

ELECTION SIGNS

A permit is not required to install an election sign with the Town of Westlock. However, there are policies and bylaws you must follow to ensure the sign is placed properly and does not pose a hazard to pedestrians or vehicular traffic.

Prior to placing any election sign, please ensure you have familiarized yourself with the attached policies and bylaws. Any sign placed in contravention of the Town's Bylaws and policies will be removed. All relevant policies and bylaws have been compiled for your reference in the attached pages.

If you have any questions about the enclosed, please contact the Town of Westlock's Development Services at 780-349-4444.

Title: Election Signage	
Resolution: 101-2013, 2023-0006	Revised: Jan 9/23
Special Notes/Cross Reference:	Next Review Date:
Traffic Bylaw; Land Use Bylaw	

POLICY STATEMENT : The Town of Westlock recognizes the importance of campaigning and the use of signage.

PURPOSE : Establish guidelines for installation of election signs within the Town of Westlock. The purpose of the election sign regulations is to create a reasonable balance between communicating for election purposes, reducing sign clutter, and keeping our streets safe.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Candidate is at all times responsible to ensure compliance with Town Bylaws and Policies.
2. The Town of Westlock Planning and Development Department is the point of contact for this Policy.

DEFINITIONS

1. *Election Sign* – a temporary sign designed or intended to be displayed in connection with a: federal election or referendum; provincial election, referendum or plebiscite; or local government election.
2. *Highway* – means a provincial highway under the *Highways Development and Protection Act*, as amended.

LOCATION GUIDELINES

1. Election signs shall be placed in accordance with the regulations of the Town’s Land Use Bylaw and Traffic Bylaw, as amended.
2. Candidates may place signs on private property only with the consent of the property owner. Candidates are encouraged to obtain the homeowner’s permission before placing a sign adjacent to their property.
3. In general, election signs shall be placed as far from the shoulder line as practical, always allowing the travelling public to have an unobstructed view of the roadway.
4. The following shall be considered when placing election signs:
 - a. Election signs shall be placed with a minimum spacing distance of **10 metres (32.8 feet)** between the same candidate’s signs.

- b. Signs must be placed no closer than **2 metres (6.6 feet)** from the edge of pavement.
- c. During winter conditions, there is a high probability that signs near the road will be either covered with snow or damaged during snow removal and sanding operations.
- d. No election signs will be allowed within the median of Highway #44 or Highway #18.
- e. No election signs shall be placed in or within **500 metres (1,640 feet)** of highway construction zones.
- f. No election signs shall be placed that obstruct a motorist's view of an intersection within the Town limits.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- 1. Those installing election signs must use safety precautions to ensure their safety and prevent driver distraction.
- 2. All persons working near the highway shall wear reflective vests and bright clothing.
- 3. Election signs shall be installed during daylight hours only.
- 4. Vehicles used for transporting election signs must be parked so as to minimize the impact to the travelling public, as far as possible from the travel lanes, and have four-way hazard warning signals operating at all times.

SIGN REMOVAL

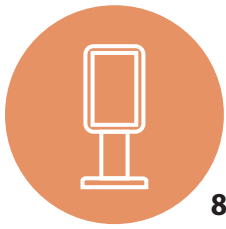
- 1. All election signs **must be removed no later than fourteen (14) days after the election**. The removal shall include the sign panel, supporting structure, stakes, and any tie wiring used to install and support the sign.
- 2. Signs that pose a hazard to the public, or safety or operational concerns may be removed without notice or compensation, by the Town of Westlock. Signs will be stored at the Town of Westlock Public Works workshop for seven days.
- 3. The Town of Westlock is not responsible for any signs damaged during the removal process.



Mayor Ralph Leriger



CAO Simone Wiley



8.7 ELECTION SIGNS

- 8.7.1 Election signs installed within a highway right-of-way shall have a maximum sign area of 1.5m² (16.1ft²).
- 8.7.2 Election signs installed on private property shall have a maximum sign area of 1.0m² (10.8ft²).
- 8.7.3 Election signs shall be removed by no later than fourteen (14) days after the election of which they refer.
- 8.7.4 Election signs shall:
- a) Not imitate the wording of a standard or commonly used highway traffic sign, such as stop, stop ahead, or yield;
 - b) Not be animated, illuminated, rotating, flashing, or have moving lights or other electrical features;
 - c) Not have attachments such as balloons, kites, or inflatable devices;
 - d) Not contain an electronic message component;
 - e) Not resemble traffic control devices;
 - f) Not be placed in such a way as to create a potential hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic and must not obstruct the view of any portion of a traffic control device or signal;
 - g) Not be placed within centre medians and traffic islands; and
 - h) Be self supporting and not attached to any Town property such as fences, benches, trees, street light poles, traffic signal poles, or fire hydrants.
- 8.7.5 Election signs placed on a corner lot shall be setback a minimum of 3.0m (9.8ft) from the front and front flanking property lines.

8.8 ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SIGNS

- 8.8.1 A sign located within a Residential Land Use District shall not have an electronic message component.
- 8.8.2 A sign with an electronic message component shall not be located within 300.0m (984.3ft) of any other Electronic Message Sign facing the same oncoming traffic.
- 8.8.3 An Electronic Message Sign shall not include illumination that may compete with or dull the contrast of a traffic control device or traffic control signal for oncoming vehicular traffic.

BEING A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF WESTLOCK IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY AND REGULATING AND CONTROLLING THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN.

2. A Bicycle found Parked or left abandoned on any Sidewalk or impeding Pedestrian Traffic in a manner as identified under subsection (1) may be taken into custody by a Peace Officer and impounded.
3. Any Bicycle not equipped as required by the *Act* or the regulations thereto may be similarly impounded.
4. Bicycles that are abandoned or unclaimed shall be kept and disposed of pursuant to *Municipal Government Act* and Town Policy.
5. Any Bicycle impounded under subsection (2) may be released to the Owner once any payment of any penalties has been made.

SECTION 6 TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

- 6.1 The power to prescribe where Traffic Control Devices are to be located within the Town, including traffic control devices restricting the speed of vehicles, is hereby delegated to the C.A.O. Traffic Control Devices located by the C.A.O., shall be deemed to have been made by Bylaw of the Town.
- 6.2 No Person shall, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Town, place or erect any signage adjacent to any Municipal Road, on any highway right of way including the service road right of way, or on any Boulevard that could be confused with a Traffic Control Device.
- 6.3 No Person shall pull down, deface or destroy any sign, board or notice lawfully placed on any Municipal Road.
- 6.4 Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the Town may remove any signage authorized in accordance with this Bylaw if it is deemed to interfere with an authorized Traffic Control Device or if it is deemed to restrict visibility at junctions or Intersections of Municipal Roads, or in any other way creates a potential hazard for Pedestrians or Motor Vehicles.
- 6.5 In addition to any penalty imposed by law, any sign found posted in contravention of this Bylaw may be seized and held by Town for retrieval by the sign's Owner. Signs shall be kept for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days.

SECTION 7 SPEED LIMITS

- 7.1 Except where otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit for any Municipal Road within the Town of Westlock is forty (40) kilometer per hour.

