

Election Signs

Frequently Asked Questions

This information is intended to be used in conjunction with the regulations contained in The Temporary Sign Bylaw 7491, The Poster Bylaw 7565 and The Zoning Bylaw 8770 – Appendix A. Copies of these Bylaws are available on the City of Saskatoon website; www.saskatoon.ca Click on “B” in the Browse A-Z Listings Directory, click on “Bylaws” and open the appropriate bylaw.

Q: If I have questions about the election sign Bylaws, who do I call?

You can call the Bylaw Inspector at 306-975-2684, or the Manager of Business Licensing and Zoning Compliance at 306-975-8183, or call the Planning and Development Branch at 975-2645 and your call will be redirected to the appropriate person.

Q: When can I start putting up election signs, and when do I have to take them down?

Election signs may be erected 45 days prior to a local government election and must be removed within 7 days after the date of the election.

For the October 29, 2014, election, signs can be put up no earlier than September 14th and must be removed by November 5th.

Q: How does enforcement of the election sign Bylaws work?

Most enforcement is done on a complaint basis. Once a complaint is received and the sign has been determined by a Bylaw Inspector to be in contravention of the Bylaws, the candidate will be required to remove the sign immediately.

The City may remove signs without prior notice if the sign is considered to be a safety hazard, is on prohibited roadways or buffer strips or if the candidate has not removed the sign after being notified. The Temporary Sign Bylaw and the Zoning Bylaw provide for the issuance of fines to the sign owner.

Q: If my sign has been removed by the City, is there a way to retrieve it?

If you believe your signs have been removed by the City, please call the Right of Way Management Engineer at 306-975-8465 for more information or call the Planning and Development Branch at 306-975-2645 and your call will be redirected to the appropriate person.

The City will retain signs for 3 business days, during which time signs may be reclaimed. The City may without notice dispose of any signs which are not reclaimed after 3 business days and is not responsible for the loss or damage to any signs removed or stored.

Q: What size of election sign is allowed on residential lawns and what size is allowed on City boulevards?

On residential properties, signage with a total face area no larger than 9 square feet (0.84m²) is permitted. On City boulevards, a sign with a total face area no larger than 6.45 square feet (0.6m²) is permitted.

Q: What are the regulations for election signs on vehicles?



All vehicular type signage must follow the Traffic and Parking Bylaws and not pose a safety hazard or distraction to other motorists or pedestrians. August, 2012
For any questions, please call the Planning and Development Branch at 975-2645 and your call will be redirected to the appropriate person.

Q: What are the regulations for people holding election signs?



People holding signs must follow the regulations for election signs under the Temporary Sign Bylaw and Zoning Bylaw and must not create any potential hazard or distraction to vehicle traffic or pedestrians.

Holding of signs is not allowed on the prohibited roadways and buffer strips listed for election signs. People are not permitted to stand in centre medians or traffic islands with signs, must be located at least 30 metres from any intersection and follow all other set back requirements for election signs.

Q: Can I put an election advertisement on an existing billboard or lease other commercially available signage?



A billboard is defined in the Zoning Bylaw as a large poster panel with a maximum single sign face not exceeding 250 square feet or a painted bulletin and includes any structure, panel, board or object designed exclusively to support such a poster, panel or a painted bulletin. These signs typically advertise off-site products and services.

Election signs are permitted on existing permanent billboards that display off-site advertisements. A sign permit is not required to change the advertisement. Billboards can display an election sign for longer than 45 days before the election, and 7 days after.

Commercial businesses with digital signage may incorporate election advertising on that sign, only if they are located in a zoning district which permits third party advertising.

Other commercially available signage such as sign leasing opportunities on some benches is permitted.

If you choose to lease a portable sign for election advertising, it must be located in a zoning district which permits such third party signage, and must maintain required setbacks from other portable signs, as well as all other setback requirements.