To: Rules Review Commission Office of Administrative Hearings  
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Written Comments to North Carolina Department of Transportation's Proposed Permanent Rules  
19A NCAC 02E.0204, .0206, and .0225

To: RRC Commissioners and Commission Staff

These comments are submitted in support of the NCDOT proposed rules 19A NCAC 02E . 0204, .0206, and .0225. In particular they address the billboard industry’s arguments that the NCDOT cannot recognize local ordinances controlling billboards within their jurisdiction and that NCGS 136-131.1 and 131.2 preempt local government control of billboards. It appears that the RRC accepted these arguments in disapproving the above proposed rules in December. The amendments submitted by NCDOT in February do not substantially change the proposed rules. The RRC can, once again, reject the proposals if it accepts the billboard industry’s legal arguments. Alternatively, however, and as argued below, the RRC should reconsider its previous objections, and approve the proposed rules since they are supported by federal law, state law, the state’s agreement with the federal government, and NC case law.

I gained some expertise in the area of billboard regulation in 25 years serving as an attorney for the city of Durham where I had primary responsibility for drafting, and defending, where necessary, a variety of environmental, utility, zoning and land use ordinances, including sign and billboard controls. I successfully defended the city’s billboard ordinance for six years in federal court, in a case ultimately affirmed by the Fourth Circuit, which the US Supreme Court declined to review.

I. Federal law, state law, and the federal-state highway agreement allow local zoning of billboards and regulations 19A 02E.0204 and .0206 simply continue the federal-state-local regulatory system that has existed since the inception of the federal Act.

23 US Code §131, the Highway Beautification Act, as amended, originally enacted in 1965, prohibits billboards in areas that are not commercial or industrial along the federal interstate system and federal primary highways. In areas that are commercial or industrial the state must establish "effective control" consistent with "customary use" which is determined by agreement between the state and the federal government. 23 US Code §131(d). The federal statute provides that zoning "under authority of State law" will determine what comprises industrial or commercial areas. It further anticipates that restrictions imposed by local zoning authorities might replace the restrictions in the State-federal agreement.

(d) In order to promote the reasonable, orderly and effective display of outdoor advertising while remaining consistent with the purposes of this section, signs, displays, and devices whose size, lighting and spacing, consistent with customary use is to be determined by agreement between the several States and the Secretary, may be erected and maintained within six hundred and sixty feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way within areas adjacent to the Interstate and primary systems which are zoned industrial or commercial under authority of State law, or in unzoned commercial or industrial areas as may be determined by agreement between the several States and the Secretary. The States shall have full authority under their own zoning laws to zone areas for commercial or
industrial purposes, and the actions of the States in this regard will be accepted for the purposes of this Act. *Whenever a bona fide State, county, or local zoning authority has made a determination of customary use, such determination will be accepted in lieu of controls by agreement in the zoned commercial and industrial areas within the geographical jurisdiction of such authority.*

*(emphasis added)*

Federal regulations in 23 CFR Subpart G implement the above provisions, and others in the Act. Sec. 750.706 provides, in pertinent part, that:

(c) Where the agreement and State law permits control by local zoning authorities, these controls may govern in lieu of the size, lighting, and spacing controls set forth in the agreement, subject to the following:

1. The local zoning authority’s controls must include the regulation of size, of lighting and of spacing of outdoor advertising signs, in all commercial and industrial zones.

2. The regulations established by local zoning authority may be either more restrictive or less restrictive than the criteria contained in the agreement, unless State law or regulations require equivalent or more restrictive local controls.

... 

4. The State shall notify the FHWA in writing of those zoning jurisdictions wherein local control applies. ... The State shall periodically assure itself that the size, lighting, and spacing control provisions of zoning ordinances accepted under this section are actually being enforced by the local authorities.

*(Emphasis added.)*

The North Carolina General Assembly passed the Outdoor Advertising Control Act (“OACA”), NCGS 136 Article 11 to implement the new federal requirements regarding receipt of federal highway funds. Various provisions reference local governing authorities and local ordinances. NCGS 136-128(6) Definitions defines “State law” as “a State constitutional provision or statute, or an ordinance, rule or regulation enacted or adopted by a State agency or political subdivision of a State pursuant to a State Constitution or statute.” *(emphasis added)* Paragraph (2a) of the Definitions states that a “‘Nonconforming sign’ shall mean a sign which was lawfully erected but which does not comply with the provisions of State law or State rules and regulations passed at a later date ...” North Carolina court decisions discussed at length *infra* have definitively held that local government regulation of billboards subject to the OACA is allowed under the definition of “State law” in the OACA, and not preempted by the OACA, and further, that billboards that do not confor**m** with these restrictions are considered “nonconforming signs” under the OACA.

The OACA states that the NCDOT may deny a permit to an applicant whose billboard would not conform with the OACA. See § 136-133.5. Denial of a permit for proposed outdoor advertising, as follows: “(a)When a district engineer determines that a proposed outdoor advertising structure would not conform to the standards of outdoor advertising as set out in the Outdoor Advertising Control Act, the district engineer shall refuse to issue a permit for that proposed outdoor advertising structure.”
The OACA states in § 136-136 Zoning changes that zoning authorities shall give written notice to DOT of changes in their industrial and commercial zoning. And, finally, in § 136-138. Agreements with United States, the OACA authorizes the DOT to enter into an agreement with the federal government and to take actions to comply with that agreement.

Pursuant to GS 136-138 the State entered into an agreement with the federal government in 1972. That agreement set forth in subsection (a) various standards for billboards in commercial and industrial areas. Regarding control by local governments, the Agreement states in Section III(b) (page 6) that:

"When local zoning authorities have established effective control within zoned commercial and industrial areas, through regulations or ordinances with respect to size, lighting, and spacing of outdoor advertising signs . . . the State may notify the Administrator of such effective control. After notification to the Administrator of effective control by the local zoning authority, the size, lighting, and spacing requirements set forth in subsection (a) will not apply in those areas."

Pursuant to the above authorizations in federal law, state law, and state-federal agreement, for decades state regulations have allowed NCDOT to authorize local governments to issue permits and regulate maintenance of billboards in their jurisdictions when they have established effective control within zoned commercial and industrial areas.

Proposed 19A NCAC 02E.0204 is not different in substance than what has been previously legally authorized in NCDOT rules for decades. NCGS 136-131.1 regarding local government payment of just compensation when a local government removes a sign has also been in the NC statutes for decades and has never been interpreted to disallow this rules. NCGS 136-131.2 enacted in 2013 has not been interpreted by the courts. However, rather than prohibiting regulation by local governments, it acknowledges it, but then further restricts such regulation in the event it runs afoul of the parameters on “reconstruction” which is, unfortunately, not defined in the statute. The revised regulation submitted by NCDOT specifically incorporates the requirements of this new statute. That is sufficient to continue to allow local governments to exercise the regulatory authority contemplated by federal law, state law, and the federal-state agreement.

Like Rule .0204, proposed Rule 19A NCAC 02E.0206 has also existed in substantially the same form and substance for decades. Its reference to local governments simply requires a billboard company to submit a sign permit or zoning permit from a local government when applying to NCDOT for a permit to construct a new billboard. Nothing has changed in state law regarding permitting for new billboards. NCGS 136-131.2 does not apply to new billboards but only existing billboards. The NCDOT has made it clear in the last paragraph of .0206 that “The act of reconstruction or relocation of a conforming sign within the permitted parcel boundaries as authorized in Rule .0225 of this Section is not the erection of a new sign and does not require a new permit; only an alteration permit addendum to the existing permit shall be necessary.” It is clear, therefore, that requiring a local government permit cannot invoke any of the prohibitions on sign removal in GS 136-131.1 or sign repair and reconstruction in GS 136-131.2.
II. NC court decisions have consistently held that the OACA does not preempt local government requirements regarding billboards

The North Carolina courts have repeatedly considered, and rejected, the arguments of the billboard industry that local government ordinances that more strictly regulate billboards that are also subject to state regulation under the OACA are preempted by the OACA. These decisions were rendered after passage of GS 136-131.1 requiring local governments to pay “just compensation” when billboards are “removed.”

In these cases, the NC Court of Appeals analyzed the OACA, applied GS 160A-174(b) which sets forth the statutory rules for how to determine when a local ordinance is preempted by state law, and determined that local regulation of billboards is allowed because the OACA does not regulate the entire field.

In Pine AOA Media v Jackson County, 146 N.C. App. 470, 554 S.E.2d 657 (2001), the North Carolina Court of Appeals allowed Jackson County to apply a sign moratorium to a particular sign that had been constructed without a permit, rejecting an interpretation of GS 136-134 that would have arguably invalidated the moratorium.

The court in Lamar Outdoor Advertising v City of Hendersonville, 155 N.C. App. 516, 573 S.E.2d 637 (2002), conducted a meticulous analysis of GS 160A-174(b) and the OACA in rejecting the billboard company’s assertion that Henderson’s ordinance limiting the repair of a damaged billboard was preempted by the OACA. It analyzed three state statutes in other areas – alcoholic beverages, swine control, and sprinklers in buildings – that did preempt local regulation because they were intended as a “complete and integrated” system to the exclusion of local regulation. It found, in contrast, that the OACA did not show any legislative intent for exclusive regulation under GS 160A-174(b)(5), observing:

The very definition of "State law" in the OACA contemplates the involvement of local governments: "a State constitutional provision or statute, or an ordinance, rule or regulation enacted or adopted by a State agency or political subdivision of a State pursuant to a State Constitution or statute." N.C. Gen. Stat. § 136-128(6) (2001) (emphasis added). In addition, G.S. 136-136 specifically demands local involvement in the area of outdoor advertising regulation, by requiring that local zoning authorities notify the Department of Transportation ("DOT") if they establish or change "commercial and industrial zones within 660 feet of the [primary highway] right-of-way." N.C. Gen. Stat. § 136-136 (2001). Beyond the statutory scheme set out in the General Statutes, the DOT, under authority vested in it by Article 11, even defers to local regulation of outdoor advertising when it provides that conforming signs, in order to be rebuilt, must "not conflict with any applicable state, federal or local rules, regulations or ordinances." 19A NCAC 2E .0225(b)(2) (April 2002) (emphasis added). Thus, we conclude that the OACA does not preempt local regulation of outdoor advertising.


The analysis in Hendersonville, above, was affirmed in two succeeding billboard cases in which the industry once again argued that the OACA had entirely regulated the field of billboard regulation and therefore local ordinances restricting billboards were entirely preempted. The Court of Appeals rejected this conclusion. Morris Communications Corp. v Bd. Of Adjustment for City of Gastonia, 159 N.C. App. 598, 583 S.E.2d 419 (2003), appeal
dismissed, 357 N.C. 658, reh’g denied, 358 N.C. 155 (2004); Lamar OCI South Corp. v Stanly County Board of Adjustment, 186 N.C. App. 44, 650 S.E.2d 37 (2007), aff’d in part and disc. rev. improvidently allowed in part, 362 N.C. 670, 669 S.E.2d 322 (2008). As in Hendersonville, the court in both cases noted that the definition of “State law” in the OACA includes “political subdivisions” of the state and thus allowed local government regulation of billboards. In both cases, however, the court held that notwithstanding the fact that local government regulation of billboards is allowed under GS 160A-174(b)(5), a narrower preemption provision, GS 160A-174(b)(2) expressly preempted the particular local ordinance restrictions being challenged since the ordinances made unlawful a change to a billboard that NCDOT in its regulations specifically made lawful.

It is important to note that all of the above cases rejecting preemption of local billboard controls were decided long after the passage of NCGS 136-131.1 which requires a local government or any other “political subdivision” to pay “just compensation” if it removes or causes to be removed a billboard regulated by NCDOT with a valid permit. Not one decision held that this provision preempts a local government from regulating billboards under the OACA though in two cases specific ordinances that ran afoul of contrary NCDOT provisions were struck down.

In conclusion, because of the ample federal and state support authorizing local regulation and the North Carolina courts’ consistent holdings that the OACA does not preempt local government regulation of billboards, the RRC should approve Rules 19 NCAC 02E.0204 and .0206.

III. Rule 19A NCAC 02E.0225 is not inconsistent with GS 136-131.2.:  

NCGS § 136 -131.2. states: Modernization of outdoor advertising devices.  
No municipality, county, local or regional zoning authority, or other political subdivision shall, without the payment of just compensation as provided for in G.S.136-131.1, regulate or prohibit the repair or reconstruction of any outdoor advertising for which there is in effect a valid permit issued by the Department of Transportation so long as the square footage of its advertising surface area is not increased. As used in this section, reconstruction includes the changing of an existing multipole outdoor advertising structure to a new monopole structure.

Unfortunately, the key terms “repair” and “reconstruction” in this amendment are not defined. The statute includes one limitation, that the advertising surface area not be increased, and one allowance, that reconstruction “includes the changing of an existing multipole ... structure to a new monopole structure.” Otherwise the statute is silent. The bill’s sponsor, Tim Moffitt, did not consider that reconstruction means to build a new sign of any height and with digital displays. He stated on the record during debate that “the bill is not intended to allow an increase in the size of the sign” and “does not allow digitizing of signs.” (July 11, 2013 debate of S 112, available in General Assembly audio archives.)

Examination of dictionary definitions of “repair” and “reconstruct” is helpful. Both the Oxford and the Merriam-Webster definitions of “repair” are to “fix”. Building a new billboard with entirely different components is not “fixing” an existing billboard. With regard to the term “reconstruct” both the Oxford and Merriam-Webster definitions are to “construct again.”
Merriam-Webster states that “reconstruct” is “to construct again: such as to build or assemble (something) again” as in “reconstruct a damaged chimney”. The Oxford definition is to “build or form (something) again after it has been damaged or destroyed” as in “a small area of painted Roman plaster has been reconstructed”. Building a thing **again** contemplates building the thing that was there before, and not an entirely different thing. Building something different is not “reconstruction” but rather “new construction.” It would certainly be unreasonable to argue, for example, that replacing a 900 square foot one story wood frame house with a 6,000 square foot 4 story steel mansion is “reconstruction.” However, that is what the billboard industry argues is the allowance in this statute for “reconstruction” of a billboard – that companies can raise the height to 50 feet, light an unlit billboard, and digitize the billboard display.

The language of GS 136-131.2 does not express an intent to entirely pre-empt local government regulation of newly constructed billboards that are built as replacements for state permitted billboards. Rather a proper interpretation of this amendment would continue to allow local government regulation of the height, lighting, and allowance of digital displays for these billboards. Unless it wished to pay compensation, a locality would have to allow conversion to monopolies since this is expressly allowed by the amendment. Other improvements in materials could also be made to a billboard, without restrictions by local governments. However, a billboard company would not be able to construct a 50 foot digital billboard with constantly changing displays worth a quarter million dollars as “reconstruction” of a 20 foot tall unlit billboard worth $40,000. The line between what is “new construction” and “reconstruction” would properly be set by local governments.

