ORDINANCE NO. 07-_____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENACTING A FOUR-MONTH MORATORIUM ON THE APPROVAL BY LEON COUNTY OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CERTAIN OFF-SITE SIGN PERMITS TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR LEON COUNTY TO CONSIDER THE ENACTMENT OF FURTHER REGUATORY MEASURES CONCERNING THE LOCATION AND QUANTITY OF CERTAIN OFF-SITE SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Leon County has recently received many applications for site approval and construction of certain off-site signs, including billboards; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Leon County believes that the proliferation of off-site signs, including billboards, may be harmful to the health, safety and welfare of the general public in the unincorporated area of Leon County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County wishes to study and consider enactment of certain revisions to the Leon County Code of Laws to regulate and possibly reduce the proliferation of certain off-site signs; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, hereby finds and declares that it is necessary and required that a temporary moratorium be imposed on the issuance of any permits, development orders or site and development plan approvals from, and including, April 11, 2007 through August 10, 2007, to allow sufficient time for the study and potential enactment of such appropriate regulations.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1.

This is hereby enacted and imposed a temporary moratorium prohibiting the approval and issuance of any further permits, development orders or site and development plan approvals by Leon County for all off-site signs in the unincorporated area of Leon County which exceed 100 square feet in size. This moratorium does not apply to any applications for such off-site signs which are on file with Leon County and which application was complete on or before April 10, 2007. This moratorium on the issuance of such permits and development orders shall continue through 11:59 p.m., local time, on August 10, 2007.

Section 2.

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, finds that a temporary moratorium is in the best interest of the citizens and residents of Leon County and shall serve to protect the health, safety and welfare of said citizens and residents to allow the necessary research and deliberative time for the consideration, and potential enactment of, regulations concerning the proliferation and reduction of the quality of certain off-site signs.

Section 3. Conflicts.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, except to the extent of any conflicts with the Tallahassee-Leon County 2010 Comprehensive Plan, as amended, which provisions shall prevail over any parts of this ordinance which are inconsistent, either in whole or part, with the said Comprehensive Plan.

Section 4. Severability.

If any word, phrase, clause, section or portion of this ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion or words shall be deemed a separate

and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective upon receipt of official acknowledgment from the Secretary of State that said ordinance has been duly filed, and shall apply to all off-site sign applications which were not complete or which were received after 12:01 a.m., local time, on April 11, 2007.

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, this _____ day of _____, 2007.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTESTED BY:
BOB INZER, CLERK OF THE COURT

BY:_____
C. E. DEPUY, JR., CHAIRMAN
Leon County Board of County Commissioners

BY:_____
CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BY:_____
HERBERT W. A. THIELE, ESQ.