



Vacant Commercial Window Display Regulation Guidelines

NOTE: This handout is a guide to assist property owners in meeting the window display requirements of the Municipal Code 17.176 created by Ordinance No 2015-438. It does not change or supersede the ordinance.

Commercial buildings that are vacant for an extended period of time may detract from the appearance of a vibrant downtown. The purpose of these requirements is to minimize these effects by requiring ground-floor windows of vacant commercial buildings in the Downtown to be aesthetically pleasing.

Window Display Requirements: One or more of the following window displays must be utilized on the ground-floor window display areas of vacant commercial spaces. Commercial ground-floor windows (street, sidewalk, parking lot or courtyard facing windows) within the Old Town Commercial, Primary Commercial, Residential Scaled Commercial and Retained Commercial Districts are required to have window displays constructed and/or installed when the space has been unoccupied for more than ninety (90) consecutive days.

Faux window dressings containing goods or services with the visual characteristics of a vibrant business using background panels or other methods to screen views of the unoccupied space from the street, sidewalk and public areas;

Works of art including paintings, sculptures, or other examples of fine arts, or other displays of cultural, historical, or educational value, utilizing colorful & vibrant materials, and using background panels or other methods to screen views of the unoccupied space from the street, sidewalk, parking lot and courtyard areas;

Window paintings applied directly to the window surface featuring visually appealing, colorful, vibrant scenes, shapes, or images shall be visible on all street, sidewalk, parking lot & courtyard areas; or

Other measures consistent with these examples, if approved in writing by the Planning & Building Director (Director) or their designee, at their discretion. Displays should cover 80%-100% of the window facing the public street. If the display does not cover the entire window, the unoccupied (or vacant) space should be screened to obscure it. Upon installation or whenever changes are made to window displays, approval of the displays will be at the discretion of the Director or designee. The window display must be changed every six (6) months with the renewal of the permit.

Displays shall be changed every 6 months and a new registration shall be submitted for the changed window treatment.



Works of Art



Faux window dressings



Window Paintings



Registration

A vacancy registration form must be submitted within ten (10) calendar days for commercial street-level space that has been unoccupied for ninety (90) consecutive calendar days on the effective date or any time thereafter. Application fee shall be paid at the time of submittal and as shown on the Town of Yountville Master Fee Schedule. Monthly Inspection Fee will also be charged in accordance with the Master Fee Schedule. Initial and renewal registrations must be submitted on forms provided by the Town of Yountville and signed by the responsible party of the space.