

**GRAND COUNTY, UTAH
ORDINANCE NO. 630 (2021)**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 588 AND LAND USE CODE
SECTIONS 6.5.4 (PROHIBITED SIGNS), 6.5.5(D) (PERMITTED SIGNS;
ILLUMINATION), AND 10.2 (DEFINITIONS)**

WHEREAS, Utah Statute § 17-53-223 grants the legislative body power to enact and pass all ordinances and rules and make all regulations, not repugnant to law, necessary for carrying into effect or discharging the powers and duties conferred by same, and as are necessary and proper to provide for the safety, and preserve the health, promote the prosperity, improve the morals, peace, and good order, comfort, and convenience of the county and its inhabitants, and for the protection of property in the county;

WHEREAS, the previously named Grand County Council adopted the *Grand County Land Use Code* (“Land Use Code” or “LUC”) on January 4, 1999 with Ordinance No. 299 and amended it February 19, 2008 with Ordinance No. 468 for the purpose of regulating land use, subdivision and development in Grand County in accordance with the General Plan;

WHEREAS, the Grand County Commission (the “Commission”) adopted Ordinance No. 588 (“Dark Skies Ordinance”) on April 2, 2019 after public hearing and determination that it was in the best interest of the citizens of the County;

WHEREAS, Utah’s Natural Bridges National Monument is the world’s first International Dark Sky Park, and Grand County is one of four Utah Counties with two or more International Dark Sky Parks;

WHEREAS, preserving Grand County’s dark night skies provides an economic benefit by encouraging visitors to stay longer as well as supporting astro-tourism specific businesses;

WHEREAS, Utah has some of the darkest skies in the world, the the Utah Office of Tourism advertises dark sky places as part of their promotion of Utah at www.visitutah.com, and the Fall 2020 Business Summit hosted by the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Development highlighted presentations on the Economics of Dark Sky Communities;

WHEREAS, electronic messaging signs and digital billboards are harmful to the nighttime environment and electronic or digital billboard display technologies cannot be shielded, causing their light to flood the night sky, which wastes energy, contributes to light pollution, and harms the County’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the Grand County Commission desires to amend Ordinance No. 588 and LUC Sections 6.5.4, 6.5.5(D), and 10.2 to expressly prohibit electronic billboards in the unincorporated area of Grand County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Grand County Commission hereby amends Ordinance No. 588, in relevant part, and Land Use Code Sections 6.5.4, 6.5.5(D), and 10.2 (Definitions) as follows:

See Exhibit A.

To immediately preserve the peace and health of the County, its inhabitants, and its dark skies, this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication in the *Times Independent* pursuant to Utah Statute § 17-53-208.

ADOPTED by the Commission in a public meeting on April 6, 2021 as follows:

Those voting aye: Clapper, Hadler, Hedin, McGann, Stock, Walker, Woytek

Those voting nay:

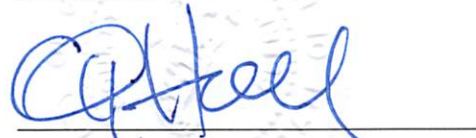
Those absent:

Grand County Commission:

ATTEST:



Mary McGann, Chair



Quinn Hall, Clerk/Auditor

Exhibit A

Section 6.5.4 (Prohibited Signs)

Prohibited signs include the following signs:

- A. Signs advertising business, activity, product or service not conducted on the premises upon which sign is located, such as billboards;
- B. Signs employing mercury vapor, low pressure and high pressure sodium, metal halide lighting, internal illumination, and plastic panel rear-lighted;
- C. Signs on roofs, dormers, and balconies;
- D. Signs containing statements, words, or pictures of an obscene, indecent or immoral character;
- E. Signs that contain or consist of ribbon streamers, strings of light bulbs, spinners, or other similarly moving devices;
- F. Signs that have a moving part or are portable or wheeled;
- G. Signs painted or mounted upon the exterior side or rear walls of any principal or accessory building or structure, except as otherwise permitted hereunder; and
- H. Signs employing flashing, intermittent, or moving light(s) such as electronic or digital display technologies (LED, LCD, etc).

Section 6.5.5(D) Permitted Signs Illumination

1. Signs may be unlighted, lighted externally, lighted internally, or backlit. All sign lighting must be designed, directed, and shielded in such a manner that the light source is not visible beyond the property boundaries where the sign is located. Lighting for signs must be directed such that only the sign face is illuminated. All lighted signs must have stationary and constant lighting. Flashing, intermittent, or moving light(s) including electronic or digital display technologies (LED, LCD, etc.) are prohibited pursuant to Section 6.5.4(H), as amended.

Section 10.2 (Definitions)

Sign Any letter, figure, character, mark, plane, point marquee sign, design poster, pictorial, picture, stroke, stripe, line, trademark, reading matter, or billboard of illuminated or non-illuminated surface that shall be so constructed, placed, attached, painted, erected, fastened, or manufactured in any manner whatsoever, so that the same shall be used for the attraction of the public to any place, subject, person, firm, corporation, public performance, article, machine, or merchandise whatsoever, that is displayed in any manner whatsoever out of doors.