



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
60 HUDSON STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013-3394

GASTON SILVA, R.A., Commissioner

(212) 312-8000
TTY (212) 312-8188

Richard C. Visconti, R.A.
Deputy Commissioner
(212) 312-8120
FAX (212) 312-8088

Issuance #549

**TECHNICAL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE NOTICE #8/98**

TO: Distribution
FROM: Richard C. Visconti, R.A. *RV*
DATE: October 22, 1998
SUBJECT: ILLUMINATED SIGNS

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE: To provide consistent guidelines for inspectors and plan examiners regarding illuminated signs in certain commercial districts.

SPECIFICS:

In the past, there had been some inconsistency in the interpretation of Zoning Resolution §32-64 Surface Area and Illumination Provisions, which regulates illuminated signs in commercial districts. This section deals with maximum surface area and whether illuminated and flashing signs are permitted. The differing interpretation arises in §32-641 Total Surface Area of Signs, which applies in all C districts, and states in part "...all permitted signs, including non-illuminated or illuminated..." This has sometimes been interpreted to mean that illuminated signs are permitted in all C districts. This is not the case. Illuminated signs are not permitted in C3, C5-1, C5-2, C5-3 and C5-5 zoning districts.

The illuminated sign provisions of the Zoning Resolution should be interpreted as follows:

§32-643 **Permits:** illuminated non-flashing signs in **C1** and **C2** zoning districts provided they meet the specified surface area and maximum area requirements.

§32-644 **Permits:** illuminated or flashing signs in **C4**, **C5-4**, **C6** and **C7** zoning districts provided they meet the specified surface area and maximum area requirements (except in **C6-5**, **C6-7** and **C7** where there are no size restrictions).

Prohibits: flashing signs in **C6-1A** zoning districts.

§32-645 **Permits:** illuminated or flashing signs or advertising signs with indirect illumination in **C8** zoning districts provided they meet the specified surface area and maximum area requirements.

RCV:RI:sr