The NCDOT has attempted to draw this line in proposing some limits on what types of changes can be made to billboards in Rule 02E.0225 without local approval. The RRC should respect the decisions made by NCDOT and approve this proposed rule.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 11, 2021

Electronically filed with RRC Staff

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RE: Written Comments to North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Proposed Rules 19A NCAC 02E .0204, .0206, and .0225.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am General Counsel for and represent the North Carolina Outdoor Advertising Association (“NCOAA”), which organization consists of a large percentage of the outdoor advertising or billboard companies that will be regulated by the permanent rules proposed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (“DOT”). Thank you for this opportunity to again offer comments to the revised version of the DOT rules submitted on February 8, 2021 (“2/8/21 Revised Rules”).

“Groundhog Day”. It is a very funny movie. Unfortunately, it is not so humorous when it involves rulemaking. At its December 17, 2020 meeting, the Rules Review Commission (“Commission”) objected to the above referenced rules for lack of statutory authority. Specifically, the Commission found that requiring local approval or transferring regulatory oversight to local governments is beyond the authority of the agency.

1 I referenced in my last letter French writer Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr coining the saying: “The More Things Change, The More They Remain the Same.” The new rules put window dressing on the same problems as before. The DOT is obviously reacting to a segment of the population that wants to maintain a confusing set of regulatory standards so as to preserve for them the argument that local rules matter in the face of state statutes that say the contrary in the limited areas where there is clear preemption.
Unfortunately, as more fully explained below, the DOT’s 2/8/21 Revised Rules in several places continue to conflict with G.S. §150B-21.9(a) for being beyond “the authority delegated to the agency by the General Assembly”, are not “clear and unambiguous” or are not “reasonably necessary to implement or interpret an enactment of the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal agency.”

I will try not to unduly repeat the information and arguments made in my written comments dated October 8, 2020 and December 10, 2020. We respectfully ask that the Commission again consider those comments; we intend to incorporate them herein by reference.

The revised rules hereinafter challenged continue to cover a consistent theme: the DOT improperly delegating or ceding regulatory authority to local governments, either by making local approval a condition of State approval or transferring regulatory oversight for billboards over to local governments. Even worse from where we left off, the DOT, through wordsmithing and ambiguous language, is still trying to achieve those objectives despite the objections made by the Commission.

**SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS**

A. **PROPOSED 19A NCAC 2E .0204 IS CONTRARY TO STATE LAW, IS UNDULY VAGUE AND IS NOT REASONABLY NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT A STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE OR FEDERAL REGULATION.**

As mentioned before, two statutes declaring the will of the General Assembly expressly preempt local control over outdoor advertising signs falling within the jurisdiction of the DOT, G.S. §136-131.1 and §136.131.2. The RRC specifically found last time that the DOT was without statutory authority to adopt a rule allowing the transfer of regulatory oversight. The changes made by DOT are only cosmetic in nature; transfer of authority from the State to locals is still contemplated.

In the most recent draft, the DOT language again cites to a federal regulation that, if read, merely indicates that the feds do not care if it is the State or locals exercising regulatory control so long as federal minimum standards driven by the federal Highway Beautification Act are met. The opportunity of delegation to local governments is NOT a federal requirement, however. Chapter 150B’s limitations on agency rule making authority is replete with examples of where agency authority must be grounded in State law, not something the federal government may allow, but not require. See e.g. G.S. §150B-21.9(a)(3) (A rule “is reasonably necessary to
implement or interpret an enactment of the General Assembly, or of Congress, or a regulation of a federal regulation.”); G.S. §150B-19 (an agency may not adopt a rule that “implements or interprets a law unless that law or another law specifically authorizes the agency to do so.”); G.S. §150B-19.1(g) (whenever an agency proposes a rule that is purported to implement a federal law, or required by or necessary for compliance with federal law, the agency must prepare a certification to that effect and post same on the agency Web site.); See County of Wake v. North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources, 155 N.C. App. 225, 250, 573 S.E.2d 572, 589 (2002)(citing to G.S. §150B-19(1), the Court of Appeals held that DENR could not reject State landfill permit based on noncompliance with local requirements since enabling statute did not authorize that condition or implement that locally focused law). Federal law does not authorize proposed Rule .0204 nor is it required or necessary to implement federal law. Neither has the DOT prepared any certification of a federal mandate.

An additional problem with Rule .0204 is that is creates ambiguity over regulatory oversight. G.S. §136-131.1 and G.S. §136-131.2 clearly provide preemptive effect over the maintenance, repair and reconstruction of outdoor advertising signs that are lawfully existing and permitted. In those instances where an outdoor advertiser was to do an act of maintenance, repair or reconstruction, would the DOT reinsert itself with regulatory oversight since those statutes expressly exclude local authority? A program of this magnitude (i.e. all billboards along interstate and primary highways in areas zoned commercial and industrial) cannot be bifurcated in terms of implementation of State wide policy – where the DOT comes in and out of jurisdiction.2

B. PROPOSED 19A NCAC 02E .0225 IN CERTAIN PLACES CONFLICTS WITH THE STATE STATUTE IT PURPORTS TO IMPLEMENT, CREATES AMBIGUITIES, AND IS NOT REASONABLY NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT A STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTE OR FEDERAL REGULATION

For about a month, we have been working with DOT to try to solve our and the Commission’s objections. For Rule .0225, we are almost there. We saw drafts whereby in subsection (b)(2) the offending reference to “local rules, regulations or ordinances” was deleted. For the issue of changing a sign from a static face to digital or increasing sign height as part of reconstruction, the reference to local approval was deleted. Yesterday, a new draft was published undoing those efforts and making it more confusing.

2 The prior draft rule before the Commission, as now, contained a citation to G.S. §136-138. The title of that statute is “Agreements with United States authorized.” That statute must be read together with G.S. §136-140 as authorizing the DOT to enter into agreements with the federal highway administration in order to preserve the availability of federal funding tied to maintaining effective control.
1. Proposed Rule .0225(b)(2) now says: “Conforming sign structures may be reconstructed so long as the reconstruction does not conflict with any applicable rules or regulations.”

All references to State, federal in addition to local are deleted. What does the above truly mean? Are the terms “rules or regulations” merely State or federal “rules” subject to agency rule making under Chapter 150B. See G.S. §150B-2(8a)’s definition of “rule” which is tied to state or federal agency rules, not local.

One objective of clarity of law is to avoid future litigation. In each of our written comments, we implored the DOT to avoid being dragged into the middle of disputes between our industry and local governments. Dragged into the middle means draining the coffers of all taxpayers. For local governments wanting to keep alive the argument of their involvement in regulating the “maintenance”, “repair” or “reconstruction” of billboards despite the plain language of G.S. §§136-131.1 or 136-131.2, it is an obvious gift that the DOT has left it vague. What is the meaning of “applicable”? DOT will be asked to interpret that term and regardless of what side it chooses, that determination will result in the State being stuck in the tar pit of litigation. This draft creates for the sign owner an impossible test of knowing what “applicable” means; what rules or regulations matter when reconstruction is desired; and what regulations will the multitude of interested parties claim are involved. There is absolutely no point of deleting “State” or “federal” except to placate those in opposition to keep it so vague that it keeps everyone guessing. This is the anthesis of regulatory reform which prompted HB 74. The proposed language is devoid of any cogent meaning and adds nothing other than confusion. How is it necessary to implement or interpret a state or federal law if it does not even identify what is to be implemented or interpreted? The omission of language leaves “local” standards at play as equaling as “state” or “federal”. As-is, Rule .0225(b)(2) should be stricken in its entirety.

2. Proposed Rule .0225(b)(4), second sentence reads in the context of reconstruction where a face is changed to digital or sign height is increased: “Local approval may also be required if required by the local government having jurisdiction over the sign location.”

What does the above mean? Is local approval from DOT’s standpoint a condition of reconstruction? The above language suggests so in the same vagaries apparent for issue no. 1. This language says that local approval is required “if required by the local government having jurisdiction over the sign location.” So, local approval is up to a local government to require it. How is that any different that the language objected to in the prior draft? Wordsmithing to keep local control in place is not what should have happened. The battle with locals has been when they say their laws create a requirement. The draft rule is clearly in conflict with
the Commission’s objection. To resolve the objection, the reference to local should have been deleted, period.

What is the point of carving out and mentioning digital or increasing height in any subdivision of subsection (b)? The answer is that is what the opposition complained the loudest about. The bottom line is that the entire subsection (b) is “subject to G.S. 136-131.2.” If local governments have authority under that statute to regulate some aspect of reconstruction, then such authority exists independent of the DOT purporting to say so. The DOT cannot use rulemaking to eviscerate statutory benefits by exposing the act of repair or modernization of existing signs to the plethora of local standards. We respectfully suggest that .0225(b)(4) be stricken in its entirety. It is not necessary to implement state or federal law; as written, it lacks statutory authority especially in light of the preemptive provisions of G.S. §§136-131.1 and 136-131.2; and it is not clear.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above, and the administrative record, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Commission objects to the above identified DOT proposed rules.3

Sincerely,

VAN WINKLE, BUCK, WALL, STARNES AND DAVIS, P.A.
Craig D. Justus
(Electronically Signed)
Craig D. Justus

cc: Client
Hannah Jernigan – via email
Helen Landi – via email

The DOT and the outdoor industry struck a compromise in the wording of newly proposed Rule 19A NCAC 2E .0206. For our side, we were concerned that a local permit requirement in an application process would be used to prohibit reconstruction, repair or maintenance of existing DOT-permitted locations. The industry has been transparent in stating that the State Outdoor Advertising Control Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder, do not preempt all local standards. The erection of a new sign at a new location can be controlled through local zoning. An increase in the number of signs is not the end game here. We simply want what G.S. §136-131.1 provided and G.S. §136-131.2 expounded upon, to wit: that for lawfully existing billboards, the DOT and its Statewide rules are a one-stop shop for acts of maintenance, repair or modernizing a sign.

3 The DOT and the outdoor industry struck a compromise in the wording of newly proposed Rule 19A NCAC 2E .0206. For our side, we were concerned that a local permit requirement in an application process would be used to prohibit reconstruction, repair or maintenance of existing DOT-permitted locations. The industry has been transparent in stating that the State Outdoor Advertising Control Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder, do not preempt all local standards. The erection of a new sign at a new location can be controlled through local zoning. An increase in the number of signs is not the end game here. We simply want what G.S. §136-131.1 provided and G.S. §136-131.2 expounded upon, to wit: that for lawfully existing billboards, the DOT and its Statewide rules are a one-stop shop for acts of maintenance, repair or modernizing a sign.

The Van Winkle Law Firm
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Billboard Rule Changes – Comments to the Rules Review Commission

Richard Ducker of the UNC College of Government has written about the decades-long efforts of the billboard industry in North Carolina to use state law and rules to pre-empt the local regulation of billboards (blog post).

I am concerned that the recent actions by the N.C. Rules Review Commission (RRC) could significantly reduce the ability of municipalities and counties in North Carolina to regulate the construction of new billboards or the maintenance of existing billboards.

Background

Under the federal Highway Beautification Act, the N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regulates billboards on most major highways in North Carolina, including National Highway system routes (map) as well any roads that were designated as Federal Aid Primary highways when that system was discontinued in 1991 (map). If a road is on either map it is considered a “control route.” Currently there are more than 8000 billboards that have a permit from NCDOT.

Rules Review Commission Action

The regulations for billboards are in the N.C. General Statutes, adopted by the General Assembly, and in rules contained in the N.C. Administrative Code and approved by the RRC.

Rules have to be reviewed and re-adopted periodically, and in 2020 the billboard rules were up for review and re-adoption. At its meeting on December 17 (agenda), the RRC adopted most of the proposed rules, but objected to three proposed rules (letter), stating that NCDOT lacks the authority to adopt the proposed rules.

Concerns About the RRC’s Action
1. The RRC objected to 19A NCAC 02E .0206, Applications, apparently because it required a billboard company to submit “a sign permit or zoning permit” from a local city or county when applying to NCDOT for a permit to construct a new billboard. Most cities and counties that regulate billboards have standards on billboard size, height, and location that are more restrictive than NCDOT’s rules, and typically a billboard company would need both a local permit and an NCDOT permit to construct a new billboard. If the requirement for a local sign permit is removed, does this mean that NCDOT’s rules pre-empt local sign ordinances for the construction of new billboards? If so, this would allow billboards to be constructed along control routes in commercial and industrial zoning districts in dozens of jurisdictions throughout the state that currently do not allow new billboards or set strict limits on the design and location for new billboards. North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Request for the RRC: Please adopt the version of .0206 submitted by NCDOT. NC General Statutes 136-131.2 does not apply to new permit applications. I don’t understand the basis for the RRC’s objection to this rule in December.

2. The RRC objected to 19A NCAC 02E.0204, Local Zoning Authorities, which allows local governments to issue permits and regulate maintenance of billboards instead of NCDOT. This option is referenced on page 6 of the agreement between NCDOT and USDOT referenced in 19A NCAC 02E .0202, and is also allowed under federal rules at 23 CFR 750.706(c).

Request for the RRC: Please adopt the version of .0204 submitted by NCDOT. This has been a part of the Highway Beautification Act’s implementation in NC from the beginning and is part of the state-federal agreement. I don’t understand the basis for the RRC’s objection to this rule in December.

3. The RRC objected to 19A NCAC 02E.0225, Repair/Alteration/Maintenance/Reconstruction of Signs. I am concerned that the RRC is applying a liberal interpretation of NC General Statutes 136-131.2 and adding meaning that is not in the text of the statute. Specifically, the RRC should only allow the types of modifications specifically referenced in the statute, and not override local government rules, regulations, or ordinances on other matters not referenced in the statute. North Carolina residents do not support the wholesale conversion of existing billboards to 50-foot digital monstrosities towering over our cities and countryside. Last March, NCDOT received hundreds of comments from legislators, local governments, and residents opposed to NCDOT pre-empting local control of billboards.

Request for the RRC: Please adopt the version of .0225 submitted by NCDOT.

Thank you for your service to the state and consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

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February 11, 2021

Sent via e-mail
rrc.comments@oah.nc.gov

Comments re: NCDOT Proposed Rule Changes
19A NCAC 02E .0204, .0206, and .0225

Dear Commission Members,

The City of Durham ("City") has reviewed NCDOT’s proposed rule changes applicable to the regulation of outdoor advertising that are referenced above. The City supports the versions of these three rules published by NCDOT on February 8, 2021 because they are consistent with the applicable General Statutes.

Rule .0225 is of particular concern to the City. From the Rules Review Commission’s ("RRC") January 5, 2021 objection letter it is unclear why the RRC objected to NCDOT’s earlier version of this rule. While the City preferred the earlier version, the version before the RRC today is satisfactory, and is generally consistent with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 136-131.2. To be fully consistent, "repair and maintenance" in subsection (g) of .0225 should be changed to "repair or reconstruction."

To be clear, "repair or reconstruction" as used in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 136-131.2 does not include the ability of a billboard owner to increase the height of an existing billboard or to convert an existing billboard to a digital sign face. As the outdoor advertising industry is well aware, legislation to allow that kind of modernization of existing billboards failed in both the 2017 and the 2019 legislative sessions. "Repair and reconstruction" of an existing billboard only includes the ability to fix it, to renew it, or to construct the same billboard again. NCDOT’s proposed language in .0225 is consistent with the statute as written and with the clear legislative history.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these rules, which are of great concern to municipalities across the State.

