Article 5.6 of the Public Works Code and Public Works Order No. 181386 establish guidelines for the placement of A-frame signage on sidewalks within the public right of way.

San Francisco Public Works
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Processing Hours: 7:30 AM-4 PM
Monday through Friday, except official holidays

Contact 311 for service requests
1. WHERE MAY A-FRAMES BE PLACED?
A-frame signage may be placed within the following commercial districts as defined by Planning Code Article 2:
- Commercial districts (e.g. C-2, C-3, C-M)
- Neighborhood commercial districts (e.g. NC-1, NC-2, NCO)
- Residential commercial combined districts (RC-3, RC-4)
- Chinatown mixed-use districts (CCB, CVR, CRNC)

2. IS A PERMIT REQUIRED?
A permit is not required for placement of A-frame signage, but all guidelines and requirements set forth in Public Works Order No. 181386 shall be followed.

3. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES?
A. An individual business is limited to one A-frame sign fronting the establishment.
B. A-frame signage shall be placed to provide a minimum 6-foot clear path of travel between the edge of the A-frame signage and any obstruction in the sidewalk, such as light poles, parking meters, news racks and fire hydrants.
C. If the business has an approved Café Tables and Chairs permit, the A-frame signage shall be placed within the permitted Café Tables and Chairs area.
D. A-frame signage shall be removed from the right of way at the end of every business day.

4. WHAT ARE THE RESTRICTIONS?
A. A-frame signage shall not be used for general advertising, but only to identify business name and business information (e.g. operating hours, menu, slogan).
B. A-frame signage may not be secured to facilities or buildings; they shall be removable at all times.
C. A-frame signage cannot be placed within 5 feet of a fire hydrant.
D. A-frame signage cannot be placed within 5 feet of the corner of a building/property.
E. A-frame signage may only be placed directly in front of the establishment, adjacent to the building (i.e. not curb side, in the median, etc.).

VIOLATIONS
Violations of Municipal Police Code Section 63(a) or Public Works Order No. 181386 can result in enforcement and corrective action which may incur fines up to $300 per incident.

VIOLATION: A-frame signage is obstructing path of travel
VIOLATION: A-frame signage is in the parking lane/roadway
VIOLATION: A-frame signage is chained to the pole and not fronting business establishment