



## **Permitted Signage for Smog Check Stations and Official Adjustment Stations**

**Background:** State law requires gas stations to have price signs that are clearly visible from the street (the law also includes specific requirements regarding sign copy and letter size). Consequently, the City's Sign Regulations exempt these price signs from limits on maximum sign area, and other requirements for signs<sup>1</sup>.

State law also requires that official brake adjustment stations and official lamp adjustment stations have a single 20-inch wide by 24-inch tall sign for each of the adjustment services they provide<sup>2</sup>. Examples of these signs are shown below:



State law also requires smog check stations to have a single 24-inch wide by 30-inch tall sign identifying the station<sup>3</sup>. Additionally, smog check stations that are test-only stations, which only inspect and/or repair heavy-duty vehicles, or which do not inspect and/or repair heavy-duty vehicles, are required to have a single 24-inch wide by 8-inch tall sign that identifies the type of smog check services they provide. Furthermore, smog check test-and-repair stations certified as Gold Shield stations are required to have a single 24-inch wide by 30-inch tall sign identifying the station<sup>4</sup>. Examples of these signs are shown below:



<sup>1</sup> Walnut Creek Municipal Code, Section 10-8.105(2)(c)(5) (Sign Regulations – Gasoline Service Stations).

<sup>2</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 16 (Professional and Vocational Regulations), Division 33 (Bureau of Automotive Repair), Chapter 1 (Automotive Repair Dealers and Official Stations and Adjusters), Article 2 (Licensing of Official Stations and Adjusters).

<sup>3</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 16 (Professional and Vocational Regulations), Division 33 (Bureau of Automotive Repair), Chapter 1 (Automotive Repair Dealers and Official Stations and Adjusters), Article 5.5 (Motor Vehicle Inspection Program).

<sup>4</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 16 (Professional and Vocational Regulations), Division 33 (Bureau of Automotive Repair), Chapter 1 (Automotive Repair Dealers and Official Stations and Adjusters), Article 10 (Gold Shield Program).

**Action:** State law does not specifically prohibit the City from regulating identification signs for smog check and official adjustment stations, as is the case for gas station price signs, and it is the intent of the City to allow local businesses to comply with State requirements. Therefore, the identification signs described above are permitted where required by State law without respect to the general requirements of the City's Sign Regulations (Title 10, Chapter 8, Walnut Creek Municipal Code), and such signs shall not be included as part of the calculation of maximum permitted sign area, so long as the signs do not exceed the following minimum dimensions required by State law:

Sign type	Max. width	Max. height
Official brake adjusting station	20 inches	24 inches
Official lamp adjusting station	20 inches	24 inches
Smog check station	24 inches	30 inches
Test-only station	24 inches	8 inches
No/only heavy-duty vehicles	24 inches	8 inches
Gold Shield smog check station	24 inches	30 inches

Additional signage may only be permitted through the approval of a sign permit or master sign program.