



Town of Erie

Banner, Flag and Street Décor Policy

Original Effective Date: June 10, 2021	Revision Date: August 26, 2025	Prepared By: Gabi Rae, CCE Director
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Policy Purpose:

The purpose of the Town of Erie Banner, Flag and Street Décor Policy (the "Policy") is to establish a policy for the display of banners on streetlights, flags on flagpoles and the display of street décor on property owned or controlled by the Town. This Policy is not intended to create any public forum or limited public forum, and by enacting this Policy, the Town is not intending to regulate the content of banners, flags or street décor except as expressly allowed by applicable law.

Applicability

This Policy applies to banners physically attached to any streetlight owned or controlled by the Town, flags physically attached to any flagpole owned or controlled by the Town, as well as the decoration of any public street owned or controlled by the Town.

Definitions:

For purposes of this Policy, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- **Banner** – any fabric, banner, or bunting containing distinctive colors, patterns, or symbols that is attached to a streetlight.
- **Flag** – any fabric, banner, or bunting containing distinctive colors, patterns, or symbols that is attached to a flagpole.
- **Street Décor** – chalk, writing, or art on the surface of public streets owned or controlled by the Town, excluding unauthorized graffiti.

Banners

The Town Manager may approve the installation of a banner if the Town Manager determines that the banner complies with this Policy and applicable law.

The Town will not allow banners that are obscene, or that are discriminatory toward any legally protected class, including without limitation race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender identity, sexual orientation, gender expression, pregnancy, age, physical or mental disability, and veteran status. In addition, banners shall not create a traffic or pedestrian hazard or interfere with traffic control devices.

A banner may be approved if it relates to the following:

- A recognized heritage, history, or awareness day, week, or month listed on the [University of Colorado Monthly Awareness Calendar](#); or
- A Town of Erie, State of Colorado, or federally recognized holiday; or
- A Town of Erie sponsored event, occurrence, or recognition.

Flags

The Town may fly any of the following flags on flagpoles owned or controlled by the Town:

- The United States flag, at any time;
- The Colorado State flag, at any time;
- The Town of Erie flag, at any time;
- A flag associated with an official proclamation or order of the President of the United States, during the period of time associated with the proclamation or order;
- A flag associated with an official proclamation or order of the Governor of the State of Colorado, during the period of time associated with the proclamation or order;
- A flag associated with an official proclamation approved by resolution of the Town Council, during the period of time associated with the proclamation;
- A POW/MIA (Prisoner of War/Missing in Action) flag, at any time; and
- A "Fallen Heroes" or similar flag, recognizing a deceased member of the United States Armed Forces, at any time.

The Governor of the State of Colorado is authorized to order that the United States flag and the Colorado State flag be lowered to half-staff at federal and state buildings in Colorado, and in such case, the Town will lower all flags on its flagpoles accordingly.

All flags shall comply with the Town's sign code.

The Town Manager shall determine the placement of flags; provided that, on any flagpole, the United States flag shall always be highest, followed by the State of Colorado flag (if flying), followed by the other flags in any order; and further provided that the flying of the United States flag and the State of Colorado flag shall comply with all other applicable regulations.

Street Décor

The Town Manager may approve the installation of street décor if the Town Manager determines that the street décor complies with this Policy and applicable law.

The Town will not allow street décor that is obscene, or that is discriminatory toward any legally protected class, including without limitation race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender identity, sexual orientation, gender expression, pregnancy, age,

physical or mental disability, and veteran status. In addition, street décor shall not create a traffic or pedestrian hazard or interfere with traffic control devices.

Street décor may be approved if it relates to the following:

- A recognized heritage, history, or awareness day, week, or month listed on the [University of Colorado Monthly Awareness Calendar](#); or
- A Town of Erie, State of Colorado, or federally recognized holiday; or
- A Town of Erie sponsored event, occurrence, or recognition.

This policy is hereby approved and adopted on this 26th day of August, 2025. Future amendments to this policy must first be reviewed by the Town Council to confirm the Town Council's direction.

Malcolm Fleming, Town Manager

Revision History

Date of Change	Responsible Party	Summary of Change(s)
June 1, 2022	Kendra Carberry	Policy was revised to incorporate the provisions concerning Street Décor
March 1, 2024	Amy Teetzel	Updated "Town Administrator" to "Town Manager required by adoption of Home Rule Charter
August 26, 2025	Malcolm Fleming	Revised to incorporate provisions concerning banners, the Town of Erie flag, Council Proclamations, to update definitions, to reference the CU MAC, and to require Council review of any amendments