Sincerely,

Donald T. O’Toole
Deputy City Attorney
Dear Commission Members:

Cary places a high value on the ability of all local governments to manage future land use, foster a prosperous economy, and protect the environment, in the way that best embodies the preferences of their residents. To that end, Cary supports Rules 19A NCAC 02E .0204, .0206, and .0225 as published by NCDOT on February 8, 2021. The January 5, 2021 objection letter from the Rules Review Commission (RRC) does not contain enough information to ascertain why the RRC objected to these three rules. State law does not prohibit local government regulation of changes to billboards such as increases in height or conversion to digital sign faces. The Rules do not conflict with state law and are not beyond the authority of NCDOT to adopt.

Sincerely,

Lisa Glover
Interim Town Attorney
Town of Cary
316 N. Academy Street
Cary, NC 27513
(919) 469-4008
lisa.glover@townofcary.org

Please note that email sent to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Act and may be disclosed to third parties.
On behalf of the Watauga Board of County Commissioners:

It is our understanding that the Rules Review Commission will consider permanent amendments to the NC Administrative Code that will affect permitting and maintenance of billboards on February 18, 2021.

We understand further that during previous discussion of these amendments, it was proposed that local billboard regulations be overridden by rules that would allow replacement of standard billboards with digital ones, and that the maximum height be raised to fifty (50) feet. It appears the current proposal does not include those provisions; we support that insofar as local control is maintained.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Joseph A. Furman, AICP
Director, Watauga County Planning & Inspections and Economic Development
126 Poplar Grove Connector, Suite 201
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 265-8043
(828) 265-8080 (fax)
joe.furman@watgov.org
Dear RRC:

I am writing to URGE you to keep local jurisdiction over billboards. We already have too many billboards. They not only destroy North Carolina’s beautiful landscape, but they can also be a traffic hazard. I beg of you - let local communities decide how they want their roads dealt with.

Most sincerely,
Suzanne Adams
Charlotte, NC
May, Amber Cronk

From: Jean <jalsup1@triad.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:50 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Present billboard regulations that are based on LOCAL regulations is the best step forward for the state of North Carolina. Jean Alsup

Sent from my iPad
Please do not change the regulations for billboards in nc. Ours are plenty large enough. They already blocked the view of our beautiful surroundings please.

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Carolyn Ashbrook <cashbrook2@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:05 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] FW: GCNC - Urgent Request to Protest Billboard Law Changes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please help us protect the beauty of the great state of North Carolina. Billboards if any size or shape do not add beauty to any area. There are numerous other ways to advertise. It is in your power to help us maintain North Carolina's natural beauty. I am appealing to your good sense!

From: web@gardenclubofnc.org
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:40 AM
To: cashbrook2@suddenlink.net
Subject: GCNC - Urgent Request to Protest Billboard Law Changes
Dear RRC,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

This will be a blight to our beautiful state if you do this.

Thank you for keeping our state great.
Hopie Avery
Durham, NC

H O P I E A V E R Y
hopie@thescoutguide.com
T: 917-929-3535
To: Rules Review Commission Members

Please at your Feb. 18th meeting approve the rules being submitted by NCDOT that will continue to allow local governmental jurisdictions to control billboards within their legal boundaries. Also please do not allow 50ft. high billboards to sky over our highway roadsides anywhere and please do not allow digital changeable message flashing billboards along our highways to present another dangerous distraction to our high speed drivers.

Thank you for your service to North Carolina,

William D. Johnson
May, Amber Cronk

From: Barbara Baggett <barbarambaggett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:37 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard rules changes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please be aware that, as a member of the NC Garden Club, Madison Co Garden Club and Buncombe Co Beekeepers, I and many of my colleagues are opposed to allowing any changes to rules governing billboards that would remove local governments control over billboards, or allow 50ft, flashing or changeable message billboards.

Barbara Baggett
Morrow House Farm
Morrow Branch Road
Leicester NC

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not override the authority that local jurisdictions have over billboards! Do NOT allow 50 foot tall billboards and/or digital flashing messaging billboards. The safety of drivers and the beauty of NC should certainly take precedence over the interests of the billboard industry.

Betsy Baldwin
Garden Study Club of WS

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you

Patricia Banville
Stop changes in NC billboard rules

February 10, 2021

RRC e-mail is rrc.comments@oah.nc.gov

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Carol Batman

Sent from my iPhone
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."
I'm requesting that you not make changes to the billboard bill. I'm writing as a citizen of Durham and Treasurer of the Forest Hills Garden Club. Changes will destroy some of the beauty of our state and increase the likelihood of more traffic accidents. Sincerely, Maureen Berry
To whom it may concern,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Sincerely,
Emily Bing, proud member of the Garden Club of North Carolina
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.’ North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

;
This is a request from: Rebecca Boswell 132 Tara Place Hendersonville NC 28739

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry. Thank you, Rebecca Boswell
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Municipalities should continue to control SIGN size, height, location and appearance...that includes not allowing changes to digital.
Dewey Botts
675 Howard Tant Rd
Zebulon (BUNN), NC 27597

Sent from my iPhone
I think to extend the height of billboards by 50ft and flashing neon lights would be hideous for those who live near and around these signs. What a travesty to subject homeowners and others to flashing lit signage. What purpose can this type signage create other than tackiness which in turn could even cause a wreck to traveling motorist who take their eyes off the road to view it. ??? With cell phone maps, car maps and otherwise nothing more is necessary.

Thoughtfully submitted,

Pam Bounds

Sent from my iPhone
North Carolina is a beautiful state, and our beautification projects along the roadways are admired by daily travelers as well as by interstate traffic. Why in the world would we want to alter the landscape any further than it already is by increasing the size and prominence or billboards the roadside? ??? Flashing lights and huge signs have no place along our roads.

Local jurisdictions have always been allowed to regulate the amount of billboard pollution that can be placed along the roadways. That should **NOT** be changed. Hopefully all local regulations can work to prevent the further addition of unsightly and distracting signage forced upon the travelers along our roads in our beautiful state.

Hoping for common sense and full appreciation of the beauty of our landscape as you consider this very undesirable bill.

Kathy Bragg
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Annette Branco  
President, Heritage Garden Club  
Durham, NC  
Sent from my iPad
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

RRC, please do not override the authority that local government has over billboards. Please do not allow 50 ft tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards, which are dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Some of these flashing billboards are blinding at night. Please protect the beauty of NC.
Mary Ann Bridger
Member of Cape Fear Garden Club, Wilmington, NC

Sent from my iPad
RRC: PLEASE do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect how we are viewed by businesses, friends and family. This is a lovely state. To mar its beauty would be tragic.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you.

Bridget Irish (970-759-0611)

216 Thomas Ruffin Street

Hillsborough, NC 27278
please leave billboards as is let local gov have control.
i want NC to stay beautiful.

bobbie britt
lumberton nc
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not override the rules on billboards in North Carolina. The roads have enough distractions without 50ft or flashing boards. Some boards are useful, while others not only distract, but cheapen the surroundings.

Alan and Bettye Broadwater

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From: pollycb@bellsouth.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:50 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Sincerely,
Polly Brockway
Davidson, NC 28036
May, Amber Cronk

From: Virginia Brown <vyeagerbrown@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:42 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards in NC

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not override local billboard legislation that prohibits or limits billboards. NC looks so much better without the state being plastered with huge billboards and large electronic billboards. As a long standing garden club member, beauty is so important. The State’s flower beds along our highways shows that you DO care, too. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Jane Brumbaugh <jibrum03@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:15 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Dear RRC,
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Keep North Carolina's roadways scenic. The beauty of NC should not be hidden with billboards trying to grab our attention.

Concerned citizen,
Jane Brumbaugh
Huntersville, NC 28078
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Candee Bryan

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Suzanne Burke

Member of the Garden Club of North Carolina
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Respectfully,

Stacey Burkert, Member of the Hope Valley Garden Club, a Garden Club of North Carolina
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.’"North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,

R. Carolyn Campbell
North Carolina Garden Club

Sent from my iPad
The drive along North Carolina’s roadways is pleasant, often beautiful. Please assure this remains true by maintaining current regulations concerning billboards in North Carolina.
Pat Caldwell
NC Resident and Member,
The Raleigh Garden Club of North Carolina

Sent from my iPhone
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th><a href="mailto:pattycamerota@gmail.com">pattycamerota@gmail.com</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:44 PM</td>
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<td>To</td>
<td>rrc.comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>[External] Billboards</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Please refrain from passing legislation approving oversized digital blasting billboards. Bad for our environment and wildlife and distracting drivers creating auto deaths.

Sincerely Patty Camerota

Sent from my iPhone
Please do not allow the override of local government on the location or size of billboards. If this legislation is passed, it will have an adverse effect on the natural beauty and reputation of North Carolina.
May, Amber Cronk

From: Kirby Carespodi <brandywinecottagenc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:50 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

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Good Morning!

As you know, North Carolina has the unparalleled beauty of mountains, coastline, and everything in between. We enjoy four seasons and a great climate for growing a wide variety of flora. Our garden clubs are fortunate to be caretakers of outdoor spaces, both designed and untamed.

Please don’t allow folks who have a special interest in billboards to sully our beautiful landscape. We are counting on you to keep NC beautiful!

Sincerely,
Kirby Carespodi
Full Sun/Part Shade Garden Club
Winston-Salem
May, Amber Cronk

From: Dee Carlock <deannacarlock1@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:17 AM  
To: rrc.comments  
Subject: [External] Billboards

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

North Carolina has some beautiful highways and scener. Please don't override the authority of our local governments to know and regulate billboards and please don't allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards. Those are dangerous for high speed highway traffic and very dangerous in mountains.  
Thank you for considering the voice of your citizens.

Dee Carlock  
Valley View Garden Club
As vise president of Richland Garden club in Waynesville I beseech you not to allow large and flashing billboards to block the beauty of what’s left of North Carolina’s wildness. Thank you, Donna Cathcart Sent from my iPhone
Deadline for comments is Thursday, February 11

for the February 18 meeting.

Use your own comments or use one of these:

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Cathy Causway

Wilson Women's Club Garden Department and All Season's Garden Club
As third Vice President of the Emerald Isle Garden Club, my role is to lead our Green Thumb Youth Club. Our mission is to touch the future: teaching children to be good stewards of the earth. North Carolina is a beautiful state through which traveling can attest. Having more and taller billboards, some using energy to flash their messages, will pollute the environment. This is unacceptable to me and the children we teach.

Please do not override the local government jurisdiction over billboards.

Respectfully,

Dr. Denise Chase
Dear RRC,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Laurie Cherry

Garden Club of North Carolina
May, Amber Cronk

From: Barbara Clare <bclare23@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:50 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] RE: NC Highway Billboard Rules

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RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

~ Barbara Clare
I’m old enough to remember the visual blight of billboards on the nation’s highways. Don’t change the laws that permit a local municipality to constrain the site, size, and other features of billboards.

Rhonda Cohen
1211 Bivins Street  Durham NC 27707
May, Amber Cronk

From: Frances Collins <fhc77h@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:04 PM
To: rrc.comments
Cc: Brenda Cockrn
Subject: [External] Please NO Change to Local Control of Billboard Regulations

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Dear Members of the NC Billboard Rules Committee,

We live in and enjoy the scenery of one of the most beautiful states in the USA. Annually, hundreds of thousands of tourists visit North Carolina to also enjoy the gorgeous mountains, lakes, rivers, forests, countryside, and wildlife, where we are privileged to call home. Driving through our gorgeous state on our well maintained and often beautifully landscaped highways is a visual delight enjoyed by locals and many annual guests. Please do not allow the gorgeous landscape of our highways to be ruined by enacting laws allowing unsightly tall, neon flashing, and/or digital messaging billboards, which would mar the natural beauty of the landscape through which our highways pass.

Currently, minimal height and number of legal signage posted at interstate and highway exits advertising gas stations, restaurants, motels/hotels, etc, are sufficient to meet merchants and motorists needs without ruining our lovely landscape enjoyed by locals and hundreds of thousands of visitors bringing huge amounts of needed revenue into North Carolina annually. We are noted for our clean, beautifully landscaped, picturesque, highways not marred by unnecessary signage. 50ft high signage and those with neon flashing lights and/or digital messaging are not necessary, and would instead be scars upon the gorgeous landscape for which North Carolina highways are enjoyed and noted.

I first visited North Carolina at age 9 attending a youth camp. I fell in love with its awesome, natural, beauty, and decided then that someday I would live here. In 2012, I was fortunate to retire in lovely Waynesville, and the beautiful state of North Carolina became my home. Throughout the years locals have worked diligently to preserve North Carolina’s natural beauty for the enjoyment of locals, future generations, and our many annual visitors. It’s a home State to be immensely proud of.

Therefore, I respectively ask that you protect the natural beauty of our beloved North Carolina by not allowing unsightly tall and/or neon flashing or digital message signage along our highways or byways. Let’s keep North Carolina’s front yard beautiful, and continue to allow highway signage to be under the control of the local governments keeping signage size and numbers to a minimal.

Thank you for your kind consideration, which is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Frances H. Collins
77 Hummingbird Lane
Waynesville, NC 28786
Member Waynesville NC Garden Club
Member Garden Club of North Carolina

C: Brenda Cockre, President GCNC
CC: Sylvia Lonnee, President WGC

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: myrtle corbett <myrtlecorbett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:19 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard Legislation

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North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRR should not change settled North Carolina law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards, and please do not allow 50 ft. tall billboards and/or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the "front yard" of our beautiful North Carolina!

Thank you!
Myrtle Corbett, President
Whiteville Garden Club
Whiteville, North Carolina
One of the reasons Cary, nc has been voted one of the best places to live in the entire USA is because we have controlled the billboards. They reduce the desire to live in such a beautiful town. Please do NOT change or refuse our control of the erections of BILLBOARDS!

Thank you for your attention in this matter

June Corsetti
juneedna@aol.com
602 Tranquil Sound Drive
Cary, NC 27519

Sent from the all new Aol app for iOS
May, Amber Cronk

From: Tammie Crittenden <tammie@farleyssitework.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:33 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard

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Sent from my

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the "front yard of our beautiful North Carolina." North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you
Tammie Crittenden
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

--

Brenda Crocker
President GCNC
252/443-6513
bcrocker3358@embarqmail.com
May, Amber Cronk

From: Linda Curtis <lindacurtis@northstate.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:26 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Attempts to change Billboard Laws

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please block attempts to block present billboard laws. While some signage may be necessary, attempts to increase number and size of billboards and to allow flashing signs is a mistake. It detracts from the appearance of communities, and will eventually result in poorer returns to billboard companies because there are too many for consumers to pay attention to. Signs especially flashing signs are hazardous because they distract drivers. Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Jeni Davis <glennandjeni@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:05 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not change billboard regulations or allow 50’ billboards in the state of North Carolina or digital billboards. This message is from The Banner Elk Garden Club which is with The Garden Club of North Carolina By President Jeni Davis!

Sent from my iPhone
Please do not change rules for road billboards.

