CITY COUNCIL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

AN ORDINANCE
BY: ZONING COMMITTEE

03-O-
Z-03-30 03-O-0695

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SIGN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, CODE SECTIONS 16-28A.007 AND SECTION 16-28A.008 TO ADD A DEFINITION OF HISTORIC MARKERS AND TO ADD HISTORIC MARKERS AS ONE OF THE CATEGORIES OF SIGNS WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 16-28A.001 through 16-28A.0017 of the City of Atlanta Zoning Code comprises the Sign Ordinance of the City of Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, the Sign Ordinance was enacted to address matters concerning the number, size, design characteristics and locations of signs in the City of Atlanta as related to the public health safety and welfare and the beauty and appearance of the City; and

WHEREAS, Section 16-28A.005 does not allow a sign to be erected, constructed enlarged, moved or altered unless in accordance with the Sign Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, during the period between 1951 and 1997, historic markers were constructed and maintained by the State of Georgia, first through the Georgia Historical Commission and then by the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the City did not have the jurisdiction to regulate the location and construction of historical markers; and

WHEREAS, when in February of 1997, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources discontinued erecting historic markers, the Georgia Historical Society, a private, non-profit organization that serves as the historical society for the people of the State of Georgia announced that it would begin a statewide historic marker program; and

WHEREAS, the signs created and erected by Georgia Historical Society through its program which is known as the Georgia Historical Marker Program, as well as the historic marker programs of other historical societies, are subject to the City of Atlanta Sign Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Historical Marker Program presently creates and erects historic markers of the same size, shape, and material as those erected by the State of Georgia, limits the number of markers to twenty per year and provides that funding can be made available in the event that the repair or replacement of the newly erected historic markers becomes necessary; and

WHEREAS, well defined requirements for site qualification and for the height, size and shape of the markers and for the text and decoration which is allowed to appear on the face of the marker that the new markers will not detrimentally affect the public

health safety and welfare or substantially detract from the beauty and appearance of the City.

WHEREAS, the City wishes to allow historical societies, such as the Georgia Historical Society, to erect markers which are compatible with the those constructed and maintained by the State of Georgia, first through the Georgia Historical Commission and then by the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, so that sites associated with significant historical events and persons can be used to educate citizens and visitors about the people and events which have shaped our past and present.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 16-28A.007 of the Sign Ordinance of the City of Atlanta be amended to include a new section which shall be sub-section (w), and which shall read as follows:

(w) *Approved Historic Marker* is a sign created and erected for the commemoration of historical events, through a program directly administered by a non-profit organization chartered for the purpose of research and education in Georgia history. An approved historic marker may only commemorate events that occurred more than fifty years ago, or if devoted to a person, such person must have been deceased for at least twenty-five years. All approved historic markers shall be free standing, two-sided, cast aluminum markers of the same size, shape and height (including the support pole), as that marker previously used by the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in the State of Georgia historical marker program. An approved historic marker shall have a total plate size of 38" x 42" and a black background with text in silver. The lettering of the approved historic marker text shall be no more and no less than 1" in height and the text shall be the same on each side. The seal of the sponsoring historic society shall be the only decoration allowed on an approved historic marker and shall be painted in the same color as the text and shall not exceed an area of 96 square inches.

Section 2. That Section 16-28A.008 of the Sign Ordinance of the City of Atlanta entitled "Signs not requiring a permit" be amended to include a new section which shall be sub-section (10) and which shall read as follows:

(10) Approved historic markers. (see section 16-28A.007(w)). Signs which do not meet the requirements for approved historic markers provided in section 16-28A.007(w) as to size, shape, height, plate size, and allowable text or decoration are not "approved historic markers," even if erected for the purpose of commemorating historical events or persons, and shall be required to obtain a permit in accordance with the City of Atlanta Sign Ordinance.

A true copy,
Rhonda Dauphin Johnson
Municipal Clerk, CMC

ADOPTED by the Council AUG 18, 2003
APPROVED by the Mayor AUG 21, 2003

RCS# 4951
8/18/03
2:22 PM

Atlanta City Council

Regular Session

MULTIPLE 03-O-0690,Z-03-28; 03-O-0930,Z-03-29/
Z-01-48; 03-O-0695,Z-03-30
ADOPT

YEAS:	14
NAYS:	0
ABSTENTIONS:	0
NOT VOTING:	1
EXCUSED:	0
ABSENT	1

Y Smith	B Archibong	Y Moore	Y Mitchell
Y Starnes	Y Fauver	Y Martin	Y Norwood
Y Young	Y Shook	Y Maddox	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Muller	Y Boazman	NV Woolard

MULTIPLE

03- O -0695
(Do Not Write Above This Line)

AN ORDINANCE 2-03-30
BY: ZONING COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SIGN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, CODE SECTIONS 16-28A.007 AND SECTION 16-28A.008 TO ADD A DEFINITION OF HISTORIC MARKERS AND TO ADD HISTORIC MARKERS AS ONE OF THE CATEGORIES OF SIGNS WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

ADOPTED BY
AUG 1 8 2003
COUNCIL

- ☐ CONSENT REFER
- ☑ REGULAR REPORT REFER
- ☐ ADVERTISE & REFER
- ☐ 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER
- ☐ PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred 5/5/03
Referred To: ZRB & Zoning
Date Referred
Refferred To:
Date Referred
Referred To:

First Reading
Committee ZONING
Date APRIL 30 2003
Chair [signature]
Referred To ZRB & Zoning

Committee	Committee
Zoning	
Date July 30 2003	Date
Chair [signature]	Chair
Action Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)	Action Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
Other	Other
Members [signature]	Members
Natalie Archibald	
Felicia A. Moore	
Mary Norwood	
Refer To	Refer To

Committee	Committee
Date	Date
Chair	Chair
Action Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)	Action Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
Other	Other
Members	Members
Refer To	Refer To

FINAL COUNCIL ACTION
☑ 2nd ☐ 1st & 2nd ☐ 3rd
Readings
☐ Consent ☐ V Vote ☑ RC Vote

CERTIFIED

CERTIFIED
AUG 1 8 2003
ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
Catherine M. Woolard

CERTIFIED
AUG 1 8 2003
Rhonda Dauphin Johnson
MUNICIPAL CLERK

MAYOR'S ACTION
AUG 2 1 2003
[signature]