

Draft Nelson Plan – Frequently asked questions

Signs

Does the Draft Nelson Plan propose rules regarding the use of election hoardings?

Election signs are provided for by the Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005. These regulations manage the location and appearance of such signs, and the period over which they may be erected. Any election signage which is not controlled under these regulations would require resource consent under the Draft Nelson Plan.

Would I be able to use a moveable sandwich board to advertise outside my shop?

Under the Draft Nelson Plan, sandwich boards would not need a resource consent where already controlled by Council's Urban Environments Bylaw 2015. This bylaw addresses the use of sandwich boards ensuring that they relate to the business outside of which they are located, and are within size and height limits. For more information on sandwich boards search for the Urban Environment's Bylaw on Council's website www.nelson.govt.nz. Any sandwich board which is not controlled under this bylaw would require resource consent under the Draft Nelson Plan.

Would I need to apply for a resource consent to erect a sign for my business?

Resource consent would only be required for signs where permitted activity standards cannot be met. The proposed standards for signs differ from zone to zone, with generally more permissive rules applying to signs in commercial and industrial zones than other zones. Common requirements of most advertising signs are that they must be located on the site where the advertised activity is occurring, that they do not obstruct sight-lines in and around roads and intersections, and do not create a distraction or physical hazard for pedestrians or cyclists. Controls also apply to the illumination, sound and moving parts or images on signs.

If I own a heritage building, will the Draft Nelson Plan rules affect any signage in or on my building?

It is proposed that small heritage identification signs are permitted for any heritage item that is not a Category A or B Heritage building. Additional controls relating to signage location and size are proposed for signs on any Category A or B Heritage building.

If I share a building with other businesses would we all need to use the same signage?

In all commercial and industrial zones, it is proposed that each business that has tenancy or is an occupier of a building is entitled to one sign each, subject to controls on the type of sign and where it is located. In the case of painted wall signs, the total area of all signs must not exceed 30% of the total wall space as viewed from any public space. This means that space for wall signs may need to be shared between businesses occupying the same building.

Would I be required to follow any signage style guidelines?

The Draft Nelson Plan does not include a design guide for signs. However, there are standards for different types of signs, such as free-standing ones or veranda signs, and other signs attached to buildings. Standards address matters such as sign size, letter size, location, height, visibility and illumination. Digital signs and signs that use noise sources are also subject to specific standards. Signs that are close to and visible from public roads must also address matters such as headlight

reflection, letter size and word numbers, to ensure legibility from public roads and minimise the potential for distraction for road users.

Links to the Draft Nelson Plan

This 'frequently asked questions' sheet addresses a few of the key provisions in the Draft Nelson Plan. It should not be used as a definitive representation of content. To view actual Draft Nelson Plan content, please go to shape.nelson.govt.nz.