Gloria Degnan
Cape Fear Garden Club
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lacy W. Dick
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Please don’t allow these 50 ft. Digital flashing billboards in N.C. It is too dangerous to have these billboards distracting drivers and they are not attractive to our beautiful highways. Thank you for this consideration.

Virginia Diseker
Flowers and Friends Garden Club

Sent from my iPad
RRC:

Protect the appearance of our roadsides, and keep North Carolina roads natural and beautiful.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Jean Dixon
Old Salem Garden Club
Winston-Salem, NC
To whom it may concern: Billboards can be helpful for advertising unknown options for new travelers in an area, but they are also an eyesore on our highways and interstates. Digital billboards are dangerous to try to read when you are on the highway especially in higher speed limit zones. They are a visual distraction and just one more thing that can cause wrecks. I trust the people behind this movement will have enough sense to realize the dangers and unsightly visions that excess or oversized billboards create. Let’s continue to Keep America Beautiful.

Sincerely,

Julia Doud
Old Salem Garden Club
Winston-Salem

Sent from my iPhone
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. 50ft. tall billboards or digital flashing billboards can pose dangerous distractions to high-speed highway traffic. Let us please keep North Carolina’s roadways safe and beautiful.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Dowdy

A Participant in North Carolina’s Garden Clubs
May, Amber Cronk

From: Betsy Dupree <betsydupree@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:15 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Please stop Billboard Laws Changes!

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

To: Rules Review Commission:

Having been in sales for 50 years, I understand the purpose and benefit of advertising. However, a benefit Must Not be to the Detriment of the Greater Good.

Fifty foot tall billboards or digital changeable message-flashing billboards will destroy some of the precious natural beauty North Carolina is known for. These also could potentially cause more accidents, resulting in serious injury or death. I drove to and from Wilmington on business yesterday. There are many distractions already with present size billboards, highway construction and their flashing digital speed limit and lane change instructions, one Must take notice of. If drivers get accustomed to ignoring flashing billboards, they may also inadvertently ignore the critical DOT signs.

Common Sense seems pretty uncommon these days. This proposed change in NC Highway Billboard rules is another example of Common Sense being ignored.

Sincerely

Betsy Dupree, President

Raleigh Garden Club
PO Box 33512
Raleigh, NC 27636
May, Amber Cronk

From: Sandra Dutton <r_dutton@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:30 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard Protection

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the “front yard” of our beautiful North Carolina.

Sandra Dutton

Sent from my iPad
It has come to my attention that you are considering not allowing the policy of local control in the matter of appearance and location of billboards. North Carolina is famous for its beautiful forests, hills, and scenery. Please allow those who care to have the power to keep it so. We don't need to be famous for advertisements in the form of digital eyesores.

Elizabeth Harris
Retired Horticulture Professor at Central Piedmont Community College
Dear Rules Review Commission,

As a member of several Garden Clubs I strongly object to any changes to the current rules regarding roadside billboards. Not only are these huge signs unsightly but they can distract drivers allowing for more accidents.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Thank you for you consideration.

Ellen Kelly, 3129 Eton Road, Raleigh, NC 27608
Please protect our roadsides from unsightly billboards. Roadsides are the front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.
Elizabeth Martin

Sent from my iPhone
We love our view of nature from our NC highways!

Please do not override local government jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 foot fall billboards or changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

A concerned NC voter,
Lisa Edgington
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through a bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Wanda Edney
Hendersonville, NC
Dear Rules Review Commission members,

Regarding your review of the current NC Highway Billboard rules:

(1) I urge you to PROTECT the right of local governments to impose MORE RESTRICTIVE billboard ordinances than generally provided for in the NC Highway billboard rules whenever such local government judges it to be prudent for their community.

(2) I urge you to REJECT any rule that allows flashing billboards, including but not limited to those with ever-changing digital messages, all of which are exceptionally distracting to drivers and thus hazardous to public safety.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion.

Dawn Enochs
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank you,

Linda Ernst, President

Bermuda Run Garden Club

Sent from my iPad
From: Mary Evans <mwevans1953@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:59 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not change controls of billboards for local communities. Keep our highways safe without added distractions. Help this scenic area keep its natural beauty for all to enjoy.

Mary Evans
92 Moon Mountain Ridge
Piney Creek, NC. 28663
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Tricia Everett
To the Rules Review Commission, NC General Assembly,

I am shocked and disheartened to hear that a backdoor move is afoot to remove local control from billboard approval, an obvious moneymaking ploy to put money over the environment, and to further remove LOCAL CONTROL over the protection of our own counties. This is all about money and I would imagine some members of the RRC have been getting some very hefty donations from representatives of the billboard industry. I wouldn't be a bit surprised if some of your members owned land near highways ...that would be a very interesting research project for a newspaper.

I live in Orange County where there is some billboard regulation. The moment I drive into Alamance County where literally anything goes in the name of profit, it’s like driving through the seamer areas of Las Vegas. Ugly, Ugly, Ugly. Huge billboards, ruining the landscape. They also take away space from the trees and undergrowth that contribute soil, water and air protection.

I protest this in the strongest terms for three reasons:
1) it degrades local control;
2) it degrades the beauty of our state, which is one of the most beautiful in the nation, and
3) this change is being conducted in a sneaky and behind the scenes way although the impact on our state is huge.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Wrong move, reverse course.

Kathleen Faherty
Orange County, NC, and
Watauga County, NC
Dear RRC:

We have enough distractions on the road, not to mention the numerous and dangerous speeders in this state. More distractions such as higher, larger, flashier billboards will just increase the problems on the roadways in NC

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you for your consideration of our state citizens.

Happy Wednesday,

Maggie Farrell
May, Amber Cronk

From: Mary Florence <mflorence@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:22 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

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Please do not allow 50 FT billboards!! North Carolina has beautiful scenery and billboards are so distracting.

M Florence
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina." North Carolina has been proactive in protecting our state's natural beauty. Many of my out of state friends comment about the lovely flowered medians and lack of billboards!

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you.

Debbie Fullbright
6016 St Thomas Dr
Durham, NC 27705

--
Sent from myMail for Android
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Sent from my iPad
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
May, Amber Cronk

From: David Grant <dbgrant@comporium.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:26 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] NC Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Elizabeth Grant

Transylvania Garden Club

Sent from my iPhone
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.” North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Thank you!

Nancy Grebenkemper
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Don’t clog our highways with billboards. They are distracting to drivers, who need to focus 100% on the road, and ugly. Suzanne Gurski
To whom it may concern,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Ellen Hamilton
7 Lake Shore Ct, Pinehurst, NC
28374
To whom it may concern on the Rules Review Commission:

As a devoted NC citizen, I am vehemently opposed to any law change that would interfere with local jurisdiction over billboard rules and allow for the proliferation of billboards by the billboard industry along our highways. Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboard rules and please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changing message billboards that are not only a blight on the landscape but unsafe for high speed drivers.

NC boasts incredibly beautiful and magnificent natural vistas - across the coastal plain, the Piedmont and foothills, and through our majestic mountains. Please protect the natural beauty of our state.

Respectfully,

Jim Hardison
No additional billboards! No higher billboards! And no flashing billboards!

Chasie Harris
T&C Garden Club
Durham, NC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Paula Hartman <a href="mailto:paulamhartman1947@gmail.com">paulamhartman1947@gmail.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:36 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>rrc.comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>[External] Billboards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority of local governing jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 ft billboards and /or digital changeable message boards which are dangerous to high speed highway traffic and thoroughly destroy the beauty of our NC roadways. Thank you. Paula Hartman, President of Trent Woods Garden Club.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Jo Ann Hartness
Hoe and Hope Garden Club
To the Rules Review Commission:

North Carolina Appellate Courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or the dangerous distraction of digital changeable message flashing billboards along our roadsides.

Sincerely,
Linda Hastings
Winston-Salem, NC
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed traffic.

Our roadsides are the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina. Don't make a mess of our roadsides!

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Lauren F Hatcher
Charlotte NC
Charlotte Sedgefield Garden Club
Sent from my iPhone
I do not support enlargement of billboards anywhere in N.C.

I do not support flashing nor tech. changing billboards in N.C

Please keep the people in mind, rather than industry.

Thank you for thinking of residents concerns’.

Pat Hawkins
New Bern, N.C.
To whom it may concern:

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

The 28 members of the PINE NEEDLES GARDEN CLUB of Fayetteville, NC, ask you to please keep intact the laws that are in place and KEEP NC BEAUTIFUL!

Sincerely,

Elaine Bryant Hayes, Recording Secretary

332 Summertime Rd

Fayetteville, NC
Dear Commission Members:

Please protect the highways of North Carolina! We need fewer, not more billboards!

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Cindy Henry,
Cape Fear Garden Club (Wilmington, NC) member and former President

Cindy Henry
chenry@atmc.net
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Ted Hiley

Get BlueMail for Android
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina.”

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Gail Hill
5512 Seven Gates Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410-2694
336-292-8007
May, Amber Cronk

From: elizabethhobert1@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:36 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Highway billboard signs

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not allow 50foot billboards and flashing billboards. They are distracting and dangerous for drivers and clutter the roads. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides. NC would look so much better if there were no billboards and just have a sign for gas, hotel and restaurant available on each exit. Think how nice our highways would look.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.
Liz Hobert
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Chairman
Rules Review Commission

Mr. Chairman:

As a member of the North Carolina Garden Club organization I am asking that you not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are dangerous to high speed highway traffic. We do not need taller billboards. We really don't need more billboards, especially the flashing billboards. They are, I think, more dangerous than the regular billboards in that they are distracting to drivers.

Our roadsides in North Carolina are beautiful in themselves. More billboards mean more trees cut and land cleared.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sharon Holt
2612 NC Hwy. 62 East
Liberty, NC 27298
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Respectfully,

Susan Howard, Transylvania Garden Club, Brevard, NC
May, Amber Cronk

From: Susan Hoyle <shoyle1947@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 12:57 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard rule change

RC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you! Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Brenda Crocker,
I would like to object to any changes to the DOT rules for billboards.
Thank you
Linda Huff

Please note my new email address: LindaHuff@HuffFamilyOffice.com
Leave the state rules in place to control ugly billboards that clutter our beautiful highways.

Valerie Hunziker, Waynesville Garden Club

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone
I have read the proposed rules and NCDOT's recommendation. The proposed rules go way too far and are not in the best interests of NC. Please take another look and follow NCDOT's recommendations which are more in line with the people of NC and responsibilities of Cities and Towns.

Sincerely,
Edward L Ingle
810 South Mills River Rd.
Mills River, NC 28759
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not allow changes to regulations regarding billboards or allow electronic flashing huge billboards, as this would detract from natural beauty and pose distraction danger to drivers. Thank you, Andrea Irwin

Sent from my iPhone
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do NOT allow 50-foot tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process in order to help the billboard industry.

Thank you.

John and Marilyn Dutton
Please do not change the existing rules regarding signage (billboards) in our beautiful state. Local governments should retain control of this.
Jane Richards Hudson
A member of the NC Garden Club

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Jeff Young <jyoung@arthomefurnishings.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:16 AM
To: rrc.comments
Cc: Jason Foy; J. Mosby Vogler; Jewm; Jim Douglas (jdouglas@voltage-ventures.com); jim branch; jim@blazegroup.net; Jim Hardison; Megan Streba; Doug Rozenboom; David Collins (davdcollins@mac.com); Kathy Long; David Parker; DAVID ALBERTSON; Frank McNally (fmcnallysr@yahoo.com); frankiebell@mindspring.com; Allen Jordan (johnallenjordanjr@gmail.com); Anne Armfield (annearmfield@me.com); Ann Phillips; Annhanes@triad.rr.com; Hanes, Borden (borden@bowenhanes.com); Bill Parsley; Charles Patton; Chuck Patton; Chuck Duckett; Albert Butler; Lawson Brown; Larry Hines; Ernie White (ewhite@milfac.com); Earl Beasley; Henri Brown; Tom Handy; William T Wilson; Edward Armfield (edwardarmfield@me.com); Kluttz, Jim; Ted Mann; Ted Philpott; Dixon Douglas; Steve Smith; Sam Barnes; Sammy Rothrock; Logan Jackson; John Jenkins; Lawson Brown; Scott Lawson; tonya.fischer@rowefurniture.com; Teresa Vickers; Dan Timberlake; Bobby Robinson; Bob Choppa (bob.choppa@rowefurniture.com)
Subject: [External] FW: Stop Changes to NC Billboard Rules!

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

To whom it may concern on the Rules Review Commission:

As a devoted NC citizen, I am vehemently opposed to any law change that would interfere with local jurisdiction over billboard rules and allow for the proliferation of billboards by the billboard industry along our highways. Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboard rules and please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changing message billboards that are not only a blight on the landscape but unsafe for high speed drivers.

NC boasts incredibly beautiful and magnificent natural vistas - across the coastal plain, the Piedmont and foothills, and through our majestic mountains. Please protect the natural beauty of our state.

Respectfully,

Jeff Young

2610 Audubon Drive
Winston-Salem, NC
27106

Sent from my iPhone
| **From:** | Sandra Jacobi <oakdrive@mindspring.com> |
| **Sent:** | Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:35 AM |
| **To:** | rrc.comments |
| **Subject:** | [External] rrc.comments@oah.nc.gov |

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not allow billboard to have digital flashing messages which may be a distraction to drivers and cause accidents. Please leave the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards.

Thank you,

S Jacobi
May, Amber Cronk

From: Carolyn Johnson <rosecove@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:26 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not change the rules! Government control over billboards should not be removed. Instead, I want NC to work towards halting more billboard pollution on the beautiful highways for which this state is noted.

Carolyn S. Johnson
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not pander to billboard companies and allow hideous large, flashing billboards in our beautiful state. Please leave the laws as they are and allow local government control over the location and appearance of billboards in their community. There is absolutely no good reason to change this law.

Lucinda & Chris Jones
438 Westover Avenue
Winston-Salem, NC 27104
May, Amber Cronk

From: Katherine Campbell <newbernkat@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:10 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not change controls of billboards for local communities. Keep our highways safe without added distractions. Help this scenic area keep its natural beauty for all to enjoy. Follow New Hampshire. They do not allow any billboards in their state and it is absolutely breath taking!

Katherine Campbell
400 Forest Glen Lane
Pollocksville, NC 28573
Dear Kind Gentlefolk,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,

Peregrine M. Kavros, PhD,

Treasurer, Hillsborough Garden Club

Peregrine M Kavros, PhD, MBA, HSP-P
Director,
Schema Therapy Institute Southeast
AASECT Certified Sex Therapist
https://www.peregrinekavrosphd.com/
https://www.schematherapyseast.com/
https://www.hyacinthfarm.com
(pronouns - she, her, hers)

"Your beliefs become your thoughts, Your thoughts become your words, Your words become your actions, Your actions become your habits, Your habits become your values, Your values become your destiny." Gandhi

Office Policies: Unless there is an emergency, and you need to cancel your session, kindly cancel with at least 48 hours notice. Dr. Kavros is not a covered HIPAA entity. This email is not a secure form of communication and confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. By either communicating by email or by replying to an email, you acknowledge that you are aware that email is not considered a secure method of communication and that you agree to the risks.
Please do not eliminate the billboard regulations or remove local control of how they are regulated. The garden clubs of NC have worked hard over the years to beautify our landscape and the highway flower program, started by the garden clubs, is especially known throughout the world. It has inspired beautiful landscapes with our roads. Too many, too large, electronic billboards would contaminate the landscape of beautiful NC, not to mention they are dangerous to drivers.

