

**ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago (“City”) is a home rule unit of government under Article VII, Section 6(a) of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois and, as such, may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, Chicago is home to Wrigley Field, the oldest ballpark in the National League and the second oldest in Major League Baseball, which was opened in 1914; and

**WHEREAS**, Wrigley Field is lined on two sides with currently and formerly residential buildings that overlook the ballpark, those on Waveland Avenue with a view to left field and those on Sheffield Avenue with a view to right field; and

**WHEREAS**, these adjacent areas along Waveland and Sheffield have historically served as an informal extension of the ballpark and have been used on game days for commercial activity; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1998, the City recognized the unique nature and history of these two streets by creating the Wrigley Field Adjacent Area, where special club licensees are allowed to sell rooftop tickets along with food and beverages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Cubs organization has not relied on direct public subsidies to renovate, maintain and operate Wrigley Field for the benefit of Chicagoans and visitors from across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has permitted Wrigley Field to evolve over the years to preserve its viability as a modern professional sports venue, allowing night games and special events and establishing Wrigley Plaza as a space for additional events and entertainment; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes the importance of providing opportunities for the Chicago Cubs to generate revenue to support continued private investment in and around Wrigley Field; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Cubs organization has acquired several buildings in the Wrigley Field Adjacent Area (“**Team Buildings**”); and

**WHEREAS**, signage for professional sports stadiums/arenas has become a common and increasingly important source of revenue for teams; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the unique history of the Wrigley Field Adjacent Area, the City wishes to create a special sign district for the area to permit limited new signage oriented toward the ballpark and activated on game days and other approved events as described herein; now, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 17-12-1105 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended, by deleting the language struck-through, and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:


**17-12-1105-B Regulations and Standards.**

*(Omitted text is not affected by this ordinance)*

3. Roof Signs. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Zoning Ordinance, including without limitation Section 17-12-0702, the Zoning Administrator is authorized to approve one roof sign on West Waveland Avenue and ~~one~~ two roof signs on North Sheffield Avenue on Team Buildings contained within the Wrigley Field Adjacent special sign district; provided, however, the roof signs must be a static signs facing into Wrigley Field with the top of the signs not exceeding 69 feet above grade for those buildings subject to the height restrictions of 4-388-170(a)(1) and 63 feet above grade for those buildings subject to the height restrictions of 4-388-170(a)(2). LED backlighting for the roof signs is prohibited except during a game, stadium event as defined in Section 4-160-110, or Wrigley Field production as defined in Section 4-388-010(k). In addition to the foregoing, notwithstanding any other provision of this Zoning Ordinance, including without limitation Section 17-12-0702, the Zoning Administrator is authorized to approve two roof signs on West Waveland Avenue on Team Buildings contained within the Wrigley Field Adjacent special sign district; provided, however, the roof signs must be static signs facing into Wrigley Field with the top of the signs not exceeding seven feet above the height of the parapet wall of the Team Buildings on which the signs are affixed.

*(Omitted text is not affected by this ordinance)*

**SECTION 2.** This ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication.

  
Bennett R. Lawson  
Alderman, 44<sup>th</sup> Ward