.

7. The County shall be able to have emergency notices on placed on electronically changeable billboards within 24 hours notice.

**Section 2. Severability.** If any sections, phrase, sentence or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not attest the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption by the County Commission of the County of Effingham, Georgia.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

This 7th day of April, 2009.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DUSTY ZEIGLER

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICE R. CRAWLEY  
EFFINGHAM COUNTY CLERK

FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING \_\_\_\_\_