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: jamie kelly <annam34@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:43 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Digital Roadside billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please don’t allow the changes to NC billboards! Our state, Our laws! No outside billboard companies should be able to change this!!!
Anna Kelly
Winston Salem

Sent from my iPhone
"RRC:
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.
"North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location.
RRC should not change settled NC law through a bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thanks for listening
Karen Herington
Morganton, NC 28655
Please, please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards, and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Phebe Kirkman, member, The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
Sent from my iPad
Please keep North Carolina beautiful. Protect our highways from invasive billboard pollution.

Shirley Konneker
Fayetteville, N C
As a member of the Coastal Garden Club out of Shallotte, NC I totally object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and digital changeable message flashing billboards.

Our roadsides do not need more billboard pollution. Our roadsides in Brunswick County have more than enough trash on them which is an embarrassment to my particular community of Palmetto Creek.

Thank you very much.

Deborah L Krusius
1247 Opaca Dr SE
Bolivia, NC 28422

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not allow a change to larger and more distracting billboards, Thank you Verna Kuyper Craven County
PLEASE DON'T CHANGE BILLBOARD RULES UNLESS YOU RESTRICT THEM MORE

North Carolina is a beautiful state and we want to see it.
Please do not change the regulations on Billboards in NC. Flashing digital billboards would be dangerous & distracting in addition to tacky, loud & ugly - not representing the beautiful state of NC. Think again of the interest of North Carolina! We’re proud of our state and 50 foot digital boards would be embarrassing!

B. Leab
Really? Leave things as they are and don’t kowtow to the billboard industry. Electronic and 50 foot tall billboards? They would distract drivers and ruin the scenic beauty of our state. The RRC has no moral or ethical authority to change law through behind the door bureaucratic sleight of hand. Shame on you all for even considering it.

Lynn Legatski
lynnlegatski@gmail.com
To whom it may concern.
NC has some of the most beautiful highways in them US. They are enhanced by stunning flowers at on/off ramp and, of course, by the natural beauty of our state. Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. We don’t need more billboards marring the natural beauty of our landscape. Flashing digital billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards are dangerous to highway traffic. We have enough car interior distractions without adding more on the highway.

Thanks,
Dr. Jan Lemasters
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Joanna Leonard

Sent from my iPhone
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best,

Meredith Lewis, North Carolina Garden Club member
I am against any legislation that will allow any easing of regulations on billboards. Taking that authority from local jurisdictions is improper.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
May, Amber Cronk

From: Meredith Harris <mbharris.harris@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:24 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Stop billboard change

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please don’t allow the change in billboards along NC’s roadsides! They are NC’s front yards.
Meredith Harris
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Mark Mazza
Mobile 336-210-5555
I am a NC garden club member living in Hillsborough, NC and have become aware to a possible change in billboard signage. When we moved here from Dayton, Ohio, we were so impressed with the major roadways which were wooded and mostly free of big billboards. It has been a joy to travel on them and not be distracted by this roadside clutter. The planting on these roadsides are beautiful also. I hope the state does not give in to billboard companies wishing to put up signage.

Karen and John MacAulay
104 West Queen St.
Hillsborough, N.C. 27278

Sent from my iPad
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.’" North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Victoria Matthews

Southport Garden Club

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Digital changeable message billboards distract drivers and are a visual nuisance, as are 50 ft tall billboards.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Thank you,

Clare Matti, member Town and Country Garden Club

Durham, NC
To whom it may concern,

As a long standing and designated life member of The Garden Club of North Carolina, and a REALTOR for over 30 years I am very concerned as to the back door approach by the billboard industry. Trust me, if there is any what we consider ill advised changes to loosen/restrict the current LOCAL control, rules and regulations as to billboards, it will cause a real furor among our members across the state.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Warmest Regards,
Helen

Helen M. Mayhew, Broker NC & Agent SC, REALTOR, ABR
Keller Williams Realty, Charlotte SouthPark
Cell: 704-756-3579
www.helenmayhew.com

No wiring instructions will be sent via email. All wiring instructions sent should be verified via phone between the sending and receiving parties.
May, Amber Cronk

From: nancyadaire@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:57 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina." We have over the years enjoyed our views as we drive from the mountains to the sea and want to continue to view the land.

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Nancy Mazza
Greensboro NC
Here in Western North Carolina, there’s a lot of scenic beauty to protect for the sake of our important tourism industry. My manufacturing firm is in Polk county and I commute Interstate 26 a lot, where there are already flashing billboards and all sorts of visual pollution from billboards in Henderson County. It would be a bad thing for Polk county’s billboard protections already on the books, to be overridden by changes proposed for State regulations.

Rules Review Commission shouldn’t be favoring the billboard industry. I’m a business person and see no valid reason why they ought to be favored by a rules change that hurts just about everybody else.

Sincerely,
May, Amber Cronk

From: Sandy McCutcheon <sandralou4u@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:07 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not allow the authority that local government gave jurisdictions have over billboards. Don’t allow 50 ft. or digital flashing messages on billboards. Please protect the beautiful appearance of NC roadways.

Sincerely,
Sandra McCutcheon
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Fawn McKissick

Raleigh, NC
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you

Charles Mcendon
Garden Club of NC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Norman Melton <a href="mailto:norm_melton@yahoo.com">norm_melton@yahoo.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:15 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>rrc.comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>[External] Protect Billboards Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank You

Marty Melton
Member, The Garden Club of North Carolina

Norman Melton (910) 799-6105 Cell: 910-274-6067 Email: norm_melton@yahoo.com
May, Amber Cronk

From: allene merricks <allenemerricks@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:25 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Please protect our beautiful state from ugly road signs!

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
I object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, which would allow 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards.

Sincerely,
Penny Moore

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Enough already we do not need more billboards to distract us from our driving we need more gardens and flowers planted on the meridian and the sides at exit roads and entry roads.
Rosalie J Morris
Transylvania garden club
Brevard, North Carolina
28712

Sent from my iPhone
I am writing to state my opposition to the attempt to override the authority that local governments have over billboards. I do not want huge billboards or huge changing digital message billboards which are dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina!

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Stay out of our local government!

Jo Ann Mount

1238 W. 4th St.

Winston-Salem, NC 27101
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. The members of your public trying to drive safely do NOT need more distractions!

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina." I have driven thousands of miles across the United States from FL to MT to CA and we need to keep the advertising pollution I have seen in many states away from North Carolina. As a tourist destination, we need to keep NC beautiful, not give tourists a reason to stay away. Why would someone come here and spend money if our state is just as cluttered, distracting, and ugly as where they live?

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

--
Irene Mueller, EdD
The North Carolina Garden Club members are asking that no changes happen in the highway billboard rules. We do not want a tacky state with high and flashing bill boards please. Joan Munn
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Leigh Myers
Don’t do it. It’s ugly. Once you go down this road we’re really in trouble.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina.”

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Nancy Hiley

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

We elect local officials to be accountable for our local community’s values and appearance—please do NOT let state government or private interests usurp that local authority! And by all means, don’t allow billboard companies (mostly from out of state) cut down OUR North Carolina trees that beautify our roadsides.

Lois Nixon
107 Overview Lane
Cary, NC 27511
919-744-0117
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please DO NOT override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards DANGEROUS to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the roadside appearance of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank you,
Becky Norman

Sent from my iPad
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Don't put money over safety.

Ann Norris
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry. Sincerely .

Sincerely,

Christina Nova
To whom it may concern:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Sincerely,

Sherry O'Daniell, member of the North Carolina Garden Club
sherryodaniell@gmail.com
910-538-9747 cell# 910-794-4174 land-line
“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.”— Ralph Waldo Emerson
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please leave NC bill board rules and decisions in local government hands. NC has beautiful highways and byways and control of billboard locations and size can make or break our roads and city gateway appearance. NC is doing quite well with current regulations.

Thank you.
Virginia Oliver

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Connie O'Neil <oneilc74@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:19 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] No more billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please protect the North Carolina roadsides and do not allow billboards to ruin the beauty of our state.

Connie O’Neil

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

I feel that the digital signs that change are a hazard, taking the attention of drivers when those drivers should be watching the road ahead and traffic around them. They are very distracting and I do not feel we need more of them.

Thank you!

Carolyn B. Orr

336-297-4901
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

We care about the appearance of our community. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

We care about the safety of our drivers/passengers. Flashing huge billboards will distract drivers. We have more than enough billboards lining our beautiful roadways.

Cathy Owen
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Knowing that you work for all our benefits,
Patricia A. Brown

Twin City Garden Club
Garden Club of America
Winston-Salem, NC
From: Janice Palmer <janice.b.palmer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:00 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Please protect NC’s beautiful "front yard"

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through a bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Pate

Garden Club Member
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not change the billboard legislation as it now stands. 50 foot flashing billboards have no place along the highways of North Carolina.

Linda Pearson
Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

--
Visit me at http://about.me/pittardruth

"My religion is kindness." The Dalai Lama

"One day, I fully anticipate, a critical mass of human beings will wake up and find kindness no longer feels surprising in the least. It will simply be the direction the human race has ultimately run." Mark Brady

“Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.” Henry James
The Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina. Keep North Carolina beautiful.

Gail Posey, member Raleigh Garden Club and Garden Club of North Carolina
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank you

Kathy Pursifull

Cary, NC
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Ron Woodruff
910-520-0077
rhw1152@gmail.com
May, Amber Cronk

From: Ann Rauchbach <alsrauch@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:59 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please keep billboard displays under local control for the good of our communities.
Thank you,
Ann Rauchbach of Chapel Hill

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: fayraynor@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:46 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External]

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

please do not allow changes to bill board on ours N C highways

Thank you
Fay Raynor
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Mary and Mike Reeves
Saluda NC
Sent from my iPad
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

RRC-
We strongly oppose any change to the governance of billboards in NC. Larger and electronic billboards would certainly detract from the natural beauty of the North Carolina landscape that has been preserved for years. Thank you for your attention on the matter.
Regards,
Cali Rich

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please don’t allow 50 foot billboards or annoying digital signs on our highways. Let the local governments decide. Let’s keep our state beautiful. Marion Richards. Warrenton NC

Sent from my iPhone
As a member of a garden club, I have always appreciated the work that is done by the interstates with wild flowers. We hear comments from visitors about how well the roads look and the beauty of the flowers growing around the roads. Let's not spoil this!!

Bev Rinehart, Daffy Jills Garden Club.
RRC:

Please do not override the authority hat local government Jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed high-way traffic.

Thank you
Sara Rodgman
May, Amber Cronk

From: Mary Rose <maryrose@comporium.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:01 AM  
To: rrc.comments  
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please allow local governments to continue to have control over local billboards, and do not allow 50 foot billboards or flashing light messaging on our roads or interstates.

Our roadsides are our front doors... please do not allow them to be desecrated by these monstrosities. Thank you!

Mary Rose  
Sent from my iPhone
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard of our beautiful North Carolina.’ North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry."
May, Amber Cronk

From: Camille Rust <grafecamille@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:22 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards on NC Highways

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Sent from my iPhone
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Susan Bellinger, Hillsborough, NC
I implore you to reconsider allowing large billboards in NC! Have you been to New Jersey lately?! What ever happened to slogans and tunes such as “I like calling North Carolina home,” and the ad featuring the Native American with a tear in his eye lamenting the trash and de beautification of our land? Is this all about money as are so many ideas these days? If so, shame on you for not caring about the state’s landscape!

Respectfully, Jayne Sahadi. Chapel Hill. Born and raised in NJ until finding a better place here nearly 50 years ago and now it’s looking like Jersey every day!

Sent from my iPad.
Caution: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please protect the beauty of our roadsides. Do not change the rules for roadside billboards! Thank you, Potter Sewell

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Respectfully,

Carol Shepard
Durham, NC
As a member of the Washington, NC Garden Club, I am asking that you do not override the authority that local governments have over billboards. There is no need for 50 ft tall billboards nor for digital changeable message flashing billboards along our highways. Such billboards are visual pollutants to our highways and to the natural beauty we enjoy in North Carolina.

As you no doubt know, North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, North Carolina DOT and Governor Cooper have each recognized the longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry. The Rules Review Commission is not elected to make such decisions and should not assume authority it has not been given by voters.

Thank you.
Elaine Sheridan
May, Amber Cronk

From: Shirley & Ernest Simmons <ernshir@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:59 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Keep it simple, non flashing, and up to local government.
We don’t need to go the way of everyone else, keep our state “special” and neat.

Shirley Simmons
FV Garden Club
FV Woman’s Club
From: Wendy Smith <WWS087@frontier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 12:20 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] re billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Fewer billboards are what our gorgeous state of North Carolina ought to have, definitely not handing control to the billboard industry.
Pls do not allow that.

Also, pls do not permit the size of billboards to be increased. So many reasons a larger billboard makes no sense: among them, road safely and aesthetic appearance.

Thank you,
Wendy Smith
Durham, NC
Daylily Garden Club member
I am writing to object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards. Please help get the DOT rules implemented and protect our roadsides from more billboard pollution.

Linda Snider
1st Vice President
CAPE FEAR GARDEN CLUB
snidersnc@gmail.com
910-620-3756

“In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.” John Muir
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Joyce Sorensen

--
Joyce
May, Amber Cronk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Sandra Souzis <a href="mailto:ssouzis@triad.rr.com">ssouzis@triad.rr.com</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>[External] Billboards</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not allow billboard laws to change! We all need to keep nc beautiful. Thanks

Sent from my iPad
Please do **not** remove local government control of billboards. Each community should control the looks of their streets and skylines. The electronic billboards are another distraction of an already distracted driving public. Local governing bodies are the best forum for private citizens to express their opinions on matters. Please don’t take this option away from their community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marcia K. Sproul
Trent Woods Garden Club
Retired Town Clerk

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Signa Stalvey <a href="mailto:signastalvey@gmail.com">signastalvey@gmail.com</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>rrc.comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>[External] Billboards in North Carolina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Member of the Cape Fear Garden Club, Wilmington, N.C.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Stecher
Garden Club of North Carolina
May, Amber Cronk

From: Goldie Stetten <goldiestetten@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:08 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard rule changes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please! This is so important for the beauty of our state highways. North Carolina highways will not be as wonderful if there are 50 Foot tall billboards and electronic, flashing messages happening. Please don’t let this rule change slip in the back door. We are paying attention, and hope you are also. Please do not let this slip thru without a fight.

Hopefully,
Goldie Stetten
Cape Fear Garden Club Member
910.264.1343
GoldieStetten@gmail.com
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Patricia Stewart

Garden Club of North Carolina
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic!!! These are great concerns of the people of North Carolina. Thank you!

Jane Stokes
Dogwood Garden Club
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Protect our roadsides!!!!!!

