



Town of Homer
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4/8/24

Billboard Outline

- 1- The Town Board needs to vote –to move ahead or to stop the process.

If approved to move ahead

1. Identify SEQR action and complete form
2. At the same time work on local law
3. Send SEQR and local law to county review
4. Establish lead agency –contact DOT
5. Have public meetings
6. Final vote to approval or deny

This is how I would describe the process:

1. A board member makes a motion to begin the process of amending the comprehensive plan and zoning law to allow billboards in certain specified areas.
2. If the motion passes, the town board with town attorney's help prepares proposed wording for the amendments. (If this is already completed, this can be part of step 1.)
3. When wording of the amendments is tentatively agreed upon, an environmental assessment form must be prepared that evaluates the potential environmental effects of adopting those changes. If this is a Type 1 action under SEQR, the full EAF form must be used. It will be type 1 if the allowable uses in 25 or more acres is changed.

4. The next step is to send the amendments and EAF to any other involved agencies to establish lead agency for carrying out SEQR. This will include the NYSDOT.
5. At the same time as step 4, send the proposed amendments and EAF to the county planning department for the General Municipal Law (GML) review.
6. Assuming that the town is the lead agency, you then need to decide whether the proposed amendments may have a significant effect on the environment. If so, you will need to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS). If you decide it will not, you can prepare and adopt a negative declaration. If you go the EIS route you may need to have some professional expertise help with the preparation of it. An EIS has several procedural steps that I will not go into here.
7. If the town board adopts a negative declaration, it can then move on to considering the approval of the amendments. Since the amendments involve adopting a local law, at least 1 public hearing will be required. You may want to have more along the way.
8. If the county planning board recommends disapproval of the amendments, then it could only be approved by a majority plus 1 of the town board members, meaning that it would require 4 affirmative votes.
9. If the local law is adopted, it needs to be filed with the NY Secretary of State in Albany. It can't become effective until it is filed.