



New Scenic America banner

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*In case you missed it:*

[Gwen Gobe on BYOD](#)

## New film examines citizen battles against the billboard industry

A new documentary film, "[Chronicle of the Billboard Wars](#)," tells the stories of citizens around the country who have stood up to the billboard industry to say "enough is enough!"

The producers traveled all over America, documenting the work of individuals and organizations that often face difficult political and financial odds in their battles against billboard companies.

In the best of American traditions, citizens have taken their grassroots fights to city councils, county boards, zoning commissions and state legislatures with a simple message: "People, not corporations, own the public space."

"Chronicle of the Billboard Wars" profiles these citizens as they build solidarity, organize and fight back against the giant corporations that are looking to profit from visual pollution. Their stories are compelling and upbeat and show that citizens can stand up and decide how they want their communities to look.

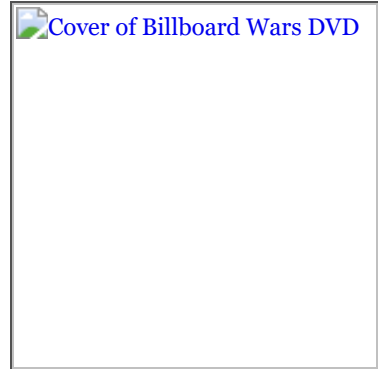
[Click here to learn more and to order the film on DVD.](#)

## Handbook offers guidelines for on-premise sign regulation

A new handbook for city attorneys and local public officials focuses on the legal issues relating to the regulation of on-premise signs. *Free Speech Law for On Premise Signs* is authored by [Professor Daniel R. Mandelker](#), the Stamper Professor of Law at Washington University in St. Louis, where he is a leading scholar and teacher of land use law, state and local government law, property law and environmental law.

In the handbook, Mandelker instructs local governments on how to regulate on-premise sign displays through content-neutral sign ordinances that are fair, objective, even-handed and supported by accepted government purposes, without creating constitutional problems.

Cover of Billboard Wars DVD



## This Space Available director interviewed

Gwenaëlle Gobe, director of the groundbreaking documentary film [This Space Available](#), recently sat down for an interview with acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ondi Timoner.

Gwenaëlle spoke about the inspiration for her film, lessons learned along the way, and her thoughts about advertising in the public space.

[Click here to watch.](#)

[Click here to download the book as a PDF.](#)



## Bright lights, big city: Who benefits from billboard deals?

A [recent episode](#) of the radio program City Visions on KALW in San Francisco examined the temptation for cities to allow billboards on municipal land and the potential consequences for neighbors and visitors.

The impetus for the show is [a proposal](#) to put five digital billboards near the base of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge as part of the Oakland Army Base development project. A grassroots group of citizens has organized as [Make Oakland Beautiful](#) in opposition to the proposed billboards.



Guests on the show included Karen Hester, co-founder of Make Oakland Beautiful; Jerry Wachtel, human factors researcher with the [Veridian Group](#), Milo Hanke, past president of [San Francisco Beautiful](#), and Randy Morrison, a San Diego-based attorney who runs the website [signlaw.com](#).

[Click here to listen to the program on KALW's website.](#)

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