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Susan Sullivan <srileysullivan@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:18 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard Sign Rule Revisions

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Committee Members,

I am writing to respectfully request that you reconsider rule revisions allowing electronic billboards. In fact, if I’m not correct I’m like Lady Bird Johnson in that I would like you to ban and require the removal of roadside billboards altogether, which mar our beautiful landscapes.

The State’s use of uniform signs near highway exits, informing the public of services, e.g., food, gas, lodging, hospitals, are wonderfully adequate and extremely appreciated particularly since prior to this pandemic my husband and I traveled by road extensively.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

My regards,
Susan Sullivan
153 Maryland Dr.
Manson, NC 27553

Informing
Sent from my iPad
Billboards are eyesores. In this age of cell phones and gps, the idea of having billboards advertisements is ludicrous. Not to mention how distracting the electronic ones are. Billboards should be banned, not encouraged.
Fran Summerlin
2312 New Orleans Place
28403
Sent from my iPhone
Greetings Members of the Rules Review Committee,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides in our beautiful North Carolina!

Thank you for your attention and consideration in this matter.

Susan Surratt

Winston-Salem
May, Amber Cronk

From: Jean Swainey <Copper15@nc.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:20 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

I was upset to learn the consideration is being given to overriding local rules on billboards. Why in the world would anyone think it is appropriate to over ride local laws on something like this??! I personally hate the huge billboards that distract from the beauty of NC. They are a tacky relic of times gone by even with the digital images that distract drivers. Please! Don’t bow down to billboard companies.
Jean Swainey

Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.

23 They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23
RRC,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Terre Matthews
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Deb Tallman
107 Windtide Lane
Havelock NC 28532
(732) 539-8846
May, Amber Cronk

From: Pat Teeple <pbteeple@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:42 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Roadside Billboard Changes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Thank you
Pat Teeple
Manteo NC
Sent from my iPhone
RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Linda Lee Tonnesen
Forest Garden Club
Winston-Salem
May, Amber Cronk

From: Susan Towl <love2bemooma@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:55 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] PROTECT OUR ROAD SIDES!!!!! say NO to billboard changes!!!! Roads are ugly enough already.

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

member of New River Garden Club
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Aldona Towner,

Spade & Trowel Garden Club, Winston Salem
Rules Review Commission,

PLEASE DO NOT OVERRIDE THE AUTHORITY THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT JURISDICTIONS HAVE OVER BILLBOARDS AND PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW 50ft. TALL BILLBOARDS OR DIGITAL CHANGEABLE MESSAGE

FLASHING BILLBOARDS THAT ARE DANGEROUS TO ALL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC. I HAVE SEEN THE DIGITAL BILLBOARDS AND THEY ARE CONFUSING, RAPID CHANGING MESSAGES AND IF OBSERVED BY DRIVERS, TAKING THEIR EYES OFF OF THE ROAD AND THEIR VEHICLE HORRIFIC ACCIDENTS CAN ENSUE.

Thank you,

Sallie Tucker
May, Amber Cronk

From: Claire Tuttle <clairetuttle9@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 11:05 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

Please carefully consider protecting the beauty of our highways by protecting the rules with Out of Home Advertising. One on the best things about our roadways in NC is the nature. People comment about this from all of the world. Many of the roads are green and natural. Beautiful. And the roadside flowers stunning.

The outdoor businesses are doing just fine. There is no need for expansion. They have come up with innovative ways to reach us that are more tasteful than a giant sign. And there are innovative ways to reach people such as ads on GPS apps. With this technology, a billboard is no longer necessary to know where the next gas station is or the local hamburger joint. I have my phone.

Of course the alphabet game is trickier...but do kids look out the window anymore? They are on their phones....telling us where the next Cookout is located.

Do the right thing.

Thank you.

Claire

Claire Tuttle
clairetuttle9@gmail.com
336-577-3400
I have just been advised that a change to government oversight of billboards is being considered. I am writing to ask that this NOT be allowed. Billboards are a danger to high speed highway traffic and to the beauty of our state. No one seeking profit from our shared highways should be allowed to install billboards without local government oversight.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,
Virginia C. Woodruff
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Cathy Vinski
110 E Union St., Hillsborough, NC
908 240-7450

“I cannot do all the good that the world needs, but the world needs all the good that I can do.”
– Jana Stanfield
RRC: 
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the "front yard of our beautiful North Carolina." North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
Rules Review Commission:

As changes are being considered to signage rules, please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

1. Please do not make changes overriding the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards.
2. Additionally, carefully consider the video clutter to the roadside landscape that approval of 50 ft. tall billboards will create adding to the tons of existing trash on the road shoulders it presents an uninviting image of this state.
3. Unregulated billboards with flashing messages can distract and blind drivers on high speed roads.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Emily Walter
Warsaw, NC
Warsaw Garden Club

Emily Walter
walter.emily@yahoo.com
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Melissa Ward

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Ellen Warwick

Plant and Pray Garden Club

Lumberton, NC
May, Amber Cronk

From: J Wessell <jwessell@ec.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:21 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

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To whom it may concern:
I very strongly suggest that you do not fall prey to the billboard industry by taking away the local control of billboards in our state.
Billboards are distractions, including those that are electronic. They reduce the beauty of the landscape, especially in the case of billboard after billboard that I have seen along our interstate roads.
Please do not allow this industry to pollute our roadways. Continue to allow for local control.
Thank you,
Jan Wessell

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not change the billboard rules or allow 50’ billboards or digital changing, flashing billboards. The roadways in our beautiful state do not need this type of unsightly commercialism.
Jane Whitehurst
Lexington, NC

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please DO NOT override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do NOT allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sue Whittaker, Member and Past President
Bermuda Run Garden Club
Dear RRC,

Please think twice about our beautiful highways in NC. We don’t want to resemble Myrtle Beach! Please say NO! to 50ft billboards.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ginger Wiggins

Sent from my iPhone
From: Jayne Williams <lampemo58@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:38 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards as they are dangerous to high speed highway traffic and just very distracting for drivers.

Citizen of NC,
Jayne Williams
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Leave North Carolina’s roadsides beautiful and clear of those Mega signs. Also clear of trash and more beautiful plantings that show how much we care for our state.

Jane Willis Raleigh Garden Club member

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From: David Sengel <dsngl@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2:05 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Dear Committee,

I am writing on behalf of a non-profit group, High Country Watch, a member of BREDL, Blue Ridge Environmental League, located in Boone NC., concerning the possible change in NC settled law which gives local governments control of decisions re billboards in their jurisdictions.

Years ago, we marched the new Doc & Merle Watson Hwy 421 which was built as a 4-lane entrance to our community, to gain status for that road as a scenic by-way and thus avoid the ugly billboards which have blocked scenic views and contributed to urban sprawl on the other entrances to Boone. Ironically this was a hard battle to win. One would think that a community that receives the bulk of its tax wealth from the travel & tourism industry would be on board with preserving view sheds, & inappropriate development. But it takes the vigilance of concerned citizens & sometimes law suits to protect the "hen that lays our golden egg" so to speak. While trying to help the billboard industry, any change such as what is being proposed, would instead HARM many more businesses and deface our countryside. Billboards are a thing of the past. Digital billboards are a distraction that causes accidents. Please don't let the dollar sign be your bottom line. Stand up to powerful lobbies and do what you KNOW is the right thing and what citizens want. Don't make us have to fight this battle again with petitions, marches, commissioners' meetings, law suits & fund raisers to pay for them, just to protect our homes, our communities from those who have no regard for the rights of others & the beauty of the world we live in.

I am one person writing, but know there are multitudes who share my point of view and beseech you do the right thing.

Susie Winters, HCWATCH, Boone NC
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RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Colleen Yeager

Knightdale, NC
To whom it may concern on the Rules Review Commission:

As a devoted NC citizen, I am vehemently opposed to any law change that would interfere with local jurisdiction over billboard rules and allow for the proliferation of billboards by the billboard industry along our highways. Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboard rules and please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changing message billboards that are not only a blight on the landscape but unsafe for high speed drivers.

NC boasts incredibly beautiful and magnificent natural vistas - across the coastal plain, the Piedmont and foothills, and through our majestic mountains. Please protect the natural beauty of our state.

Respectfully,

Lynn Young
2610 Audubon Drive
Winston-Salem, NC
27106

Sent from my iPhone
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

The electronic billboards are already a distraction to drivers at a time where we are trying to get people to pay attention to the roadways. Is this really something we want for our beautiful roadways?

Thank you!

Anna Marie Allegretto
Resident, New Hanover County, NC
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry. RRC:

Thank you for listening and I sincerely hope you will stop this nonsense going forward!

Martha C. Apple

336-682-6752
marthacapple@yahoo.com
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Mary Anne Asbury
Franklin, NC
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

As a NCGC member, I highly object to any change in billboard rules. We need to keep our highways so it is a lovely ride through North Carolina.

Sincerely,
Margaret Barnes

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Vivian Beech

2264 Parktown Road

Warrenton, NC 27589
May, Amber Cronk

From: roberts4land@northstate.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:00 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] RE: Position on Billboard laws

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
I also am an "Ambassador" for growth in our state of NC as a Commercial Real Estate Broker, a curator of our public gardens in my town, a Flower Judge in NCNtlGdnClub and American Daylily Society. Attention to the roadways are now more neccesary than ever with the high speeds and less speed enforcements. I certainly can add my own observations of "distracted driving" of those who feel they can not wait to answer their phone or text a return message.

Lynne Broderius
roberts4Land@northstate.net
Please do not change laws on billboards to allow larger, more intrusive, unsightly billboards along the highways in our beautiful state.
Sandra Bruenner
Member Tryon Garden Club
Dear Rules Review Commission Members,

As a member of the Garden Club of North Carolina in the Little Garden Club in Warrenton, North Carolina, I am writing to object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards. I ask that you help stop changes in NC Highway Billboard rules and protect our North Carolina roadsides from more billboard pollution.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bugg
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the NC General Assembly, the NC Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law through the bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you for your time.

Rebecca Burmester
2121 North Hills Dr Apt I
Raleigh, NC 27612
May, Amber Cronk

From: ann burton <aburton307@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:35 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to use the words of Brenda Crocker, the President of the North Carolina Garden Club. "Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital billboards which are dangerous to high speed highway traffic."

Thank you,

Ann Burton

Hillsborough Garden Club
Dear members of the Rules Review Commission,

At your February 18 meeting, please vote in favor of the currently proposed rule 19A NCAC 02E .0204 to give our local authorities the power to keep visual blight out of their jurisdictions. Thank you

Peter Calingaert
39 Clover Drive
Chapel Hill NC 27517
USA
+1.919.933.5489
pc@cs.unc.edu
http://www.cs.unc.edu/~pc

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
May, Amber Cronk

From: Charlotte Campbell <wccampbell2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:39 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Thank you,
Charlotte Campbell
3701 Baron Cooper Pass
Raleigh, NC 27612

Sent from my iPhone
For heavens sake, don’t clutter up our sometimes ugly roadways with anymore or larger billboards. North Carolina is a beautiful state. Don’t mess it up any more.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
Please protect our roads from billboard pollution. Do not change the regulation constraints imposed on the use of billboards along our highways concerning size, local government control and digital signage.
Wendy Cifelli
466 Cypress Ridge Dr. SE
Bolivia, NC 28422
To whom it concerns,

Please DO NOT LITER OUR ROADWAYS ! It is terrible how junky billboards can make our scenic highways and local thoroughfares with ridiculously large signage. Folks like me, who enjoy beautiful landscapes of either natural(God’s) landscapes and/or appreciate the love and attention individuals take in adding beauty have not a single inkling of idea WHY such large billboards are needed. I beg you to NOT ADD such garbage to our highways and neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Cresenzo
Member
Down To Earth Garden Club
Reidsville, North Carolina

Sent from my iPad
One of the first things that struck me when I came to NC as a young woman many years ago was its beauty. One of the things that shocked me was how frequently that beauty was marred by billboards blocking beautiful views as drivers from both in- and out-of-state drove across our highways. I always felt it was a tragedy.

In the intervening years much was done to control and/or remove huge billboards that simply serve as visual pollution across our beautiful landscape. They are frequently an annoyance to the driver, I wonder how effective they really are in selling products, and they prevent people from appreciating that this is truly a lovely place to be. When we have a chance to control pollution (in any and all forms, including visual), we should do so. The Rules Review Commission should reject the suggested changes to the rules that would allow for billboards 50' higher or more, and would allow digital changeable message-flashing billboards of any size. These are a distraction to drivers and should not be allowed. Flashing billboards encourage the driver to pay attention to the billboard, not to the road, hence causing accidents. Local government control over billboards is important, and the RRC should not make changes that take that control away.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Asta Crowe
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
Please stop the billboards. They are a distraction while driving and trashy. Let’s clean up the roads!
Thank you
Jennie Dalton

“This is the day the Lord has made. Rejoice and be glad in it”
I am writing to ask you please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft-tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic. I personally find these very distracting to my driving, and detract from the scenic beauty of the state and local character of our communities.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location.

Thank you,

Tania Dautlick, Durham, NC
RRC: Please do not over ride billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Marilyn Davis

--

Marilyn Davis
May, Amber Cronk

From: Ariadne deCarvalho <ninidecarv@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:38 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards are unsightly and a dangerous distraction to motorists

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
May, Amber Cronk

From: Caroline Douglas <mcarolinedouglas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:00 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] COMMENTS: Proposed Changes to NC Highway Billboard Rules

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing deeply concerned about the proposed changes to the billboard regulations and the effect this will have on our beautiful state of NC. As a concerned, interested, and participating citizen, please consider what is in the best interest of the citizens of North Carolina and the environment, not the special interests of advertisers who are focused on lining their pockets and not the well being of North Carolina. Please:

- Do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards
- Do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards which are dangerous to high speed highway traffic
- Protect the appearance and environmental health of our roadsides. We don't need more, bigger, or better billboards.

It is my understanding that North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. **RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.**

Please do the right thing for the right reasons, we have to start putting people and the health of the environment ahead of monied special interests.

Best regards,
Caroline Douglas
Madison County, NC
Commission Members,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you.

Patsy Duke
From: Currin, Margaret P. <currinm@campbell.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: May, Amber Cronk <amber.may@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] Fwd: billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

From: Cindy Dunigan <weepingwilowe@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Currin, Margaret P.
Subject: billboards

Please protect our towns, cities, and roadsides from more billboard pollution (such as taller signs and digital signs).

Thank you!

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
From: jean dutterer <jdutterer@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:11 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
Jean Dutterer
Davidson Garden Club member
May, Amber Cronk

From: Frances Eder <minfrances@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:02 PM
To: rrc.comments
Cc: Frances Eder
Subject: [External] Billboard Law Changes

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Frances Eder
minfrances@gmail.com
Dear Rules Review Commission Members:

As someone who greatly appreciates the natural beauty of our state, I am writing to object to any change of the rules/laws that would remove local government control over billboards and that would allow 50-foot-high billboards, as well as changeable, message-flashing billboards.

Please help our state maintain and showcase its natural beauty and limit unnatural and potentially dangerous distractions along our highways.

