

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