

# Sign Enforcement Report 2012

Division of Planning  
Council Presentation  
August 28, 2012



# Sign Enforcement: General

- Zoning Ordinance Enforcement (including signs) **Transferred** from Building Inspection to Planning as of **January 1, 2012**
- “Nuisance” **signs in rights-of-way** are handled by the Division of **Code Enforcement**

# Sign Enforcement: General

- Staffing – **four** inspectors for all Zoning Enforcement – no one inspector dedicated to sign issues
- **Complaint-driven** process at present (but working toward proactive enforcement programs)



# Sign Enforcement “By-the Numbers”

## January 1-August 16 2012



- Total Cases/Complaints Investigated:  
**319** Total Zoning Violation Cases;  
**33 Sign-Related (10.3 %)**  
(Plus **5** cases carried over from 2011)



- **15** Sign Cases Currently “Open” (**11** of those **15** first reported **August 15**)
- **63** Notices Issued for Sign Violations

# Types of Sign Complaints



- Yard Sale/"For Rent" (**1**)
- Banners/Temporary Signs (**16**)
- Obsolete Business Signs (**1**)
- Dilapidated – Structural Issues (**1**)
- Illegal Business Signs (**3**)
- Off-premises advertising (**9**)
- Neon Signs (**1**)
- Painted Wall Signs (**1**)
- Right of Way (**410** Removed by Code Enforcement as of 8/14)

# Future of Zoning Enforcement- What are We Working On?

- “**System-izing**” Enforcement Program (Research, Data, Review of Past Practices, Standardizing Procedures, etc.)
- **Analysis** of Priorities, Capacity, “Geography” of Complaints, etc.
- Identifying **Barriers** to Effective Enforcement (Vague Ordinances, Ineffective Penalties, Lack of Abatement Authority and Funding, etc.)
- Moving Toward a Program that **Blends Complaint-Driven** Enforcement with **Proactive** Enforcement Efforts



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*Questions?*