Thank you for your efforts to help NC continue to be a beautiful and safe place that we are proud to call home.

Sincerely,

Katherine B. Ely
(aka "Nana Nature" to my grandchildren)
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the “front yard of our beautiful North Carolina”!!

Whiteville Garden Club
Jeanette Ward FormyDuval

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Dear Sirs,

Please please do NOT allow more, higher, or changeable billboards on our beautiful highways. They pose a severe danger of distraction as well as impairing the beauty of our state!!!

Thank you for listening!

Carol Garbutt

Carol Garbutt
May, Amber Cronk

From: gailhglover <gailhglover@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:31 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] billboard change

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

I am against removing local control of billboards and large size and flashing billboards. Distracting, unsafe, unsightly.

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over bill-boards and do not allow 50ft billboards or digital flashing/changeable billboards. Please protect our roadsides and help preserve our beautiful state.

Thank you.
K.Goad
fkgoad@nc.rr.com
I am asking you to please not vote to change the billboard sign rulings. The LAST THING we need is more distractions while driving!

Georgia Graham
Cedarwood Garden Club
Jamestown, NC
Please do not override the authority of the local government jurisdictions over billboards.

We do not need our state roadways made uglier with the larger billboards.

Thanks,
Winnie Grannis
Fayetteville, NC
May, Amber Cronk

From: Maureen Grant <mgrant3909@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard Rules

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides in our beautiful state of North Carolina. STOP....the changes in the NC Highway Billboard rules.

Yours

Maureen Grant
We are 53 women strong asking the RRC to:

Please not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Virginia Gray

Greenbrier Home and Garden Club  President  New Bern  NC
Dear RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Julie Griffin

Dogwood Garden Club, Secretary

Winston-Salem, NC

griiffjd@wfu.edu
Good morning,

Thank you for your work on the NC Rules Review Commission.

I am writing to oppose any rule change that would override local ordinances. Please do not override local control of billboards, particularly if you believe in small government.

The NC appellate courts, the NC General Assembly, and the NC DOT all recognize longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboards, including their appearance and location. The NC Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law.

It is clearly wrong. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Julie Grubbs

Durham resident, 27707
To the RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. It’s a shame to mar the scenery of beautiful North Carolina with billboards.

Barbara Hess
Please help our towns and roadways by having restrictions on billboards.
May, Amber Cronk

From: Angela Hyson <arhyson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:17 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboard

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Please, no more billboards on NC highways Angela Hyson
252-456-5236

Sent from my iPhone
Dear RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 ft tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are a dangerous distraction to high speed highway traffic.

North Carolina roadways lined with trees and lovely wildflower displays are such an asset to our state. I have heard numerous comments from visitors about the unspoiled beauty of our roadways.

I understand that Durham has strict billboard and digital outdoor advertising regulations. In recognition of the value of roadway beautification, our garden club has recently provided significant funds to Durham County for installation of trees, native grasses and plants on NC147. It would be extremely unfair to supersede local ordinances which are intended to serve the interests of area residents.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Ignar
Vice-President and Projects Committee Chair
Town and Country Garden Club of Durham, a member club of The Garden Club of North Carolina
Dear neighbors,

Please don't override local control of billboards. We don't need or want to see big Blaring illuminated billboards soaring above treetops, blinking thousands of ads/day.

Please let local jurisdictions decided for themselves what they want.

With appreciation for all you do,

Kelly Jarrett
Durham, NC
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Lucy Jones
Please have the GCNC contact the Rules Review Commission (RRC) and object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards

Dear Sirs & Madams,
Please do not loosen the restrictions on signage.

The highway takes a lot of concentration because folks regularly tailgate and travel at high speeds. Also, the content of very large signage in recent times has been provocative and disturbing. The police and highway maintenance folks have enough on their plates as it is.

If the roadsides need anything they need more flower plantings :))

Thank you for your consideration.

Mrs. Jesse Kaufmann
2304 Davis Rd., Hillsborough, NC 27278
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Barbara Kenyon
To Whom It May Concern:

I believe that North Carolina should continue policies that make North Carolinians and visitors from other areas proud of our highways. I am very appreciative of NCDOT’s efforts to promote roadway beautification and enhancements, wildflowers and visitor friendly rest areas. Our local communities depend and thrive on the beauty of the state and the views from our major highways and secondary state roadways.

I earned a living as an advertising professional for over 40 years, so I understand the purpose of and advantages of good advertising. A change of rules that would allow cluttering the landscape with massive flashing digital signs would be, to put it simply, terrible. Signage creates visual clutter. Signs are designed to draw attention, detracting from the landscape and distracting drivers. Light pollution from digital billboards would not be safe or welcome by our residents or visitors.

The billboard lobby will argue for their perceived need to advertise local businesses. In North Carolina, this argument is counter to the reality of our local communities and the type of environment we desire to preserve. There is no added value in opening up our roadways to look like every other urbanized, cluttered, and lit-up area of the U.S. Instead, the real added value in our roadway system is in **being distinctive from those areas**, providing a roadway system that both connects and respects the landscape and the communities it serves.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this possible rule change. Please do not harm our State highway system by allowing private sign companies to devalue the scenery, environment and adjacent land values of our transportation corridors.

Barbara Ketchum
Retired Advertising Professional
Raleigh Garden Club Member
JC Raulston Arboretum Member
Garden Club of NC Member
Gardeners of Wake Member
Central Carolina Chrysanthemum Society Member
National Chrysanthemum Society Member
Citizen concerned for the preservation of the natural beauty and safety of North Carolina’s highways.

3605 Herring Gull Place
Wake Forest, NC 27587
barbaraketchum@mindspring.com
To Rules Review Commission:

PLEASE do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and PLEASE do NOT allow 50 ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

This is clearly not in the best interests of the citizens of NC. It reminds me of how the terrible "Bathroom Bill" passed several years ago - in the middle of the night under the cover of darkness.

Thank you.
Coutney Kluttz
Always high resolution! Good move.

Thanks, Edwina Kyle

Sent from my iPad
We want to keep North Carolina beautiful. We do not want 50’ tall billboards or flashing billboards. Don’t override local authority. We don’t need visual pollution on our roadways.

Lee F. Richmond, Lieutenant Colonel USAF Retired
601 Tangle Drive
Jamestown, North Carolina 27282
336-254-1456
leefrich@northstate.net

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From: Charles and Betty LaBella <cflabjtown@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:16 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.
object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards.

Sincerely,

Brent Lawrence
CELL: 336-317-1444

President
MultiSite Systems, LLC
OFF: (888) 409-5393
OFF: (336) 454-0147
FAX/US: (336) 454-0149
FAX/outside US (336) 454-0149
http://www.multisitesystems.com

As a precautionary health measure for our Google support specialists in light of COVID-19, some support options may be unavailable or delayed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience. This message will be updated as the situation changes.
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Gretchen B. Lutz

3150 Princeton St

Lumberton, NC 28360

864-680-7159
To Whom It May Concern,
North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local governments control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled North Carolina law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you.
Joan Lynch
Garden Club of North Carolina
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful State.”

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Sincerely,

Melaine Young

President of the Town and Country Garden Club

Durham, NC
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Kathryn J. Maland
1608 Nellie Gray Court
Wilmington, NC  28412

February 10, 2021

RRC:

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Sincerely,

Kathryn J. Maland

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
May, Amber Cronk

From: Martha Mayberry <marthatonissenmayberry@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 5:48 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please do not change the current billboard rules.

M.
Martha Mayberry
704-999-9383
Sent from my iPhone
Commissioner,

As a member of Keep Ashe Beautiful and a concerned citizen of both Ashe and Dare Counties, and North Carolina as my residential state, I asked you to please not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

This will be a blight to our beautiful state if you do this.

Rebecca McClendon
mcclendonrc@gmail.com
330-289-7937
I am writing to ask you to not override local jurisdictions authority over billboards. We do not need 50-foot billboards destroying our highways and byways. North Carolina is a beautiful state and to have digital changeable message boards flashing all over the place is disgusting. - not to mention dangerous on high speed highways.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina." We do not need crass commercialism impeding our views and creating distractions for drivers.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you,

Jean McDanal

112 White Ash Drive

Pine Knoll Shores, NC

People are like bicycles. They can keep their balance only as long as they keep moving." – Albert Einstein
May, Amber Cronk

From: Petra McLean <petra.mclean@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 7:32 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Protect Our Roadsides

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please protect our roadsides and do not let large digital billboards interrupt our scenery as we travel. It's mostly useless advertising anyway.

Thank you,
Petra McLean
To whom it may concern,

Please do not allow 50 ft billboards or changeable digital flashing messages. They will be distracting and dangerous for drivers.

Please do not override the authority of local government to have over billboards. We have enough advertisement with Facebook and all other social media forms.

Thank you, Debbie Mills GCNC
May, Amber Cronk

From: Patricia Mitchell <pattiop63@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 5:23 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] STOP changes in NC Highway Billboard Rules

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

The NCDOT Wildflower Beautification Program is one of THE BEST public beautification programs in the United States.

North Carolina highways do not need more billboards. They need more vegetation, flowers, trees and shrubs, for those driving through this beautiful state to admire.

Please protect what has taken years to accomplish. Let's work together to keep North Carolina's "front yard" a welcome site!
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sarah Moorman
Members of the Rules Review Commission:

Please protect the appearance of roadsides in North Carolina by overriding the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Allowing 50 ft. billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards would spoil the beauty of the landscape and prove distracting and dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process in order to help the billboard industry!

Sincerely,

Candace C. Moseley
May, Amber Cronk

From: Catherine Mowry <catherine.mowry@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:08 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides and keep NC beautiful by not allowing 50’ tall billboards. Please plant more flower zones on the highways. These visual areas are so beautiful for our state highways.

Catherine Mowry

Sent from my iPhone
To the committee, please do not litter our highways with billboards!
Please honor existing laws prohibiting this pollution. Please don’t allow politics and money to decide your course of action.
Thank you very much, Frankie Moye
Rules Review Commission,

I am writing to ask you please not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards. Please do not allow 50 ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards that are distracting and dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

The appearance of our roadsides of beautiful North Carolina need to be protected from more billboard pollution with glaring advertisements that people have to take their eyes off the road to read.

Thank you!
Paula C. Murphy
Emma Harris Garden Club of Mebane
& The Garden Club of North Carolina
Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 foot tall billboards or digital changeable message flashings billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Nancy Smith
Sandhills Garden Club Member

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From: Lorraine Neill <lneill@triad.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 6:28 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

PLEASE protect the appearance of our roadside, the front yard of our beautiful North Carolina 🌸🌺🌺
Lorraine Neill
Greensboro NC

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: Crissy Neville <womensview@upandcomingweekly.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 7:20 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] stop billboard pollution

RRC:

I am contacting you to voice my displeasure in some changes to the billboard rules for state highways you are considering. I am a member of the North Carolina Garden Club and a tax-paying citizen who wants to keep our roadways beautiful.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic.

This is equivalent to light pollution and dangerous to drivers, not to mention very unsightly.

Please protect the appearance of our roadways, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through a bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

I know you will make the right decision. I urge you to consider my plea.

Ellen Christina Neville, The Fayetteville Garden Clun, The North Carolina Garden Club
To the Rules Review Commission:

Historically, local governments and communities have had regulatory control over local billboard display ordinances and I am writing as a private citizen to ask that this historical tradition be sustained. Billboards impact local communities substantially – they live with them 24/7 and it should be there prerogative to set local ordinances on what is allowable, or not. Please hold this long standing and sound policy!

Sincerely,
Christopher Nicchitta
115 Pinecrest Road
Durham, NC 2705
May, Amber Cronk

From: Charles Osgood <cfosgood8350@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:18 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards

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Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, they are the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Charles and Terry Osgood
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Margaret,  
The City of Graham believes that government that is closest to the people governs best. Please retain local control of billboards. The state mandates enough regulations which reduces our authority for billboards as it is.  

Thank you,  
Nathan

Nathan Page, MCRP  
Planning Director for Graham, North Carolina  
(336) 570-6705x135 npage@cityofgraham.com  
www.cityofgraham.com/departments/planning
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Ed Parker,

Summerlin Falls Garden Club of NC President
Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Frances Baynor Parnell
Tel: 910 791-1365
Fax: 910 791-1365
From: Currin, Margaret P. <currinm@campbell.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 2:27 PM
To: May, Amber Cronk <amber.may@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] Fwd: Local billboard control

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

From: John Pence <senorjp1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Jeanette.k.doran@gmail.com; anna@ncl-law.com; bobbymonica@bellsouth.net; aatkins@smithlaw.com; Currin, Margaret P.; overton.ro@gmail.com; jeff.hyde@aestheticimages.net; ppowell@apbev.com
Cc: Bill and Donna Apple
Subject: Local billboard control

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote to allow our local government to maintain control over the location(s) and content of commercial billboards in our communities. Local governments are most responsive to citizens in their communities and generally act in the best interest of the local community and reflect the wishes of their constituents.

Thank you for your deliberative consideration,

John Pence
Ashe County, North Carolina
To whom this may concern,

North Carolina appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission (RRC) should “not” change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Regards,
Anita Pfaff, MEMBER of the OLD SALEM GARDEN CLUB, Winston Salem, NC

P. S. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the “front yard” of our beautiful North Carolina

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From:       laura phillips <happyhealth2011@hotmail.com>
Sent:       Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:06 AM
To:         rrc.comments
Subject:    [External] BILLBOARDS

Please do not pollute our beautiful state with sky high, distracting billboards!!!
Not only is it obnoxious it's extremely dangerous!!!
North Carolina is way too gorgeous to cover up with unnecessary junk!!!

Sincerely,
Laura Phillips
Member - Old Salem Garden Club
Winston Salem, NC
Dear Rules Review Commission Members,

Please and object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50-foot-high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards.
I am a lifelong North Carolinian and would like to keep our state beautiful, not filled with billboards, and billboards should be controlled by local government.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Philpott

Rebecca Philpott
910-452-9844 Home
910-352-3886 cell/text
raphilpott25@gmail.com

“I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife.” National Garden Club Conservation Pledge
Dear Rules Review Commissioner,

North Carolina's appellate courts, the NC General Assembly, the NC Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law through the bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely, Concerned citizen
raypodd@gmail.com

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
----- Forwarded Message -----
From: Elaine Robbins <elainerobbins535@gmail.com>
To: "bobbymonica@bellsouth.net" <bobbymonica@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 8:20:05 AM EST
Subject: Billboards

Dear Mr. Bryan:

My husband and I moved to North Carolina many years back, largely for its beauty. Please do not act to take that away from us, our neighbors, and the tourists who fund the economy of WNC.

Very truly yours,

Elaine Robbins
415 Blowhole Road
Marshall NC 28753
(828) 380-1817
Don’t ruin our beautiful state!!!

Sent from my iPhone
Greetings, Please do not change the billboard law to allow huge billboards and flashing ones that are dangerous and frankly quite ugly for our scenic North Carolina roads. Why have visual pollution? Why does the public have to endure this huge advertising that makes money for the billboard industry and not enjoy the natural beauty of our state while on our taxpayer-paid roads? Let’s continue to think about what is best for the citizens of North Carolina.

