RESOLUTION NO. 2616

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, CREATING A RIGHT OF WAY POLITICAL SIGN FREE ZONE PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §16-1019(F).

WHEREAS, during the 2011 First Regular Session, the Arizona Legislature passed and the Governor signed HB2500 relating to political signs within the right of way; and

WHEREAS, HB2500 contains a general prohibition against cities, towns, or counties removing, altering, defacing or covering any political signs placed in their right of way if certain requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, HB2500 provides an exception to this prohibition for Commercial Tourism, Commercial Resort and Hotel Sign Free Zones that are designated by municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson makes the following findings:

A. Along Highways 87 and 260 within the Town limits, and West Longhorn Road between Highway 87 and Colcord Road ("the Corridor"), there is a predominance of commercial tourism, hotel, and restaurant uses;
B. There are a total of 8 hotels in the Corridor;
C. There are a total of 34 restaurants in the Corridor;
D. Over 95% of the hotels in Payson and 85% of the restaurants in Payson are within the Corridor;
E. Most tourists who come to Payson travel to and through the Corridor;
F. In recent years, the Town of Payson has adopted design review guidelines with the goal of creating a more aesthetically appealing community; and
G. In 2009, the Town Council adopted the Payson SR 87/260 Design Guidelines - Landscaping and Signage Recommendation specifically to increase the scenic and aesthetic appeal of the Corridor.

WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that based on a predominance of commercial tourism, resort and hotel uses within the Corridor, that the placement of political signs in the Town's rights of way within the Corridor would detract from the scenic and aesthetic appeal of the Corridor and deter the Corridor's appeal to tourists; and

WHEREAS, the area of the Corridor, extending 250 feet from the centerline of Highways 87 and 260 and West Longhorn Road between Highway 87 and Colcord Road is contiguous and does not exceed 3 square miles; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to designate the Corridor and specifically all Town rights of way within 250 feet of the center line of Highways 87 and 260 and West Longhorn Road between Highway 87 and Colcord Road as a Sign Free Zone for the purposes of A.R.S. §16-1019(F),

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NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Town right of way along and adjacent to Highways 87 and 260 within the Town limits, and West Longhorn between Highway 87 and Colcord Road is hereby designated a Political Sign Free Zone. Such Sign Free Zone shall include all Town right of way within 250 feet from the center line of Highways 87 and 260, and West Longhorn between Highway 87 and Colcord Road, even if such right of way is associate with roadways that intersect Highways 87 and 260, or West Longhorn Road.

Section 2. That the Political Sign Free Zone is depicted on Exhibit A, attached hereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON this _____ day of _____, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES _____ NOES _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT _____

_____
Kenny J. Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Timothy M. Wright, Town Attorney

Prepared by Town of Payson Legal Department

EXHIBIT A
TO
RESOLUTION 2616

TOWN OF PAYSON

SIGN FREE ZONE

NORTH

Payson

600 0 600 1200

TOWN BOUNDARY

Commercial Tourism, Commercial Resort and Hotel Sign Free Zone

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