Best regards,
Sherrie M. Richmond
601 Tangle Drive
Jamestown, NC
27282
PLEASE do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 ft tall billboards OR digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. The one I saw on I-85 IN SC is an absolute hideous eyesore to the environment, not to mention, again, a total distraction to one's driving.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regina Roach
Davidson Garden Club
RULES REVIEW COMMISSION: PLEASE DON'T OVERRIDE LOCAL CONTROL OF BILLBOARDS
Dear Rules Review Commissioner,

North Carolina's appellate courts, the NC General Assembly, the NC Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission should not change settled NC law through the bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,
Concerned citizen
May, Amber Cronk

From: May, Amber Cronk  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:41 AM  
To: rrc.comments  
Subject: FW: [External] Fwd: Please keep local control over billboards  
Attachments: RRC Postcard 1.pdf

From: Currin, Margaret P. <currinm@campbell.edu>  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:38 AM  
To: May, Amber Cronk <amber.may@oah.nc.gov>  
Subject: [External] Fwd: Please keep local control over billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

From: Joshua Allen <allen.joshua@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:25:01 AM  
To: jeanette.k.doran@gmail.com <jeanette.k.doran@gmail.com>; anna@ncl-law.com <anna@ncl-law.com>; bobbymonica@bellsouth.net <bobbymonica@bellsouth.net>; aatkins@smithlaw.com <aatkins@smithlaw.com>; Currin, Margaret P. <currinm@campbell.edu>; overton.ro@gmail.com <overton.ro@gmail.com>; jeff.hyde@aestheticimages.net <jeff.hyde@aestheticimages.net>; ppowell@apbev.com <ppowell@apbev.com>  
Subject: Please keep local control over billboards

Members of the NC Rules Review Commission,

I urge you to keep local control over billboards. I understand some localities may want to let drivers see billboards as they drive through highways in their area, and they may need tax revenue from the billboards. However, other localities do not want their public roads visually polluted with advertising which is forced upon residents and visitors simply for driving on those public roads.

Please keep North Carolina beautiful by letting us see nature, not enormous bright LED ads, as we drive on our public roads!

Thank you for your consideration.

--
Joshua

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location.

Our state has such a diverse climate from the mountains to the coast and local communities need to have jurisdiction over these decisions.

Lynn Ruck
Raleigh NC

Rain Water Solutions, Inc.
3812 Tarheel Dr Ste C
Raleigh, NC 27609
Office 919.835.1699
RainWaterSolutions.com
To: RRC:

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Help protect the apprearace of our roadsides, and the safety of our NC highways!!

Ruth
Dear neighbors,

Please don't override local control of billboards. We don't need big TVs on sticks, soaring above treetops, blinking thousands of ads/day.

Please let local jurisdictions decided for themselves what they want.

With appreciation for all you do,

John Schelp
Durham, NC
Please don’t change our Billboards to digital or 50’ high! We love our state the way it is. That’s why we moved here and why we get all the tourists! We all want to get away from billboards. We want the beauty of our roadsides! Thank you for your time!

Suzanne Schoeppe
Wilmington NC

Sent from my iPhone
May, Amber Cronk

From: pschuppert <pschuppert@triad.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:48 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] 50' Tall Billboards and Electronic Signs

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not allow the above referenced signs to destroy the beauty of our roadways in North Carolina.

Peggy Schuppert
The Bermuda Run Garden Club
Bermuda Run, NC 27006

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Dear Rules Review Commission Board,

The concept that local jurisdictions should NOT have control over billboard regulations reeks of what I would think to find in a communist dictatorship. You would ruin the natural beauty of our state for the gross profit of a few, for what? because someone is lobbying with illegal donations? Sorry, but this also reeks of corruption. You will scoff at this, but this change would be encouraging civil disobedience. I live near a scenic byway and fought to help establish it. Even if that does not lose protection, the filth of billboards on other spaces here is totally unnecessary and actually harmful to our local economy.

Next time you visit the states of Florida, Washington, California, Arizona, Texas, or Virginia, please take note of how fewer billboards allow the beauty of the landscape to come forward.

Please don't do this. respectfully,

David Sengel, voter
195 Day Dr
Boone, NC 28607
828 264 5215
May, Amber Cronk

From: May, Amber Cronk
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:46 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: FW: [External] Fwd: Hands off our roadsides!

From: Currin, Margaret P. <currinm@campbell.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:41 AM
To: May, Amber Cronk <amber.may@oah.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] Fwd: Hands off our roadsides!

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

From: Susan Sewell <mssewell2009@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:39 AM
To: Jeanette.k.doran@gmail.com; anna@ncl-law.com; bobbymonica@bellsouth.net; aatkins@smithlaw.com; Currin, Margaret P.; overton.ro@gmail.com; jeff.hyde@aestheticimages.net; ppowell@apbev.com
Cc: Susan Sewell
Subject: Hands off our roadsides!

I am blessed to live in Durham County, where local leaders chose decades ago to limit roadside billboards. Almost every year since, we have to write the state to ask you to say NO to overturning our right to make this decision.

Say no to removing county control. Do NOT change the regulations. I believe our reasoning is correct that billboards reduce the value of our county, reduce its attractiveness to business and residential growth, and reduce the road safety we enjoy. And science studies agree.

Say NO to taking away local billboard control.

Mary Susan Sewell
Durham, NC

Virus-free. www.avg.com

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
May, Amber Cronk

From: carol short <carolmshort@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 5:38 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] NC billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Carol
May, Amber Cronk

From: Martha Smith <marthamsmith131@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:10 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] NO to Billboards

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Martha Smith

131 Gwyn Ave

Elkin NC  29621

Yadkin Valley Garden Club
To those with the power to preserve the beauty of North Carolina roadways,

I implore you to consider the ramifications associated with the overriding of authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50 feet high billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high-speed highway traffic. The permitting of these contraptions would clutter and degrade the appearance of our beautiful roadsides. Please wield your power to preserve and protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,
Jennifer J. Sturm
Cape Fear Garden Club &
Wilmington Ladies Tea Walk Chapter of the Daughter's of the American Revolution
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Janice Swab <a href="mailto:swabjanice@gmail.com">swabjanice@gmail.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:52 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>rrc.comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>[External] Billboards! Leave the laws alone!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Janice C. Swab
I am returning my vote to object to the new ruling about billboards in N.C.
Please leave it alone!!

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,

Luanne T. Taylor
Good afternoon. I understand that some members of the NC Legislature are interested in possibly eliminating the ability of local government to enact ordinances to regulate billboards.

We have a stretch of Hwy 421 in Watauga County that is designated the Doc and Merle Watson Scenic Byway. It meanders through beautiful farmland between Deep Gap and Boone, NC. To preserve the beautiful long range and rolling pasture views, a group of local residents worked with Doc Watson and his family to gather support for scenic byway designation.

This stretch of four lane completes the connection between Boone and Wilmington, which insures our access to goods and services from across the state. But Boone’s economy is also dependent on tourism. Scenic designation allows easy travel while preserving the beauty of the mountains, one of our most valuable resources.

Limiting local government’s input into how to best serve their citizens and their unique circumstances benefits no one but big billboard companies. Easy access to the internet has eliminated the need for travelers to rely on billboards to help them find local businesses and services.

Many of our gateways are already blanketed by needless visual clutter. Please protect local government’s right to determine local decisions about outdoor advertising.

Thank you,

Diane Tilson
Boone, NC
Please continue to leave decisions about billboards to the Department of Transportation and local governments. I want North Carolina to be recognized as a green state-environmentally friendly.

Thank you, Susan Vaden
Please don’t take away local control of billboard ordinances. That would be a terrible mistake for many counties and local communities.

As a member of the NC Garden Club, Waynesville affiliate, I am voicing my objection.

Thank you,
Cheryl Ann Villemagne
May, Amber Cronk

From: Diane vonGerichten <dvongerichten@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:58 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] North Carolina Highways

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Diane von Gerichten

Heritage Garden Club Member

DvG
"RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

Sent from my iPhone
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina's appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Candace Williams

Fayetteville Garden Club, Fayetteville NC

Sent from my iPhone
RRC,

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Wyngaarden

Sent from my iPhone
Please Do NOT change billboard signage. We (The public) enjoy the natural scenery of North Carolina. Thank you,
Mary Ann Zimmerman

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I heard that you are planning to change the laws governing billboards to allow changing electronic messages and for them to be posted at greater heights.

I would think that it is obvious that electronic signs with changing messages is not a good idea as it will distract drivers who try to read a complete message. The last thing we need on our highways is people distracted by billboard messages driving alongside of people distracted by texting. There is absolutely no sense in adding a new distraction on our highways.

I suggest you reconsider this foolish idea.

Sincerely,

Penny Amato
Dear NC Rules Review Commission,

This letter is written on behalf of Keep Ashe Beautiful, the Ashe County, North Carolina affiliate of Keep America Beautiful.

We are writing to voice our support for keeping billboard regulations under the control of local governments. We live in an area of the state that is extremely dependent on tourism. People visit and live in our area for the beauty of the mountains, pristine rivers and the rural solitude that this area provides. Billboards detract from that beauty and solitude.

We are a volunteer organization that works diligently to promote and maintain roadway beautification. We are strongly opposed to raising the height of billboards and to the use of digital billboards.

Keep Ashe Beautiful is asking that you allow local governments to retain control of billboard regulations. County citizens should have a voice.
Sincerely,
Bill Apple, President
Keep Ashe Beautiful

Google Docs: Create and edit documents online.
Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

You have received this email because keepashebeautiful@gmail.com shared a document with you from Google Docs.

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official.
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

----- Forwarded Message -----  
From: Martha Arter <mjarter100@gmail.com>  
To: "bobbymonica@bellsouth.net" <bobbymonica@bellsouth.net>  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021, 11:01:04 AM EST  
Subject: Billboard Regulations  

Dear Rules Review Commission Chair,

North Carolina's appellate courts, the NC General Assembly, the NC Department of Transportation and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. The Rules Review Commission should NOT change settled NC law through the bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Sincerely,

Martha Arter

Humankind...Be both!
North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Thank you!

Mary Anne Asbury
Franklin, NC
I remember when the law passed. I thought it was wonderful. Now I am sure money will talk and the sign boards will reappear. Why do I have so little faith in our "leaders/"? TV and NET are full of adds. We do not need more. Keep North Carolina Beautiful.
May, Amber Cronk

From: D Kuzdrall <dianemvk@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:10 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] NC Highway Billboard Rules

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Rules Review Commission,

I object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards. These are severely dangerous to motorists in high speed highway traffic and have no place here in North Carolina!

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides of our beautiful North Carolina.

Can you please do something about the litter that is destroying our communities!

Thank you.

A very concerned member of the Garden Club of North Carolina
May, Amber Cronk

From: janice lacapra <czfoto88@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 11:23 AM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] Billboards...pls vote NO

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

PLEASE MAKE SURE WE DO NOT GET BACK DOORED BY THE BILL BOARD FOLKS
May, Amber Cronk

From: Patricia Mitchell <pattiop63@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 5:23 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] STOP changes in NC Highway Billboard Rules

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

The NCDOT Wildflower Beautification Program is one of THE BEST public beautification programs in the United States.

North Carolina highways do not need more billboards. They need more vegetation, flowers, trees and shrubs, for those driving through this beautiful state to admire.

Please protect what has taken years to accomplish. Let's work together to keep North Carolina's "front yard" a welcome site!
To whom it may concern;
I know comments on the billboard closed yesterday. But I’m letting you know that I am vehemently opposed to taking control of billboards out of country officials hands. The people elect officials to represent them snd their wants snd needs. Please don’t let the billboard industry dictate what we see on our highways.
Patricia OConnor
Orange County, NC

Patty
Sent from my i-phone

One person plus one typewriter constitutes a movement.

Pauli Murray
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Please preserve the beauty of NC rather than allow larger billboards. I think the digital ones (if that means the ones that have moving pictures or text) are extremely dangerous for distracting drivers. Billboards should be limited in size statewide and only be for services travelers need such as food, gas, and lodging, and possibly a mall or store.

If anything, we need better signs on city streets indicating lane changes and turns coming up. People drive so fast, they need more warning before they need to change lanes.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad
May, Amber Cronk

From: Lee Richmond <leefrich@northstate.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 5:17 PM
To: rrc.comments
Subject: [External] No new billboard law

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>

We want to keep North Carolina beautiful. We do not want 50’ tall billboards or flashing billboards. Don’t override local authority. We don’t need visual pollution on our roadways.

Lee F. Richmond , Lieutenant Colonel USAF Retired
601 Tangle Drive
Jamestown, North Carolina 27282
336-254-1456
leefrich@northstate.net

Sent from my iPad
RRC: Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic.

Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina."

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

Very sincerely,

Theresa G. Starnes, Native North Carolinian and member of the Summerlin Falls Garden Club, Wilmington, NC

Sent from my iPhone
To the members of the Rules Review Commission,

Please do not override the authority that local governments have over billboards. Local government should be the goal, rather than a centralized locus of power outside of the community.

Please do not allow giant billboards or digital, changeable message billboards, which are dangerous to high speed traffic.

Please protect the gateways of our communities and do not let them become cluttered with 50 ft. billboards, etc. The beauty of our landscapes should not be destroyed by a roadside full of advertisements.

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation & Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local governments control over billboard locations and appearance within their communities. Please do not change NC precedents to damage communities in favor of billboards.

Thank you!

Anne

Anne Ward | Writer & Video Producer
Boone, NC
Dear Rules Review Commission:

I am writing to object to any change of the rules that removes local government control over billboards, and that allows 50 foot high billboards and allows digital changeable message flashing billboards.

Fifty foot tall billboards or digital changeable message-flashing billboards will destroy some of the precious natural beauty North Carolina is known for. These also could potentially cause more accidents, resulting in serious injury or death. There are many distractions already with present size billboards, highway construction and their flashing digital speed limit and lane change instructions that one needs to take notice of. If drivers get accustomed to ignoring flashing billboards, they may also inadvertently ignore the critical DOT signs.

Safety, and a roadside that is harmonious with the reputation of North Carolina as a nice place to live and work, will both be threatened by this proposed rule change. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the 'front yard' of our beautiful North Carolina.

Sincerely,
Erica Winston
225 Brookridge Dr. Cary NC 27518
As a member of the North Carolina Garden Club, Please do not change the rules that remove local government control over billboards, including 50 foot high billboards and digital changeable message flashing billboards. We need to keep our current DOT rules, and we need to protect our roadsides from more billboard pollution.

Please do not override the authority that local governmental jurisdictions have over billboards and please do not allow 50ft. tall billboards or digital changeable message flashing billboards dangerous to high speed highway traffic. Please protect the appearance of our roadsides, the ‘front yard’ of our beautiful North Carolina.”

North Carolina’s appellate courts, the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and Governor Cooper have each recognized longstanding state laws that give local government control over billboard appearance and location. RRC should not change settled NC law through bureaucratic process to help the billboard industry.

thank you
Barbara A. Yankauskas
Pine Knoll Shores, NC